

## **Customary for 5:30 Eucharist** *Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration*

### ***Preparation***

Arrive 30 minutes prior to service. Check in with the presiding clergy, if possible, for special instructions.

Lector checks the readings at the Ambo, and ask the clergy for guidance if there are any discrepancies with the bulletin. Lector also reviews the Prayers of the People in the Intercessions' Book.

Eucharistic Minister (EM) may check the Credence Table to ensure all vessels are present.

Lector and EM should sit in the north transept.

### ***Reading the Lessons***

During the Collect of the Day, Lector moves to position beside/behind the Eucharistic Minister bench. After taking the first step into the chancel, Lector performs a "deep bow" toward the Altar and Tabernacle, then stands beside the EM bench.

After the Collect of the Day, Lector moves up steps and go directly to the Ambo. Do not reverence the Altar at this time, as you should have when you stepped into the chancel from the floor.

Read the first lesson (please review the Lector Customary for guidance on reading in church). After the first lesson, Lector steps back a full step away from the Ambo and remains still while the Celebrant leads the Psalm (the "Gradual").

After the Psalm, Lector steps to the Ambo to read the second lesson. After the reading, Lector returns to their seat the way they came in, deeply bowing toward the Altar and Tabernacle as before (just before stepping down into the Nave).

### ***Taking Attendance***

During the Nicene Creed, Lector quietly performs a head count of attendance. This number should be reported to the presiding after the service.

### ***Prayers of the People***

During the last paragraph of the Nicene Creed, Lector retrieves the Intercession's Book (Book of Prayers) and moves into position behind/beside the EM bench (where he or she stood before the readings). Remember to deeply bow as you enter and exit the Chancel.

At the end of the Creed, Lector approaches the Ambo, sets on it the Intercession's Book, and begins the prayers. Lector should follow the instructions printed in the prayers. At the end of the prayers, after the Celebrant has prayed a concluding Collect, Lector turns and places the Intercession's Book on the Altar on the northeast corner (far right side). Then exits the Chancel, taking care to bow before stepping off the Chancel.

### *At the Offertory*

As the people exchange the Peace, Lector removes the Ambo, taking care to first turn off the microphone. If possible, remove it down the steps into the Sacristy. If not possible, leave it against the back wall.

After the Offertory Sentence, Lector enters the Chancel (bowing when entering), and takes position on the north side of the Altar, just off the carpet. Lector stands here for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Meanwhile, at the Offertory Sentence, EM enters the Chancel (bowing when entering), and moves to the Credence Table to assist the Celebrant in setting the Altar. The order is: stack (chalice with paten and loaves atop), cruet of wine, cruet of water. Be sure that the Celebrant has the small pyx of gluten free wafers on the Altar. EM then stands next to the Altar, just off the carpet, mirroring the Lector on the other side.

### *Communion*

At the Fraction, after the Celebrant breaks the bread, EM retrieves the second chalice from the Credence Table and presents it to the Celebrant. If there is a second clergy person present (deacon or otherwise), there should also be a second paten. This happens before the Celebrant says, "The gifts of God for the people of God."

EM and Lector receive communion in their places. Then the Celebrant will leave both chalices on the Altar, and the Lector and EM should retrieve them from there (with purificators). Lector and EM move down and out the side opening of the front rail. Lector administers the chalice on the north side of the rail, and EM administers on the south side of the rail.

Communicate the chalice with the words, "The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation," or "The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, keep you in eternal life." Intinction is strongly discouraged at this service. The parishioners will come to you, so you don't need to move during Communion. Use the purificator to wipe the chalice and turn the chalice slightly between each communicant.

If there is a spill on the floor, do not use the purificator to clean it, but use instead the old purificator found beneath the nearest EM bench, or let an Altar Guild person help.

If bread falls, immediately pick it up and consume it. The communicant can receive another piece of bread from the Celebrant before receiving the chalice.

### *After Communion*

After Communion, the Lector returns the chalice to the Niche (behind the Altar), and the EM returns the chalice to the Credence Table. Then both ministers return to their places next to the Altar (just off the carpet). This is where they stand for the post-communion prayer, blessing, and dismissal.

After the Celebrant reverences and walks down the aisle, the EM and Lector walk around to the front of the Altar, reverence together, and then go directly to the Sacristy.

EM and Lector share in the ablutions. Refer to the Ablutions section of the Liturgical Manual for instruction on this.