

Typical Order of Service

→	Prelude: Acolyte(s) light the altar candles prior to the service.
→	Processional Hymn: Crucifer leads procession with processional cross.
	Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon
	Children's Sermon
→	Baptism: If there is a baptism, the Crucifer will hold the processional cross during the ceremony.
	Reading of the Word
	Sermon
→	Offering: Server will come to the front to receive the offering when the Doxology starts and will hold it during the blessing. If it is an 8:30 service (no server) or a Communion Sunday, the Crucifer will receive the offering instead of the Server.
	Statement of Faith
→	Communion: Server should prepare the Communion Table during the Communion hymn and cover the elements after the Elders have been served.
→	Hymn: During the final hymn, prepare for the recessional. For an 8:30 service, Crucifer sends acolyte and retrieves cross at last line of the final hymn. Exit after the benediction. For an 11:00 service, Crucifer sends acolytes and retrieves cross at first line of last hymn. Exit on second verse of the hymn.

Schedules and Trades

We appreciate all of your help and want to keep this service from being a burden on you. We will try to keep a schedule published via email several weeks in advance so that there are no surprises. Email bpcacolytecrucifer-owner@googlegroups.com if you need to be added to the group or to change your email address. We will try to help keep people scheduled to work primarily at the worship time that's most convenient for your family (if you let us know), but we still occasionally need to have people at a different service. The reason is that the number of youth is not balanced between the services and the scheduling depends on the number of people available.

If you are unable to work for whatever reason on your scheduled Sunday, we appreciate your help trying to arrange a trade. You can even email the list (bpcacolytecrucifer@googlegroups.com) if you want to ask the general group for help finding a trade. No matter what, it's better to let us know that there's a problem rather than to find out at the last minute on Sunday morning that someone is a no-show.

If there are any questions or issues, please don't hesitate to contact Alex Cook (00ander@gmail.com) - 770-888-1834.



Buford Presbyterian Church

Guidelines for Crucifers & Servers

The Acolyte & Crucifer Program at Buford Presbyterian Church was born in 1987 under the direction of Gran Betts. It began with a handful of seven or eight youth and two very generous members who gave a memorial gift of six robes. Today we have over six dozen young people from 3rd through 12th grade participating.

The Worship Committee and the Pastors appreciate your involvement in the worship service. We are thankful to you for continuing this tradition and for serving your church faithfully every Sunday, with reverence and dedication.

The Crucifer

The Crucifer plays an important role in leading worship, and also may double in the role of Server. It's important to follow along with the service, because you also need to make sure that the acolytes perform their jobs at the appropriate times.



At a typical 8:30 a.m. service there will be a Crucifer and one acolyte. There will be a Server only on Communion Sundays. At a typical 11:00 a.m. service there will be a Crucifer, two acolytes, and a Server.

Prior to the Service

Please try to start dressing 15 minutes before the service begins. This is important so that we know that you are present. Typically the Crucifer will wear the Holy Spirit cross (the red one). The Gold cross is worn on Communion Sundays or high holy days. Make a quick check of the bulletin to make sure you are familiar with the order of worship (such as whether there is a baptism or any other special things to note). Retrieve the processional cross.

Processional

Hold the cross high and straight. Start forward as the congregation begins to sing the opening hymn. Process slowly and stop just at the front row pews and keep facing forward (looking at the Communion Table). After the Pastors have moved past you, you can return the processional cross to the holder located near your seat.

Baptism

If there is a Baptism, retrieve the processional cross and stand on the steps behind the family by the baptismal font. Return the cross to the holder when it is complete.

Offering

At the 8:30 a.m. service or on Communion Sunday, you will take the offering instead of the Server. See that section for more details. On a Communion Sunday there will be no room on the Communion Table for the offering plates, so store them on the shelf on the left side behind the pulpit.

Recessional

The recessional is done differently depending on whether there is a choir present.

At the 8:30 a.m. service (or if there is no choir), prepare for the recessional at the last line of the last hymn. You should retrieve the cross and take your position at the first full set of pews. The acolyte will extinguish the candles only after the Pastor gives the benediction. You should begin to leave the sanctuary as soon as the acolyte finishes and takes their place behind you.

At the 11:00 a.m. service (when there is a choir), prepare for the recessional at the first line of the last hymn. The acolytes will immediately extinguish the candles and take their place behind you. You should begin to leave the sanctuary at the start of the second verse of the hymn.

The Server

Prior to the Service

Please try to start dressing 15 minutes before the service begins. The Server usually wears the Eucharist cross (the blue one). The gold cross can be worn on high holy days.

The Offering

Come to the center aisle immediately as the organist begins to play the doxology. (You need to move quickly because sometimes the ushers will hurry up the aisle even before the congregation begins to sing.) Take the tray(s) from the usher(s) and turn to face the communion table. After the Pastors have offered the Prayer of Dedication, you can place the plates on the table.

Communion

During the last line of the communion hymn, you will need to prepare the table. Remove the lid from the juice trays and set them behind the stack. (At the 8:30 a.m. service you will only need to remove the left side lid.) Remove the linen covering the bread and fold it, placing it next to the plate.

After the congregation has been served, you can return to the communion table. The Pastors will finish serving the Elders, and you then need to return the covers to the trays and push the bread together and re-cover with the linen cloth.

From time to time, we have a European-Style Communion. In this type, the congregation comes forward to receive communion instead of being served in place. In this case you should stay at the Communion Table after receiving your communion, and provide more bread and juice to the Elders as they need more supplies. The Crucifer may also need to assist with this if six Elders are serving since they tend to run out of things at the same time.

