

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS' DIRECTIONS

1. During the offering / offertory, walk behind the altar into the sacristy.
2. In the tall cabinet on your right, find a robe that fits you / does not touch the floor. Pick a rope from a hook that fits you. There are instructions as to how to tie the rope posted by these directions.
3. Be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before you serve communion.
4. You can either wait in the sacristy until the elements are blessed or stand behind the pastor while this is done. (The blessing usually ends with the Lord's Prayer.)
5. The pastor will determine when assistants and acolytes receive communion; sometimes it is before and sometimes it is after everyone has communed.
6. 2 assistants will hand out the bread / wafers. As you place a wafer in each communicant's hand say, **"The body of Christ given for you."** (If you run out of wafers, go to the altar and refill your plate.)
7. 1 assistant will need to serve wine on the opposite side from the pastor. As you pour a small amount of wine into a cup held by a communicant say, **"The blood of Christ shed for you."** The ones who serve the wine should also bless the children with words such as, **"Remember Jesus loves you."** (If you run out of wine, go to the altar and refill the chalice from one of the containers on the altar.)
8. When all have received communion, check with the ushers to make sure there isn't someone sitting in a pew who was unable to come to the communion rail for communion.
If someone was unable to come to the communion rail, the bread and the wine should be brought to the person in the pew and given to the communicant in the pew with the same words used at the communion rail.
10. Return the wafer plate and the wine cup to the altar, and then go into the sacristy, remove the robe, and hang it and the rope up in the cabinet.
11. You may return to your seat during the final hymn.

Thank you, so very much, for serving the First Lutheran Family.