

Customary for Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Liturgical Ministries

Intercessors

The prayer of the Body of Christ is our response to what we have heard and received from God. Intercessions are made on behalf of ourselves and others.¹

Description

The Intercessor leads the congregation in offering prayers of thanksgiving and intercession for the Church, our parish family, our community, and for the world.

General Instructions

1. Service schedules for Intercessors are issued from the parish office each quarter. Schedules are published in the monthly *Messenger*, the weekly e-mail update, and on Emmanuel's website (www.emmanuelbristol.org).
2. If you who are unable to serve at a scheduled service, you are responsible for finding a replacement AND for notifying the parish office as soon as possible.
3. If in addition to being the Intercessor, you also happen to be scheduled as a Eucharistic Minister, follow the guidance provided in the Customary chapter for Lay Eucharistic Ministers. Notice that special instructions are provided near the end of the chapter for lay leaders serving dual roles.

Preparation for Worship

1. Intercessions are generally prepared by the rector and are left in the document holder inside the lay readers' closet.
2. Plan to arrive such that you have sufficient time to retrieve, read and become familiar with the intercessory prayers prior to the worship service.
3. Take your seat in the nave, preferably near the front, before the service begins. It is helpful if you make your presence as the day's Intercessor known to the rector or to another lay minister prior to the service.

Responsibilities for Assisting in Worship

1. At the conclusion of the Nicene Creed, move from your seat to the lectern on the Gospel side of the chancel, and lead the congregation in the intercessory prayers according to the form provided.
2. Following the prayers, remain standing behind the lectern, turned facing the organist. Remain at this position during additional prayers offered by the priest, including the confession and absolution. Return to your seat during the exchanging of the Peace.

References:

¹ The Christian Formation Committee of the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, *Liturgical Ministries Profiles: A Customary for the Diocese of Vermont* (2006)

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