



(2023 Scripture Readers Edition)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who schedules the Readers? How far ahead do they schedule?

- *Robin Smith works with the availability of our people and schedules them a Quarter at a time.*
- *Robin will send out the Quarterly Schedule the last month of the Quarter.*
- *The Scripture passages are available in printed form and on the ILM Church app, as well.*
- *It is your responsibility to be prepared to read on the week assigned to you. If you have a last minute emergency or a schedule conflict, contact Robin immediately (preferably ahead of time)*

2. How do I introduce each passage?

- *The Old Testament reading for today comes from... (just list the chapter, not the verses)*
- *The Epistle reading for today is from St. Paul/whomever...*
- *Please rise in reverence of the Holy Gospel. The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter...*

3. When I come across a hard to pronounce word, how do I find the correct pronunciation?

- *Google that word. One of the results will usually have a pronunciation file you can play and listen to.*
- *In the ILM App, there is a tray at the bottom labeled "Bible". You can choose a translation (we mostly use ESV). You can look up the passage in question, and push play. Listen as professional reader reads your chosen passage.*
- *Editors note: you can always ask Corrie Ganger*

4. Do the Scripture Readings always stay aligned with the Lectionary?

- *Most of the time, yes. There are occasions that Pastor Grayson wants to insert a scripture passage that is closely connected with his sermon. So, always check with the bulletin (emailed to you on Thursday the week of your reading) to make sure you are preparing the right scriptures. Also, we ALWAYS put the bulletins in our ILM church app, under "Resources". That is also a good place to check.*
- *Note that in the Lectionary, there are FOUR scriptures listed. The fourth is a Psalm. Most of the time, we do not use that. But on occasion, Pastor Grayson will use it. So, ditto on always checking the bulletin or App the week you are scheduled.*

5. Why do we say “This is the Word of the Lord...thanks be to God”?

- To raise the level of reverence of God’s Holy Word.
- To cultivate gratitude for God’s Holy Word

6. What’s the best way to track what I’m reading, so that I don’t lose my place?

- You can use your finger (editors note: but just your pointer finger!)
- You can double space your Scriptures.
- You can “bold” or “highlight” every other line, making it easier to read.

7. How fast or slow should I read?

- A moderate pace. Not too fast (we’re not in Wisconsin); not too slow (we’re not a bunch of turtles).
- Read for meaning. It should sound natural to your voice.

8. How early should I show up to a service?

- 30 minutes. Test your mic, pray with the Pastors, Elders, other Leaders. Make sure you have everything you need. Help out in any needy area (acolyte, greeters, etc)

9. How long should I stay after the Service?

- About 10-15 minutes. Why? To give opportunity for sharing and connecting.

10. How do I accept compliments for a reading?

- Say, “Thank you so much.”...and then Reflect glory to God (“Wasn’t He especially good to us in today’s service?” Or “Don’t you just love the Word of God”)\
- Editors note: if you are a Chic-fil-A customer, reply with “My pleasure!”

11. Why do we read from the Lectern?

- It is a combination of things. There is a mic there. Also, that is where the lighting is focused. Traditionally, elevated, raised, steps help to bring reverence for God’s Holy Word. [editors note: it’s not on the level of Scripture, but it’s darn close!]

12. Why do some Elders/Pastors read from the middle of the Congregation?

- Usually, it only the Holy Gospel, and as a way of incarnating John 1:1...”In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was God.” This helps the Congregation to respond in reverence to the Holy Gospel.