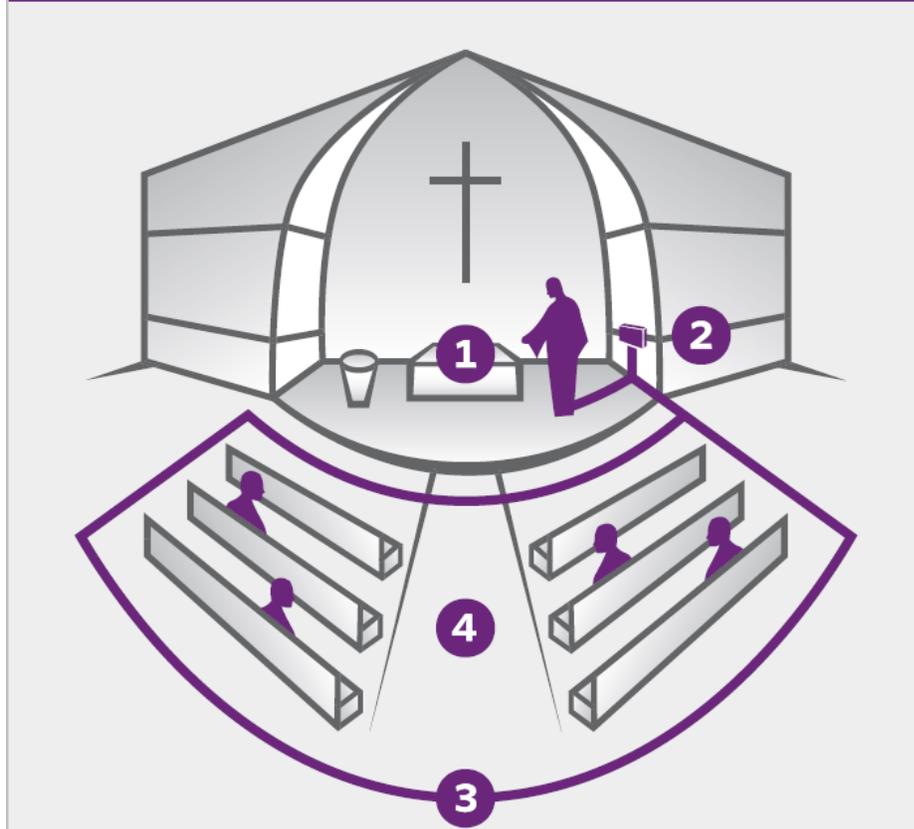


ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

Hearing Loop (sound induction loop, audio loop, looping)

A hearing loop provides a magnetic, wireless signal that is picked up by hearing aids/cochlear implants set to the 'T' (Telecoil) setting. If hearing aids don't have a T-switch, a special receiver and headset are needed.

WELS MISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING



HOW DOES LOOPING WORK?

A hearing loop makes a speaker's voice clearer for people with hearing aids.

- 1 Person speaks into a microphone.
- 2 The hearing loop amplifier receives the audio.
- 3 The amplifier then sends a current through the hearing loop, producing a magnetic field inside the looped area.
- 4 Telecoils (t-coils) in hearing aids and cochlear implants pick up the magnetic field signal.

The clear, amplified sound is delivered directly to the ear, according to the wearer's needs, without background noise.

A portable version is also available for use in meeting rooms, classrooms, and other small room or group situations.

Advantages of the hearing loop:

- Background noise is eliminated.
- No need to pick up additional equipment (receiver, headset, earbuds).
- No batteries to maintain.
- Sound is not affected by distance when the user is inside the looped area.
- Inconspicuous, which means greater usage.
- Others in the area are not disturbed.
- Hearing loop systems operate on a universal frequency.
- Users are free to sit anywhere inside the looped area.
- Uses one's own hearing aids that are adjusted to our needs and appropriate levels.

Watch a [YouTube video](#) by Juliette Sterkens and Max shows the difference in speech sounds between hearing aids with and without hearing loop.

FM System

(For those with a hearing loss who don't wear hearing aids and people whose hearing aids don't have a T-switch.)

An FM system consists of a transmitter, microphone, receiver and ear buds/headset worn by the person with a hearing loss. The speaker's voice is picked up by the microphone and sent to the FM transmitter. Sound is sent as radio frequency waves to the receivers, then to the earbuds/headsets. Controls on the receiver allow the listener to adjust the volume to meet one's personal comfort level. Some FM systems use the facility's PA system while others are portable and used in smaller areas.

Pocketalker

The Pocketalker is a personal amplifier to use in one-on-one situations, TV listening, and very small groups. A transmitter with a microphone is connected to an earbud or headset with a 12-foot cord. This is especially helpful in communicating with shut-ins who have a difficult time hearing.

Please contact mdhh@wels.net with additional questions.