

Sayin' Grace

Leading Communion at FCC

Help us share in Communion and give thanks for Jesus.

What to prepare

Read two to six Bible verses. Say a few very brief words. Lead a prayer primarily focused on thanksgiving.

Three minutes maximum for everything you say. You don't have to fill time.

One brief thought

Explain what Communion is, why we do it, or what it reminds us about our identity in the Lord.

Choose one.

Part of the beauty of doing it every week is that we don't have to cover everything every time.

You've got help!

Toby will send a suggested Scripture and thought by Wednesday afternoon at the latest. Both are optional. Their relationship to the sermon has already been considered.

When you're up there, feel free to use a phone, a manuscript, notes, or memory. How you do it up there is up to you. **Here's what matters:** say every word aloud several times in preparation, including the reading and prayer. Time it so you can finish comfortably within three minutes.

What you're signing on the dotted line for

Keep your contribution about Communion. Moral instruction, correction, and pressure to change people's behavior are never part of the Communion talk.

Leave out the personal soapbox, added story, and mini-sermon. Stay with what you've prepared. If Toby asks you to make a particular sermon connection, use it as given. Otherwise, don't try to anticipate or set up the sermon.

Signing up puts you into the rotation and means accepting these expectations and direction when needed. There's room to learn, and there's nothing wrong with messing up.

Repeatedly disregarding the expectations can mean being taken out of the rotation.

You don't have to be an experienced speaker. Use whatever helps you arrive confident. We're glad you're willing to do this.

A complete example

This is a complete Communion contribution. It doesn't need to be longer.

Bible reading

I'd like to read Psalm 100, verses 4 and 5:

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalm 100:4-5 ESV

Brief thought

As we share the bread and cup, we have good reason to thank God. Through Jesus, we belong to Him, and we belong to one another. We're glad to share this meal as His family.

Prayer of thanksgiving

Let's pray.

Father, thank You for Jesus and for bringing us into Your family through Him. Thank You for His death and resurrection, for Your love and mercy, and for the people sharing this meal with us. As we receive the bread and cup, we're grateful that we belong to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Your words don't have to match these. If you've prepared a short reading, one brief thought about Communion, and a prayer of thanks, you've got what you need. Say it aloud and check that it fits comfortably within three minutes.

Your preparation notes