

Lay reader

Responsibilities

- Read the lesson from the ambo¹ during the worship service.

Details

You will receive the reading by email on Tuesday or Wednesday of the week before your service date. It will be clearly labeled whether it is Reading 1 or Reading 2.

Make sure to prepare and rehearse the reading.

You will read from the ambo at the appointed time in the service. One of the pastors will have turned the microphone on.

If you are the first reader, you may need to slide a footstool under the ambo before proceeding with the reading (if used by the Prayer of the Day reader).

Announce the reading: "A reading from ____" (Romans, for example)

Read the passage clearly, enunciating each word. Speak slowly enough that the congregation can understand what you are saying.

Finish the reading with "The word of the Lord" and wait at the ambo until the congregation has responded "Thanks be to God."

Notes

You may adjust the microphone, either up/down, or nearer/farther from your mouth. Use your best public speaking voice; if you know you are soft-spoken, you may need to speak up a bit. Likewise, you may have to modulate your volume a bit if your voice tends to be very strong.

¹- The **ambo** is a raised platform or reading desk in a church used for proclaiming scripture.