



The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Guidelines for Lectors and Worship Leaders

Note: *Lectors do not have to be licensed.*

Lector: A person who participates in worship services by reading one or more lessons appointed for the day.

Competencies:

- Demonstrates skill in public reading.
- Demonstrates understanding of the reading and does not stumble over unfamiliar words.

Worship Leader: A person called to a ministry of leading worship services of the church (Morning Prayer, ante-Communion, funerals, etc.), but not in charge of a congregation. Worship leaders are licensed by the bishop.

Competencies:

- Prepares and leads liturgies using the Book of Common Prayer and appropriate music resources (The Hymnal, 1982, Gather Comprehensive, etc.).
- Demonstrates a basic understanding of, and ability to use an authorized version of the Bible.

Suggestions

- Practice reading aloud with the use of a tape recorder and/or feedback from others.
- Participate in adult Christian education programs of the congregation.
- Join the congregation's worship committee.
- Maintain a faith discipline (Praying the Offices, Bible reading, meditation, etc) of your choosing.

Recommended Reading List:

- *The Bible*
- *The Book of Common Prayer*
- *The Hymnal*
- *The New Church's Teaching Series*
- *The Lay Reader's Guide*
- *The Church Year Guide*
- *Applicable Canons*
- *Commentary on the American Prayer Book—by Marion J. Hatchett*



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Commissioning Of Worship Leaders

The Examination

The congregation being seated, the presider stands in full view of the people. The sponsors and candidates stand facing the presider.

Presider Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to the ministry of Worship Leader.

The Presider asks the sponsor or sponsors

Are these persons you are to present prepared by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship, and by the knowledge of *their* duties, to exercise *their* ministry to the honor of God, and the well-being of God's Church?

Sponsor I believe *they are*.

Presider You have been called to a ministry of Worship Leader in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Candidate I will.

Presider Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of Worship Leader to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Candidate I will.

The Commissioning

Sponsor I present to you *this person* licensed for ministry of Worship Leader in this diocese.

Antiphon **There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in everyone.**

V. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly:

R. **Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

Let us pray (*Silence*)

Look with favor upon those whom you have called, O Lord, to be Worship Leaders in your Church; and grant that they may be so filled with your Holy Spirit that, seeking your glory and the salvation of souls, they may minister your word with steadfast devotion, and by the constancy of their faith and the innocency of their lives may adorn in all things the doctrine of Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Presider In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you [*N.*] as Licensed Worship Leader [and give you this _____ as a token of your ministry].



The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Guidelines for Eucharistic Ministers

Eucharistic Ministers are charged with administering the elements at any celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

People selected to administer the Holy Eucharist should be carefully chosen and trained. The candidates must be adult communicants in good standing. They should be ready to make a commitment to this weekly ministry.

Steps for becoming a Eucharistic Minister

1. The rector or vestry selects one or more candidates.
2. Each candidate attends a training workshop for Eucharistic Ministers;
3. The rector or vestry recommends to the bishop that the candidate be licensed as a Eucharistic Minister.

The Bishop will make such appointment for a maximum term of three years, renewable upon the recommendation of the rector or vestry.

Deacons, or other members of the clergy, should exercise oversight of this ministry.

Commissioning

Each Eucharistic Minister shall, upon being licensed, be commissioned in a Sunday worship service.



The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Commissioning Of Eucharistic Ministers

The Examination

The congregation being seated, the Presider stands in full view of the people. The candidate stands facing the Presider.

The Presider says these or similar words:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission *these persons* in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which *they are* called.

Presider You have been called to a ministry in this congregation and licensed by the bishop. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Candidate I will.

Presider Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Candidate I will.

The Commissioning

Presider The cup of blessing which we bless is a sharing in the blood of Christ. The bread which we break is a sharing in the Body of Christ.

V: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:

R: **You proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Let us pray. (Silence)

Grant, Almighty God, that those who administer the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation may live in love and holiness according to your commandment, and at the last come to the joy of your heavenly feast with all your saints in light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you (*Name*) to serve as a Eucharistic Minister in this congregation. I anoint your hands with holy oil in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, beseeching him to uphold you and fill you with grace, that you may faithfully administer his Body and Blood to those in this Church. **Amen.**



The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Guidelines for Eucharistic Visitors

People selected to administer the Holy Eucharist should be carefully chosen and trained. The candidates must be adult communicants in good standing. They should be ready to make a commitment to this weekly ministry and capable of bringing both the presence of the Lord and the fellowship of the congregation to those they serve.

The administration of the sacrament should take place the same day, following the dispersal of the congregation from worship.

When possible, the people to whom the Holy Eucharist is to be administered should be notified in advance and appointments set up.

Appropriate vessels in which the bread and wine are carried to the shut-in(s) should be provided. Each week, at the appropriate Sunday Eucharist, the Eucharistic Visitors and those they shall visit may be mentioned by name in the Prayers of the People.

Each week, before the dismissal from the Sunday Eucharist, the Eucharistic Visitors who are to carry the sacrament that day may go forward to the altar to receive the bread and wine in appropriate containers. They may be sent forth with words such as the following:

Presider *(Name)*, we send you out to share Communion this week with *(Name)*.

People **May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

Presider May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in that community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Visitors shall administer the Holy Communion according to the service provided through the diocesan office.

Deacons or other members of the clergy should exercise oversight of this important ministry: receiving feedback about the sick and infirm, providing guidance for the Eucharistic Visitors, and arranging regular gatherings of Eucharistic Visitors for the purpose of mutual sharing and support.



The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Commissioning Of Eucharistic Visitors

The Examination

The congregation being seated, the Presider stands in full view of the people. The candidates stand facing the Presider.

The Presider says these or similar words:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission *these persons* in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which *they are* called.

Presider You have been called as a Eucharistic Visitor for this congregation and licensed by the bishop. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Candidate I will.

Presider Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Candidate I will.

The Commissioning

Presider I present to you *these persons* who *have* been chosen and licensed to take the Sacrament to the ill and infirm of this congregation.

The cup of blessing which we bless is a sharing in the blood of Christ. The bread which we break is a sharing in the Body of Christ.

V: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup:

R: **You proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Let us pray. (Silence)

Grant, Almighty God, that those who administer the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation may live in love and holiness according to your commandment, and at the last come to the joy of your heavenly feast with all your saints in light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the Name of God and of this congregation, I commission you (*Name*) to serve as a Eucharistic Visitor for this congregation. I anoint your hands with holy oil in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, beseeching him to uphold you and fill you with grace, that you may faithfully administer his Body and Blood to those to whom you are sent. **Amen.**