

## **Reading the Bible to others in our Services**

Thank you for agreeing to read. It is one of the most important moments in our Services: read and heard with faith and expectation the written Word becomes the Living Word, a meeting place with the living God.

### **Please do prepare:**

- using the New Revised Standard version.
- by praying for encounter to take place in the reading and preaching of Scripture
- by being familiar with the text – the overall meaning, natural “chunks” to be read, check pronunciations
- By practicing out loud. Simply reading silently to yourself will not help you identify potential problems of pronunciation, pauses, and pacing. Ask someone to help you get the speed right. Nervousness usually shows through speaking too rapidly.

### **On the day**

- please make yourself known to the Warden before the Service
- check the reading is marked in the lectionary book or bring your own NRSV Bible
- be ready to come up to the lectern
- use the appropriate response before and after the reading (see Service book)
- read; don't act. You don't have to move your body or gesture a lot.
- Simply stand tall so your voice projects, use the mike, and read the text.
- try to read so that your facial gestures are evident, even if you have to hold the Bible above the lectern.
- use a natural voice.
- use pauses effectively.
- look up from your reading to reinforce the message.