

# Hope Worship Servant Helps... for Acolytes

**Acolytes carry the light of Christ into worship at the beginning of worship, and then out into the world at the end of service.**

- ◆ Arrive at church 15 minutes before worship begins, dressed neatly. On special occasions you may be asked to wear a robe, but it isn't a requirement. Check with Deacon Shirley or the pastor for any special instructions for the day.
- ◆ Sign in on the Worship Servant Sheet at the Usher Table in the entryway.
- ◆ Be in the Worship Center 5 minutes before the beginning of the service.
- ◆ If you need to take worship notes for the day, take a form from the entryway kiosk with a bulletin and pen or pencil and place it where you will sit for worship. Then go to the Altar Care Room (sacristy) prepared to acolyte.
- ◆ Candle lighters (leerys) are located near the sink in the Altar Care Room, As worship time approaches, , you might pause to offer a simple prayer: "Jesus, Light of the World, help me to let your light shine in this place today. Amen." Take out the candle lighter, light the wick or, if needed, ask for help to light the wick.
- ◆ During the pre-service music at 8:00 and opening hymn/song at 10:15 carry the candle lighter on the right side of your body, wick up and leading forward with the bell down
- ◆ If serving with another acolyte, walk side by side to the center of the altar in front of the stairs. DO NOT RUSH. Maintain a natural "walking" pace. Stop at center, pause briefly and bow, before going up the stairs
- ◆ Go to the Christ candle, light the Christ candle, then return to the altar.
- ◆ Below are two ways to light the candle—one if there is only one acolyte, the other if there are two acolytes

If there are two acolytes, proceed to the center of the altar, bow together, then split and light the candles in the following order. Then come back together and bow before leaving altar.



When there is only one acolyte, light the candles in the following order, pausing to bow as you cross the altar to go from candle 2 to candle 3. Return to the center of the altar and bow again.



- ◆ After lighting the candles, carry the candle lighter, still lit, to the Altar Care Room. Blow out the wick, set the candle lighter in the stand and return to your seat. You are to fully participate in the worship service. Remember you are God's servant this day and an example to others.
- ◆ The ushers may need your help with offering. If asked, follow their instructions. If it is a communion service, take communion with the other assistants, then return to your seat.
- ◆ **At the end of both worship services**, during last hymn/song, you will extinguish the candles. During the announcements, go to the Altar Care Room, take the candle lighter (leerys) from the holder,. When sending song begins, proceed to the altar, extinguishing the candles in the reverse order in which you lit them. Last candle you lit is the first candle you extinguish. After extinguishing the last of the four altar candles, bow before the altar then go to the Christ candle. Light the candle lighter wick, then extinguish the Christ candle. Come to the center of the altar, bow, and proceed out with the light symbolizing carrying the light of Christ out into the world, (wick up, bell down).
- ◆ In the Altar Care Room, blow out the light and return the candle lighter (leerys) to the holder putting the bell to the wall.