

ACOLYTE INSTRUCTIONS

A few things to remember:

You are playing an important role in helping to set the tone for the congregation in their worship and praise of God, so please remember to wear something appropriate for this occasion, be dignified, and refrain from chewing gum while you are carrying out your task.

At the beginning of the worship service:

Be in the back of the sanctuary *ten minutes* before the service starts. Sometime after the prelude begins, the pastor will light the wick on the candle-lighter. Then the acolyte will walk *slowly down the center aisle*, up the steps onto the chancel, and then *light the white candle* on the white table underneath the cross. Once the candle is lit, the acolyte will *slowly pull the wick back into the candle-lighter*, return down the center aisle to the back of the sanctuary, place the candle-lighter back on the information table, and go sit with his or her parent(s).

At the close of the worship service:

At the beginning of the last verse of the final hymn, the acolyte should get the candle-lighter, *walk down the center aisle*, carefully up the steps onto the chancel, and stand *beside the baptismal font, facing the congregation*. *Immediately after* the pastor pronounces the charge and benediction, the acolyte should *snuff out the white candle*, using the bell-shaped part of the candlelighter, and return by means of the center aisle to place the candle-lighter back on the information table in the rear of the sanctuary and then go find his or her parent(s).

Thank you for serving God and our church in this important way!