



### Acolyte/Crucifer Responsibilities

1. Please be in the robing room just off the Sanctuary Narthex no later than 10 minutes prior to the worship service. Let an usher know that you are the Acolyte/Crucifer for the service.
2. Select a white robe that fits comfortably. Tie a colored rope around your waist that corresponds to the same color on the Communion Table Paraments. You may wear gloves if you like. You may also wear a cross necklace that is labeled "Acolyte."
3. Select a Candlelighter that has plenty of wick and is not stuck in its chamber.
4. Wait at Sanctuary doors until the Prelude begins, at which time an usher will light your Candlelighter. The Crucifer precedes the Acolyte in the Procession in Services of Holy Communion.
5. Proceed forward to the Chancel area of the Sanctuary. The Crucifer turns and faces the congregation just before entering the Chancel and waits to put the Cross in its stand next to the pulpit until the Acolyte is finished lighting the candles. (The emblem on the front of the cross should always face outward toward the congregation.) When the Acolyte arrives in front of the Communion Table, he/she will bow slightly toward the cross, and then proceed around the Communion Table to light the right candle. He/she will then come back around the table and bow before the cross before proceeding around the table to light the left candle. When both candles have been lit, he/she will proceed around the table to bow again before the cross, and then proceed to Candlelighter stand next to the Acolyte's pew in the Chancel area. **Note: The Acolyte will gently blow out the flame on the Candlelighter and gently adjust the wick up and down so that the wax does not dry hard; preventing it from moving the next time it is used.**
6. When the collection of the offering is announced, the Acolyte will take the silver offering plates from the ledge next to the candles and proceed to the Chancel rail where they will present a plate to each of the ushers. The Acolyte will remain in place until the ushers have returned all offering plates. When the Acolyte has all plates, he/she will turn, climb the steps to the Communion Table, acknowledge the offering to God by lifting the plates

- up to God until the Doxology has ended. The offering will then be taken to the volunteers in the Sacristy (room behind pulpit) just off the Chancel, and then be seated.
7. During Services of Holy Communion, the Acolyte and Crucifer will assist the pastor at the Communion Table, keeping juice trays filled, etc.
  8. During the first verse of the last hymn, the Crucifer will proceed to the cross stand, take the cross with emblem facing outward, and stand at the entrance of the Chancel facing the congregation until the Acolyte is ready to follow him/her out of the Sanctuary. During the first verse of the last hymn, the Acolyte will take the Candlelighter and proceed to the center of the Communion table and slightly bow before the cross. He/ she will then proceed around the table to the left candle and light the Candlelighter wick before snuffing out the candle with the Candlelighter bell. The Acolyte will then proceed back around the table, bowing to the cross, and then proceeding around the table to the right candle, snuffing it out with the Candlelighter bell. The Acolyte will bow before cross one last time before proceeding out of the Sanctuary (behind the Crucifer on Services of Holy Communion.)
  9. Once out of the Sanctuary, the Acolyte will gently blow out the flame on the Candlelighter. **Note: The Acolyte will gently blow out the flame on the Candlelighter and gently adjust the wick up and down so that the wax does not dry hard; preventing it from moving the next time it is used.** The Acolyte will replace the Candlelighter in its stand in the robing room, hang up their robe and waist tie, replace gloves and cross in box.

Special Notes:

1. Please comb hair and dress appropriately (sandals and flip flops discouraged due to possible tripping on stairs)
2. Do not hum during service.
3. Do not lean on Communion Table with elbows.
4. Do not look around to find your family, drawing attention to yourself.
5. No chewing gum please.
6. **Thanks to each of our Youth for serving Bethel in this way!**