

instruction, the Pastor should give each Elder a mimeographed diagram indicating the positions of the Elders when they march to the front of the church, where they are to sit, their positions in front of the Communion Table, and where they are to serve. The Pastor should also instruct the Elders whom he appoints to take care of the top tablecloth on the Communion Table how to remove the tablecloth, how to fold it up, how to unfold it, and how to put it back on.

E. Participants in the Communion Service

The Communion Service is only for believers in Jesus Christ. Unbelievers are welcome to observe, but they should be requested not to participate in it.

F. Communicant Cards

The Pastor may obtain Communicant Cards for use in keeping a record of the members of the congregation who are present at each Communion Service. These cards can be made available to the members of the congregation by enclosing them in the Church Bulletin, or by placing them in a rack in the back of the pews. These cards should be filled out by the members of the congregation and collected sometime before the Communion Service begins. They can be obtained at most Christian Bookstores. The value of these cards for the Pastor is that they enable him to know who is absent from each Communion Service. The Pastor can then consult with the absentee, find out the reason for the absence, and try to eliminate it.

G. Order of Service

1. The Pastor leads the congregation in a Communion Hymn, during which the congregation stands.

A good hymn to use is "According to Thy Gracious Word."
It's on page 91 of INSPIRING HYMNS.

2. The Elders take their positions at the back of the church, march to the front, and stand in front of their seats facing the congregation.
3. The Elders to the Pastor's far right and far left remove the top tablecloth from the Communion Table, reverently fold it up, and lay it in a convenient place.
4. When the last stanza of the Communion Hymn commences, the Pastor retires from the pulpit and takes his place behind the Communion Table; and at the end of the stanza, he motions with his hands for the congregation and the Elders to sit.
5. The Pastor reads one of the Communion Passages (1 Cor. 11:23-30; Matt. 26:20-30; Mark 14:17-26; or Luke 22:14-20), and delivers a brief message.
6. The Pastor calls on one of the Elders to his right to thank the Lord for the Bread which represents the body of Jesus Christ which was given for us.