

Deacon Ministry for St. James
January 2024

Deacons are disciples, who serve the Pastor and congregation. At Grace Lutheran in Clearwater, FL, I assist the Pastor with services, visit the sick, conduct a small service and preach at the Oaks, a local retirement home. I serve communion to the homebound and those who come to a monthly community breakfast. One of my fellow deacons and I write a monthly spiritual newsletter.

At St. James, the deacon's ministry assists the priest with liturgy, proclaims the Gospel, is the Intercessor, sometimes is invited to preach the homily and assists at the altar. The deacon is willing to conduct Liturgy of the Word if the priest is not available. The deacon instructs the acolytes and is willing to teach the children more about serving.

Spiritual thoughts/reflections/comments/musings from the deacon are included in St. James Messenger. The deacon is part of the Pastoral Care team, organizes their bulletin board, is part of Worship Planning and truly whatever else is needed. Mostly, this deacon continues to hear the Holy Spirit calling me to serve St. James, bringing along family, friends, and neighbors to hear God's Word and share the Table. Every day, I hear God's Word to serve St. James, the Priest in Charge, and the community.