

Christ Church Customary

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Morning Prayer:

before the service:

- 20 minutes before service: enter through sacristy door; turn on lights and unlock front doors; vest in white alb with cincture
- Check that microphone on lectern is on (green light)
- **Check that readings for the day are correct**
- Candles on reredos are lit [but not the altar candles]
- place offertory plate and Morning prayer bulletins on small table at entry
- Sweep up the entryway to the narthex
- Don't touch the thermostat
- Greet congregation as they enter
- Ask for readers from the congregation (optional)
- No processional cross, no music

the service:

- Worship Leader walks up the aisle, greets the congregation, and highlights any important announcements
- Announce service begins on BCP 79
- Sentence of scripture/confession [no confession during Eastertide]
- WL reads Lessons & Canticles from lectern/ if there is someone willing to read lessons, WL goes to left side (Presider's chair side); congregation remains seated during readings and canticles
- WL reads the Gospel lesson from the lectern, offers short homily
- WL returns to left side, is seated briefly, then rises to begin Creed – announce BCP page
- Prayers/collects and closing versicles are led from the left side of the altar
- After final versicle, WL comes into the congregation and greets the people

after the service:

- WL locks the front doors, turns lights down; takes offering and places in white envelope

in sacristy (left drawer) with date/MP/WL name and returns it to drawer

- WL fills out service book
- WL extinguishes the candles, exits and locks sacristy door

Chandler's Morning Prayer (9:30)

before the service

- Pick up bulletins with readings (same as 8 am MP service) - bring about 20
- **(worship leader blue folder in sacristy?)**
- 10 minutes before starting time, be in place in the Fireside Room (second floor, Chandler Square) resident, "Doc" often arrives ahead and sets up the room
- Arrange chairs in large Circle, with gap sufficient to access circle in wheel chair, and room for at least one wheel chair in the circle
- **TV** cabinet next to windows has blue large print folders with pages numbered to correspond to prayer book. Place MP bulletin and one blue folder on each seat. There are also battery small candles, a small cross and a basket – use as you wish. Basket for offertory is placed on a table by the entry door
- Vest or not, your choice
- Greet congregation, speak LOUDLY. Several have limited vision; they will let you know. There are a few who like to read – ask if anyone wants to read the first or second lessons; **there are those who would like to read the 3rd reading**
- Encourage a round of introductions, they forget each other's names
- Ask if there are any at Chandler's for whom special prayers should be said – then remember to do so at the appropriate time!

during the service

- Lead from a seated position in the Circle. You may stand if you are more comfortable; the congregation does not stand. Be prepared for spontaneous interruptions.
- If you would like to lead them in singing a verse of a well known hymn, they usually respond joyfully – this can be before while you are waiting for others, or during the service.
- This congregation expects to use the traditional Lord's Prayer

after the service

- Restore room to configuration you found on entering, and return folders, etc. to wardrobe cabinet; bring bulletins back to CC for disposal
Some residents might need help getting back to their rooms
- Inquire about any who are missing
- Bring offering back to sacristy, place in white envelope with date, service, your name and leave in drawer

- Fill out service book
- Let the priests know (via email is fine) of any illnesses or new infirmities that might require a pastoral visit; write down the names of any newcomers & send to priests

Evening Prayer

before the service

- 10 minutes before service: enter through sacristy door; turn on lights and unlock front doors [do not vest]
- Place small candle stand with large candle in front of the altar or on the congregation level in front of the stairs
- Turn at least 6 chairs to face across the aisle, be sure each has a prayer book
- Use green lesson book or bring a Bible with scriptures marked for the daily lection
- Check *Holy Men and Holy Women*, if there is a feast day, the readings are optional but you should always begin the service with a brief summary of the feast day, and include the feast day collect in the prayers

during the service

- there is no bulletin for this service, be sure to announce pages at each new liturgical component
- Lead this service from your seat in the congregation, standing as appropriate per rubrics
- Invite those present to take turns reading the Scripture; psalm may be read by individual verses around the room, or by sides of the aisle if desired
- Be sure to include those on the CC prayer list in the intercessory prayers

after the service

- Lock the front doors, extinguish the candle, return table and chairs to 'sunday' position and turn out lights
- Fill out service book, being sure to place in correct column if a weekday service
- Exit sacristy, locking the door

Centering Prayer

- 15 minutes before the service: enter through sacristy door; turn on lights and unlock front doors [do not vest]
- Select and mark a reading for Lectio Divina
- Select an opening verse or sentence to begin Centering Prayer
- Arrange the first two rows of chairs so they are facing each other, you may need to ungang the chairs on the ends
- Place small candle stand with large candle in front of the altar or on the congregation level in front of the stairs, light candle
- When everyone is settled, read verse or opening sentence, follow by ringing the singing bowl
- After 20 minutes, quietly ring the singing bowl again
- Allow two minutes of silence
- Read the selected lectio divina scripture
- Allow two minutes of silence
- Re-read, or ask another person to re-read the scripture
- Allow two minutes of silence
- Invite responses
- When people begin to leave, rearrange chairs, extinguish candles, fill in service book, leave in silence