

A GUIDE FOR FUNERALS/MEMORIAL SERVICES

Death, Bereavement, and the Witness to the Resurrection

Christians recognize with all of humanity the inevitability of death, but in the presence of death they witness to their faith that God, in Jesus Christ, has conquered death and raises his children from death to life eternal.

The funeral service, which should be conducted with dignity and simplicity, is a witness to the greatness and goodness of God and to the love he bears all people, a love which strengthens and supports even in the midst of grief. It is a witness to God's promises in Jesus Christ, as attested by his resurrection from the dead, and to the sure and certain hope that he goes to prepare a place for his children.

FOR MEMBERS

At the time of death, the family is encouraged to inform the pastor as soon as possible so that he might make himself available to them and be of whatever assistance is needed.

A variety of funeral practices have developed over recent years. The pastor is more than willing to discuss these with you. Remember that Christian funeral services are for the living. They should be governed, therefore, not so much by tradition and community customs as by the survivors' own understanding of death and Christian faith.

Services held in the church should be planned with the Pastor, and if music is to be included, the church organist should also be involved in the planning process. Fees for church members are as follows:

Use of Building: \$0.00

⁺Minister's Fee: \$400.00

⁺Organist's Fee: \$300.00

⁺Singer's Fee: \$100.00 / \$150.00

⁺The Minister, Organist and Singer/s may be paid in the form of a personal check.

*Note: At the request of the family, a reception may also be coordinated to follow the Memorial Service. The Deacons usually organize the reception. The Pastor can provide more information upon request.

GUIDELINES FOR NON-MEMBERS

Non-members may use the church for Funerals/Memorial Services. It is expected that the Pastor of the church shall officiate at the funeral and that the church organist will provide music if music is wanted. All arrangements should be made in consultation with the Pastor. Fees for non-members are as follows:

Use of Building: \$300.00 -made payable to the Community Presbyterian Church

+Minister's Fee: \$400.00

+Organist's Fee: \$300.00

+Singer's Fee: \$100.00 / \$150.00

+The Minister, Organist and Singer/s may be paid in the form of a personal check.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Memorial Garden, a place of peace and tranquility, is an ideal resting place for the remains of loved ones. Plots in the Memorial Garden are held for members of the church and their families. A record of reservations is kept in the church office. To reserve a plot, please contact the church office at 908-232-9490. Name plates are also ordered through the church office. Certain fees are associated with burial in the Memorial Garden. Checks may be made payable to the Community Presbyterian Church. These fees are as follows:

Plot for Burial: \$500.00

Name Plate: approximately \$275.00 (cost fluctuates with the price of brass)

**COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FUNERAL/MEMORIAL SERVICE INFORMATION AND REQUEST
FORM**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of person or persons to be contacted (Please include address and phone number):

ARRANGEMENTS

Funeral Director: _____

Address and Phone: _____

Location of Interment:

Cemetery: _____

Memorial Garden: _____

Other: _____

Cremation: Yes _____ No _____

Medical Donation: Yes (please attach copy of the authorization) _____
No _____

Visitation: Yes _____ No _____

Casket at visitation: Yes _____ No _____ Open _____ Closed _____

Location of Funeral/Memorial Service

Church: _____

Funeral Home: _____ Other: _____

THE FUNERAL/MEMORIAL SERVICE:
A SERVICE OF WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION

The funeral/memorial service is under the direction of the Pastor, Music Director, and Session of the church, in consultation with you and your family. Below is a list of frequently selected scripture readings and hymns:

Scriptures:

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Psalms 23, 90, 100, 121

Isaiah 40:28–31

John 14:1–6

Romans 8:28–39

1 Corinthians 15:12–22, 50–57

Revelation 21:1–4, 22–25; 22:1–5

Others: _____

Hymns:

#649 Amazing Grace

#326 For All the Saints

#65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

#1 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

#438 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

#375 Shall We Gather at the River

#824 There Is a Place of Quiet Rest

#836 Abide With Me

#275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#306 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

#829 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#834 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

#801 The Lord's My Shepherd

#802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

#463 How Firm A Foundation

#634 To God Be the Glory

Do you wish to have instrumentalists? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please specify: _____

Do you wish to have a casket presentation at the service? Yes _____ No _____

Funeral Pall or Casket Flowers (please circle one)

Cremains (ashes) present at service: Yes _____ No _____

Interment: Preceding service or following service (please circle one)

Private or for congregation (please circle one)

Preferred time of service: Morning (list time): _____ Afternoon (list time): _____

Reception following service: Yes _____ No _____

Memorial Donations:

_____ Community Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund

_____ Community Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden

_____ Other (please specify) _____

(continued)

Other special requests:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

*Please make a copy of these requests to be kept with your own important papers and with those likely to be carrying out your wishes.
Please return a copy to the church office.*