Guidelines for a Reader Service[1]

Royal Doors and curtain remain closed. Those serving do not vest. ***Only serve in the church with the blessing of the priest.***

- Begin with the exclamation: "Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen."
- Priest's prayers and exclamations are omitted.
- Little Litany is replaced with "Lord Have Mercy" *three times*.
- Other Litanies replaced with "Lord Have Mercy" *twelve times*.[2]
- The Gospel is read in an ordinary voice, and not intoned.
- All other hymns, psalms and prayers are read or sung as when a priest serves
- The Typika service will be served in place of the Divine Liturgy.

Notes:

[1] Source: http://orthodoxinfo.com/praxis/services_nopriest.aspx

[2] According to *The Order of Divine Services* by Fekula and Williams, the Great Litany is replaced with "Lord have mercy" *forty times*.