*Thank you*

for answering the call to service through preparing and helping to lead us in one of the offices and services when we gather as The Order of Saint Luke. Abbot Elizabeth writes:

I am convinced that worship is the most important thing we do when we are together. We are formed as a community by the FACT that we do this, and by the WAY in which we do this. You and I can facilitate, guide, invite participation, spark imagination. But we should always be aware that our worship is not a performance for God, it is an invitation for our community to be open to God. God remains in charge of what happens, and you have been invited to take on some responsibilities that will help keep us open to that reality.

*Basic Guidelines*

* We are a dispersed Order. Sharing together in prayer and worship is a rare and precious experience for us.
* As we do so, we seek to express, nurture and incarnate a Lukan spirituality.
* Our basic resource for worship is *The Book of Offices and Services of the Order of Saint Luke* (often called “the red book” or *BOS* ).
* We encourage you to use this resource as much as possible in your service.
  + The basic purpose of this book is to enable our prayer and worship when we meet together; it is our “chapter book.”
  + Using it when we meet together enables our members to become better acquainted with the resources it provides.
  + It will avoid participants having to juggle multiple books and thus focus on the service of prayer and worship itself.
  + It will signal that we are an ecumenical order, not grounded in a book from a given denomination (though not avoiding the resources therein).

There will sometimes be good reasons for using something not found in the above book in your service. That can be included in the worship guide being prepared by the chaplain general. If you choose to use something not in our basic resource which requires permission, let the Chaplain General know well in advance.

On occasion, and in consultation with the Chaplain General, we will benefit from an entire service from outside the book being used (*Holden Evening Prayer* and the Bob Heard services are examples).

The liturgy for inclusion in the worship book must be to the chaplain general by XXXX.