

Clergy Guide to HHO Worship

This is a guide for Clergy to help them prepare to be Deacon/Priest in a HHO Weekly Worship service.

Overview of the liturgy:

Our liturgy is primarily lay-led, clergy supported. Anything that our lay-leaders can do, they facilitate as part of their regular ministry.

We have a roster of many roles, which can be accessed in our HHO Servers Teams Channel under Services > Weekly Worship Services Prep folder, alongside the server guide documents which detail each role (these also feature on our website [Weekly Worship | Ministries | Holy Hermits Online](#)).

Our hospitality ministry begins 15minutes prior to the start of the service (8.45am) and our welcomer seeks to connect with each person as they join our space. Our chat host is active in welcoming those who prefer chat communications and keeps an eye on the chat space throughout the service.

Our safety officer (usually a governance leader) is present for the whole gathered time and is there to help if someone has a medical or other kind of emergency on screen when we are gathered.

The technology is facilitated by a group of servers, The Zoom Buttons role fulfils the 'host' capacity in Zoom, and will make co-hosts of the other leaders who need extra access to the control functions (e.g. muting those who have accidentally unmuted etc.) and they will make the clergy a co-host just in case you need to make use of these.

Our Liturgical Assistants lead the liturgy, and our Cantor offers the responses in bold text unmuted. The Intro to confession and Absolution are clergy facilitated after the first hymn. We also have the extra words of assurance before Absolution, which we like to be said even when clergy are present, and our Liturgical Assistants can say if it is 100% lay-led with no clergy present.

Our readers offer the ministry of the word, up until the proclamation of the Gospel which is a Diaconal role for the rostered clergy person.

The sermon is offered by the clergy person of the day and there is a guide document for preachers detailing what that is like if you haven't preached at HHO before: [Guest Preachers and Teachers.pdf](#)

The sermon is recorded and loaded to our YouTube Channel for sharing with those who can't be with us in real time via our website and Sunday send out. You can see our past sermons at: [Sermons | Holy Hermits Online](#) The recording is facilitated by our Zoom

Buttons person; you just need to make sure you are unmuted and wait for the recording to start (Zoom announces this via audio and a pop-up bar).

The final role for the clergy person is the blessing after the sending prayer. We have added the Aaronic blessing as a community said Benediction after the blessing, which is said every week, but forms the only invitation for blessing during clergy absence.

We have facilitated fellowship following the service where our members often like to linger to reflect together on the experience of worship, ask questions of the preacher or just generally be together in conversation.

Fellowship is usually concluded by 10.45am at the latest (depending on how long the sermon was!) so if you are able to linger it would be greatly beneficial for our people.

Preparing for Sunday

The services are prepared by our volunteers and placed in the 'Budding Services' folder in our HHO Servers Teams channel files for proof reading and perusal for those serving no later than the Wednesday prior.

Our admin officer shares the link to the service, as well as the roster and the Zoom link with all who are serving, including the rostered clergy person, each Wednesday.

Please feel welcome to make any changes to the liturgy (it is a cloud doc so can be worked on collaboratively) ahead of time.

The dress code at HHO is very relaxed. Clergy collar or studs/cross are appreciated but there is no need to robe or wear vestments unless you would like to.

Occasional Agape Feasts

Although we have a short spiritual communion prayer during our devotions every week, we do also occasionally celebrate a full spiritual communion including the great thanksgiving prayers and then observe an agape feast. Usually at high feast days: Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and All Hallows > although it can be any time of year.

The elements which are consecrated by the clergy person on screen are returned to the earth after the service. The foods and drinks gathered by the people are simply shared at fellowship after some additional agape prayers said following the Eucharist. We communicate clearly about the elements being returned to the ground and that the food and drink we share is simple fellowship, not Holy Communion.

Thank you for serving in the life of our community and offering your ministry in our midst!