

Before Death Occurs

### **Funeral and Burial Planning**

If death is imminent, please read the Ministration at the Time of Death below. If you are planning your own or someone else's funeral, whether living or dead, we hope this packet will help you with the Funeral and Burial service issues. If you have questions don't hesitate to call.

### **Ministration at the Time of Death**

The Prayer Book states: "When a person is near death, the Minister of the Congregation should be notified, in order that the ministrations of the Church may be provided."

Never hesitate to call the clergy when a loved one is near death. We count it a privilege to minister to both the person dying and to the living.

Usually what happens is that the person is anointed with oil, a sacramental symbol of healing. A person who is conscious and in their right mind may need to unburden themselves through a confession. Often they want the assurance that a representative of the church is there to be with those left behind.

It is always appropriate for family and friends to be near, to pray with the dying person and to commit that person to God's loving care.

Should a clergy person not be available, anyone can lead the prayers on page 462 in the Book of Common Prayer (1979). It is fine to lay hands on the person and pray with and for them.

Should the person recover, we simply give thanks to God.

Should the person die, it is still appropriate to pray, committing that person to Christ's mercy.



Dear Parishioners,

For Christians planning a funeral is always a three part exercise. First, whether we are setting thoughts down about our own funeral for others to have, helping someone near death make decisions about their funeral, or planning the funeral of a loved one, we do so first in the hope of the resurrection. We do indeed believe that "... this is the will of my Father, that every one who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:40) Our hope is not in our power, ability, or goodness, but in the love, mercy and grace of God.

Second, a funeral is a chance to honor and say goodbye to a beloved person. It is appropriate to remember the person, their accomplishments, their likes and dislikes. To do so is to honor the fact that they bear the image of God, and indeed are unique.

Third, we come together, because we do not exist in isolation. The body of Christ is more than a metaphor, and when a member is ill, or dies, all of us are affected, even if we didn't know the person. We form an eternal fellowship, of people both living and dead, and we come together to worship the one who formed us into his own body, the Lord Jesus Christ.

So, with that in mind we at Christ church have put this packet together. It may help you as you plan.

Included in this packet are:

\_\_\_\_\_ A funeral planning sheet. Please fill out as much as possible and drop off at the Church, e-mail or fax it in. This is designed mostly to help the church office so we do not forget anything important.

\_\_\_\_\_ A list of hymns often used at funeral services. Many other selections can be used. These are hymns that others have found helpful. Bear in mind that musicians are not always available depending upon when services are scheduled.

\_\_\_\_\_ A list of possible funeral readings. Other scripture readings can be used. Usually there are four or five readings, an Old Testament lesson, a psalm, a reading from one of the New Testament letters or the book of Acts or the Revelation, another psalm can follow, and a lesson from one of the New Testament Gospels

\_\_\_\_\_ A draft funeral service with places for hymns or other music highlighted. The lessons chosen are just for demonstration purposes. Again, almost any bible passages can be used.

\_\_\_\_\_ The burial service is not here. It is a simple service. Please discuss it with the pastor as there are a number of options depending upon local customs and circumstances.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need other assistance.

In Christ,



Paul Frey  
Christ Church

**Funeral / Memorial Service Planning sheet**

**Christ Church Episcopal, Laredo, Texas**

*Please fill out and fax to: 956-723-1846 or mail to P.O.E. Box 450704, Laredo, TX 78045  
or e-mail to cclaredo@sbcglobal.net*



Full Name of deceased: \_\_\_\_\_

Name or nickname to be used during service: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Family address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ Home

\_\_\_\_\_ Work

\_\_\_\_\_ Cell

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name of Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Viewing / Wake: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Dates & Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Cremation: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

Graveside service following: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

Graveside service at a later date: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

Location of burial or interment of cremains: \_\_\_\_\_

Reception following: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

The family requests that donations be made  
in the deceased name to: \_\_\_\_\_

Altar flowers: Done by Altar Guild: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Other: (who): \_\_\_\_\_

Music: (If musician available) yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

Holy Communion: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

**Liturgy: Check one**

Rite two (Contemporary English) \_\_\_\_\_

Rite One: (Old English) \_\_\_\_\_

1928 Service: (Old English) \_\_\_\_\_

**Music Suggestions for Funerals****Hymn Number**

*This selection is not meant to be complete, but to give some ideas of music that others have found to be helpful. Please feel free to suggest other pieces.*

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God	688
Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord	178
All Hail The Power Of Jesus' Name	450
Alleluia Sing To Jesus	460
Almighty Father, strong to save	579
Amazing Grace	671
Blessed Assurance	Levas 184
Christ is alive	182
Come away to the Skies	213
Crown Him with many crowns	494
Eternal Father, strong to save	608
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty	362
How firm a foundation	637, 636
How great Thou art	Levas 60
I am the Bread of Life	335
Jesus Christ is Risen Today	207
Joyful, Joyful we adore thee	376
Just a closer walk with thee	Levas 72
Just as I am	693
Lead on O King Eternal	555
Lord of all hopefulness	482
Love Divine	657
My faith looks up to thee	Levas 88
My Jesus I love thee	Levas 89
Nearer my God to thee	Levas 54
Now thank we all our God	397
On Christ the Solid Rock	Levas 99
Praise my soul the King of Heaven	410
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	390
Precious Lord take my hand	Levas 106
When Morning guilds the skies	427

Note: Levas = Lift Every Voice and Sing II, 1993



## Suggested Readings for Funerals and Memorial Services

At least one reading from the bible is chosen. If there is Holy Communion at the service, one of the readings must be from one of the four Gospels.

Other bible passages besides these can be chosen. These are just suggestions that many have found helpful over the years.



We usually read 3 lessons and a psalm:

- 1) A reading from the Old Testament
- 2) Followed by a Psalm,
- 3) Followed by a reading from one of the New Testament letters,
- 4) Followed by a reading from one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John)

### From the Old Testament - Pick one, Please check

**Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)**

6 ¶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wine on the lees well refined. 7 And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. 8 He will swallow up death for ever, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth; for the LORD has spoken.

**Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)**

1 ¶ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion--to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

**Lamentations 3:22-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)**

21 ¶ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: 22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. 24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." 25 The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. 26 It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. 27 It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. 28 Let him sit alone in silence when he has laid it on him; 29 let him put his mouth in the dust--there may yet be hope; 30 let him give his cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults. 31 For the Lord will not cast off for ever, 32 but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; 33 for he does not willingly afflict or grieve the sons of men.

**Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)**

21 Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! 22 Why do you, like God, pursue me? Why are you not satisfied with my flesh?

23 ¶ "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! 24 Oh that with an iron

pen and lead they were graven in the rock for ever! 25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at last he will stand upon the earth; 26 and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then from my flesh I shall see God, 27 whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

Other Old Testament lesson, please list: \_\_\_\_\_

### From the Psalms: Pick one

**Psalm 23** 1 ¶ A Psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want; 2 he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; 3 he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

**Psalm 27**

1 ¶ A Psalm of David. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When evildoers assail me, uttering slanders against me, my adversaries and foes, they shall stumble and fall. 3 Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. 4 One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. 5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent, he will set me high upon a rock. 6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me; and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

7 ¶ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! 8 Thou hast said, "Seek ye my face." My heart says to thee, "Thy face, LORD, do I seek." 9 Hide not thy face from me. Turn not thy servant away in anger, thou who hast been my help. Cast me not off, forsake me not, O God of my salvation! 10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me up. 11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. 12 Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. 13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yea, wait for the LORD!

**Psalm 42:1-7,**

1 ¶ To the choirmaster. A Maskil of the Sons of Korah. As a hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for thee, O God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? 3 My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me continually, "Where is your God?" 4 These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival. 5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help

6 ¶ and my God. My soul is cast down within me, therefore I remember thee from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. 7 Deep calls to deep at the thunder of thy cataracts; all thy waves and thy billows have gone over me.

**Psalm 46,**

1 ¶ To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamo. A Song. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; 3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah* 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. 5 God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God will help her right early.

6 ¶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. 7 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah* 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has wrought desolations in the earth. 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, he burns the chariots with fire! 10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth!" 11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. *Selah*

**Psalm 90:1-12,**

1 ¶ A Prayer of Moses, the man of God. LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting thou art God. 3 Thou turnest man back to the dust, and sayest, "Turn back, O children of men!" 4 For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. 5 Thou dost sweep men away; they are like a dream, like grass which is renewed in the morning: 6 in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

7 ¶ For we are consumed by thy anger; by thy wrath we are overwhelmed. 8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. 9 For all our days pass away under thy wrath, our years come to an end like a sigh. 10 The years of our life are threescore and ten, or even by reason of strength fourscore; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. 11 Who considers the power of thy anger, and thy wrath according to the fear of thee?

12 ¶ So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

**Psalm 106:1-5**

1 ¶ Praise the LORD! O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever! 2 Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD, or show forth all his praise? 3 Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times! 4 Remember me, O LORD, when thou showest favor to thy people; help me when thou deliverest them; 5 that I may see the prosperity of thy chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thy heritage.

**Psalm 116**

1 ¶ I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications. 2 Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. 3 The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. 4 Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I beseech thee, save my life!" 5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful. 6 The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. 7 Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. 8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling; 9 I walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

10 ¶ I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; 11 I said in my consternation, "Men are all a vain hope." 12 What shall I render to the LORD for all his bounty to me? 13 I will lift up the

cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD, 14 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. 16 O LORD, I am thy servant; I am thy servant, the son of thy handmaid. Thou hast loosed my bonds. 17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. 18 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, 19 in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

**Psalm 121,**

1 ¶ A Song of Ascents. I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come? 2 My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot be moved, he who keeps you will not slumber. 4 Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand. 6 The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. 8 The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore.

**Psalm 130,**

1 ¶ A Song of Ascents. Out of the depths I cry to thee, O LORD! 2 Lord, hear my voice! Let thy ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! 3 If thou, O LORD, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? 4 But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

5 ¶ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; 6 my soul waits for the LORD more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning. 7 O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption. 8 And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

**Psalm 139:1-12**

1 ¶ To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. O LORD, thou hast searched me and known me! 2 Thou knowest when I sit down and when I rise up; thou discernest my thoughts from afar. 3 Thou searchest out my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. 5 Thou dost beset me behind and before, and layest thy hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.

7 ¶ Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, thou art there! If I make my bed in Sheol, thou art there! 9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 even there thy hand shall lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night," 12 even the darkness is not dark to thee, the night is bright as the day; for darkness is as light with thee.

**From the New Testament letters: Pick one**

**Romans 8:14-19,31-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)**

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

17 ¶ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. 18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God;

31 ¶ What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare his

own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; 34 who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## 1 Corinthians 15:20-26,31-44,53-58 (The imperishable body)

20 ¶ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. 24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

35 ¶ But some one will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" 36 You foolish man! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. 37 And what you sow is not the body which is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. 38 But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. 39 For not all flesh is alike, but there is one kind for men, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. 40 There are celestial bodies and there are terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. 41 There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. 42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

53 For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality. 54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 55 "O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 ¶ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

## 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things that are unseen are eternal)

16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. 17 For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

1 ¶ For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Here indeed we groan, and long to put on our heavenly dwelling, 3 so that by putting it on we may not be found naked. 4 For while we are still in this tent, we sigh with anxiety; not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 6 So we are always of good courage; we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, 7 for we walk by faith, not

by sight. 8 We are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

**1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)**

1 ¶ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

**Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)**

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!" 11 And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen."

13 ¶ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within his temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

**Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)**

1 ¶ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; 3 and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; 4 he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away." 5 And he who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the fountain of the water of life without payment. 7 He who conquers shall have this heritage, and I will be his God and he shall be my son."

## From the New Testament Gospels : Pick one

**John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)**

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. 25 "Truly, truly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, 27 and has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of man."

**John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to me)**

37 All that the Father gives me will come to me; and him who comes to me I will not cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; 39 and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day. 40 For this is the will of my Father, that every one who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

**John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)**

11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, 15 as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd.

**John 11:17-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)**

17 ¶ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, 19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary sat in the house. 21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" 27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

**John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many rooms)**

1 ¶ "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

4 ¶ And you know the way where I am going." 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me.

**Bulletin Cover - Other designs are available**

**Celebration of the life of  
Name  
Date of Birth - Date of Death**



*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.*

**Date**

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## Funeral Service Rite II

### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he die.  
And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives  
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
After my awaking, he will raise me up;  
and in my body I shall see God.  
I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him  
who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.  
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.  
Happy from now on  
are those who die in the Lord!  
So it is, says the Spirit,  
for they rest from their labors.

**Celebrant:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**People:** The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant **NAME**, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

**People:** Amen.

#### **The Lessons** (*The people sit*)

A Reading from Job , Chapter 19 , verses 21-27.

19 All my intimate friends detest me; those I love have turned against me. 20 I am nothing but skin and bones; I have escaped by only the skin of my teeth. 21 "Have pity on me, my friends, have pity, for the hand of God has struck me. 22 Why do you pursue me as God does? Will you never get enough of my flesh?

23 "Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, 24 that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock for ever! 25 I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. 26 And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I

will see God; 27 I myself will see him with my own eyes--I, and not another.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm 23**

The LORD is my shepherd; \*

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; \*

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul; \*

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his  
Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil; \*

for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparatest a table before me in the presence of

mine enemies; \*

thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days

of my life, \*

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit\* As it was in the beginning is now and ever  
shall be, world without end. Amen.

*(The people sit)*

**Reader:** A Reading from 2 Corinthians

Chapter 4, verse 16 through Chapter 5 verse 9.

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are  
being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal  
glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.  
For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

1 ¶ Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an  
eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed  
with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while  
we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be  
clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now it is  
God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing  
what is to come. 6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the  
body we are away from the Lord. 7 We live by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, I say, and  
would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So we make it our goal to  
please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

(Another psalm may be read)

*(The people stand.)*

**Reader:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John, Chapter 5 verses 24-27.

**People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

24 "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. 25 I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. 27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

**Reader:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **The Sermon**

### **The Apostles Creed**

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us  
proclaim our faith and say,

### **Celebrant and People**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **The Prayers** *(the people stand or kneel)*

Celebrant: Let us now pray.

*A Person appointed leads the following petitions*

For our brother, sister, **NAME**, let us pray to our Lord Jesus

Christ who said, " I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for **NAME**, and dry the tears of those who weep.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother, sister, eternal life.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother, sister, to the joys of heaven.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

Our brother, sister, was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give him, her, fellowship with all your saints.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

He, She, was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant him, her a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother, sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

*People:Hear us, Lord.*

Silence may be kept.

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our brother **NAME**, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that his death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. Amen.

### **The Peace**

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

### **The Announcements**

### **The Offertory**

Hymn

### **The Lord's Supper**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*The people stand.*

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**People and celebrant:**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel.*

**Celebrant:** Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Celebrant and People:** Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

**The Celebrant continues:** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new

and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**People and celebrant:**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People:** Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Hymn**

*At the end of Communion the people stand or kneel*

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Celebrant and People:** Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**The Blessing**

**The Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

**People:** Alleluia, Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

**Closing Hymn**

**Postlude**