

FUNERALS AND MEMORIALS

CHRIST CHURCH
OF OAK BROOK



WHAT DO WE BELIEVE ABOUT FUNERALS?

WE BELIEVE THAT FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES ARE *WORSHIP SERVICES*.

This service is a time to remember and to bear witness to the Christian hope of the Resurrection and the difference that God makes in our lives. It is a time to celebrate the life of your loved one and all that was good, and their godly influence in your lives. It is an opportunity to experience your loss and grief while also expressing your love and gratitude. It is an opportunity to receive the support of family and friends, along with the love and hope of God.

The death of a loved one frequently stirs a variety of thoughts and feelings: sadness, loss, loneliness, sometimes anger or regret about the past, fear about the future, possibly relief or gladness that your loved one is now with God, and gratitude for their influence in your lives. Our desire is to be a community of ongoing Christian care and hope during this time of loss and transition. Our desire is to arrange a funeral or memorial service that will be honest and personal, hopeful and inspiring.

JESUS SAID TO HER,

**"I AM THE RESURRECTION
AND THE LIFE.**

HE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL LIVE,
EVEN THOUGH HE DIES."

— JOHN 11:25 (NIV)

HOW ARE FUNERAL SERVICES ARRANGED?

The process of arranging a service begins when you notify the *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* at 630.321.3936. She will guide you through the various steps and choices available to you. One of our pastors will meet with family members to start the process of remembering your loved one, offer Christian care, and plan the service. The ***Summary of Choices*** form in the back of this booklet should be helpful in keeping track of choices which need to be made and our requested or required time lines. It is very important to keep the *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* informed of all your requests and choices and to note on the ***Summary of Choices*** form those requests she has confirmed.

ARE THERE EXTRA CHARGES IF WE'RE NOT MEMBERS?

Providing funeral and memorial services is part of our church's normal ministry to its members. However, we also feel privileged to express the love of Christ to other households as well, as we are able. The regular funeral services for both members and friends of the congregation have suggested honorariums for pastors, organists, pianists and vocalists. With the exception of food service options, there are no additional set fees for members or friends of our congregation.

CHOOSING A PASTOR AND A TIME

Your loved one or family may have a close relationship with one particular pastor at Christ Church. You may have a specific time in mind for the service. The *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* will welcome your requests and make every effort to accommodate them. Sometimes your preferred pastor may not be available, and sometimes scheduled ministries and activities may preclude your requested time. Certain ending times may also be required for the sake of our staff and volunteers. We strongly suggest that people not make travel plans to attend the service until the *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* confirms a specific date and time. Since this may require checking with several people and various ministries, she may not be able to give you an immediate confirmation.

If there is a conflict, she will gladly explore other options with you. It is possible for clergy from other churches to participate in services, but their specific responsibilities need to be discussed with and approved in advance by the Christ Church pastor who is leading the service.

CHOOSING THE TYPE AND LOCATION OF THE SERVICE

A *Funeral Service* is held soon after a death and frequently, but not always, the casket or urn is present. In contrast a *Memorial Service* is usually held sometime after a Funeral and burial for the sake of family and friends who were not able to attend. Some families choose a small or less formal Funeral Service in a Funeral Home. Many families, however, prefer a church setting—especially if larger numbers of people are anticipated or greater options for music are desired. Funeral or large Memorial Services at Christ Church typically are held in the Garden Chapel or the main Sanctuary. Small and simple Memorial Services may be held in the Oak Room. If your loved one is a United States veteran, we would be pleased to coordinate the planning of a military funeral.

CHOOSING SCRIPTURE READINGS AND MUSIC

The Christ Church pastor will likely ask if your loved one had any favorite Scripture passages or had requested any particular Scripture Readings for their Funeral. You may have suggestions as well. The pastor will gladly select a few Scripture Readings if you or your loved one have no preferences. You or your loved one may also have suggestions about music. Please remember that since Funeral and Memorial Services are worship services, not all songs would be appropriate. Lists of frequently chosen Scripture passages and songs and approved musicians are included for your consideration. The lyrics of these songs and the words of these Scripture passages are available for review in the Adult Ministry and Care Office. We place a high value on live music and musicians at our worship services, and therefore prohibit the use of prerecorded music. If you desire

AND I HEARD A LOUD VOICE FROM THE THRONE SAYING,
“NOW THE DWELLING OF GOD IS WITH MEN ...

HE WILL WIPE EVERY TEAR
FROM THEIR EYES.

a particular family member or friend to play an instrument, sing, read Scripture, or share another reading, we welcome your request. Please know, though, that all musicians, as well as all songs and readings, need to be discussed in advance with the Christ Church pastor leading the service and be approved by either the Director of Classic Worship or the Director of Contemporary Worship.

DISPLAYS OF PHOTOGRAPHS/ EULOGIES AND CELEBRATIONS OF YOUR LOVED ONE'S LIFE

We desire Funeral and Memorial Services to be personal and, for that reason we welcome and encourage you to display eulogies and/ or appropriate photographs of your loved one. If you wish, most Christ Church pastors will gladly summarize during the service some of the stories and sentiments voiced when they meet with your family and perhaps speak of their own experience and knowledge of your loved one. If you desire family members or friends to speak during the service, we recommend two or three people. It is wise for people to write out their eulogy in advance.

A PRINTED LITURGY

Unless it is very small and simple, most Funeral and Memorial Services at Christ Church will include a printed liturgy prepared by the pastor and our ministry assistants. Sample liturgies are available for review in the Adult Ministry and Care Office. After consulting with family members, the pastor will choose the order of Scripture readings, prayers, music and eulogies and will usually include a meditation/brief sermon focusing on one or more Scripture passages. Pictures of your loved one may be included on the front and/ or back of the printed liturgy. Please provide the *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* with an appropriate photograph to scan or preferably in digital format (JPEG) sent via email.

THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH

OR MOURNING OR CRYING OR PAIN”

—REVELATION 21:3-4 (NIV)

AUDIO-VISUAL SUPPORT

For Funeral or Memorial Services in the Sanctuary or Garden Chapel, a Christ Church technician will be provided to set up and to control the sound level of microphones. If you have prepared a slideshow or multimedia presentation, please burn to a DVD to ensure playability on the church's equipment. The digital format presentation must have preset transitions between pictures. Two copies of the DVD must be given to the technician a minimum of 24 hours before the service. It is preferable to deliver the two copies of the DVD or thumbdrive 48 hours in advance to allow the possibility of correcting any problems of compatibility with our equipment. If there is a reception in Fellowship Hall after the service, the technician will also be available to play a powerpoint presentation with pictures of your loved one or to play background music. All music and any audio visual equipment needed for a reception need to be pre-arranged and approved. Two copies of one CD with music for the reception must be given to the technician a minimum of 60 minutes before the Funeral or Memorial Service, preferably 24 hours in advance. If your requested service or reception would require a second technician, we will attempt to provide one, but we can't always guarantee availability. Six audio CDs of services in the Sanctuary or Garden Chapel are typically given to the family. Additional CDs may be purchased. If an independent videographer will be taping the service or reception, please inform the Adult Ministry and Care Department in advance and

have the videographer coordinate with the Christ Church technician before the service.

GRAVESIDE SERVICES

Graveside or Committal Services are brief, less formal services at the cemetery or crematorium. This is a time for final farewells to be offered, either in silence or aloud, and for the pastor to speak of our Christian hope in the Resurrection as we commit our loved one's body to its final resting place.

COMMUNION

We recognize that the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a profoundly cherished part of the life of the Church and of the devotion of many of us as individual followers of Christ. In some churches and Christian traditions, the Sacrament is offered at weddings, funerals, and other private occasions. This experience often leads people to inquire as to whether that could be arranged here.

Christ Church regards the Sacrament as an act of the whole Church community. It is a witness to our unity as members of the Body of Christ and is extended to all who confess Christ as Lord and Savior. The Sacrament is, therefore, part of our general worship services—those gatherings to which the whole Body of Christ is invited. We make rare exceptions for particular smaller communities of the church's life and as part of the pastoral care of those unable to come to public worship. We do not as a rule perform the Sacrament of Communion at funerals, weddings, or other private occasions which take place at Christ Church.

RECEPTIONS

If appropriate spaces are available on the day you have chosen, our Food Services/ Christ Church Deaconesses are able to provide a reception of cookies, punch and coffee. This reception cannot be provided if there is a graveside service immediately following the service. Our Christ Church Food Service Ministry may be able to provide a larger reception at additional cost for either members or friends of Christ Church. Outside catering must be reviewed with our Food Service Director, Susan Pick.

HONORARIUMS

Organists or Pianists
provided by Christ Church
\$150–\$200

Pastors or Vocalists
provided by Christ Church
Check with *Adult Ministry and Care Associate*

Meals at Church receptions
Check with Christ Church Food Service Ministry
630.321.6779

Additional CDs of a Funeral or Memorial Service
Six CDs provided; additional CDs may be purchased

CHRIST CHURCH APPROVED INSTRUMENTALISTS

Devon Hollingsworth • *organ*
Margo Misiaszek • *piano*
Chad Negley • *guitar*
Stephanie Tonnemacher • *guitar*

Additional instrumentalists are available through the Adult Ministry and Care Department.

CHRIST CHURCH APPROVED VOCALISTS

Please note that there are audio samples of some of these singers available on our website under the Care link.

Vera Bowser • *soprano*
Elizabeth Hedgcock • *soprano*
Kate Niemiec • *soprano*
Leah Wilhelm • *soprano*
Barbara Haran • *mezzo-soprano*
Erika Morrison • *mezzo-soprano*
Bill Combs • *tenor*
Barry Gladden • *tenor*
Patrick Baker • *bass-baritone*
Wendell Borrink • *bass-baritone*
David Eickstaedt • *bass*
Anna Negley • *contemporary vocalist*
Chad Negley • *contemporary vocalist/guitarist*
Stephanie Tonnemacher • *contemporary vocalist/guitarist*

Please check with the *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* for any changes or additions to the list of approved musicians.

FREQUENTLY CHOSEN SONGS

From the Christ Church Hymnal

Amazing Grace (280)
Blest Be The Tie That Binds (334)
Children of the Heavenly Father (379)
Christ, The Lord, Is Risen Today (184)
Eternal Father, Strong To Save (600)
For All The Saints (547)
Great is Thy Faithfulness (33)
How Great Thou Art (27)
I Need Thee Every Hour (459)
In Christ Alone (390)
In The Garden (456)
It Is Well With My Soul (363)
Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (183)
My Faith Looks Up To Thee (417)
O God, Our Help In Ages Past (28)
O Love That Will Not Let Me Go (389)
O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus (272)
On Eagles Wings (366)
Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me (284)
The Lord Is My Shepherd (369)
The Lord's Prayer (631)
What a Friend We Have in Jesus (460)

ADDITIONAL SONGS

Finally Home
Go Light Your World
I Can Only Imagine
If We Could See Beyond Today
My New Life Has Begun
Safe In The Arms of Jesus
Safely Home
I Will Rise
Grace Like Rain
Beyond the Sky
The Wind Beneath My Wings
Oh Lord My God

FREQUENTLY CHOSEN SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Deuteronomy 33:27	John 11:25-26
Psalms 23	John 14:1-7
Psalms 34:1-19	Romans 8:38
Psalms 46:1	1 Corinthians 15:51-57
Psalms 90:1-2	2 Corinthians 5:6-9
Psalms 91:1-4	2 Corinthians 4:16-18
Psalms 121:1-2	Philippians 4:4-9
Isaiah 41:10-13	Colossians 3:23-24
Isaiah 43:1-3	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Isaiah 57:2	1 Peter 5:7
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	Revelation 14:13
Matthew 5:1-10	Revelation 21:1-5
John 3:16	

The lyrics of these songs and the words of these Scripture passages are available for review in the Adult Ministry and Care Office.

SUMMARY OF CHOICES

FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH

Family _____

Contacts _____

Phone/Email _____

Requested		
	First Choice	Second Choice
Pastor		
Location		
Day/Date		
Time (beginning/ending)		
Graveside Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Reception	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Time (beginning/ending)	

Funeral Service Closed Casket Open Casket Urn

Memorial Service Yes No

Military Funeral Yes No Elements

Photographs of loved one Display on table Display on easels
 No photographs Photographs on DVD
Review requirements on page 5.

Reception Music on CD Music Approved Equipment pre-arranged
Review requirements on page 6.

Set up at Christ Church, for family and/or funeral home (time) _____

Honorariums are appreciated on the day of the service.

SUMMARY OF CHOICES PAGE 2

Requested	First Choice	Second Choice
Scripture Readings		
Readers		
Eulogies/ Length		
Musicians (vocalists, instrumentalists)		
Music for Service		
Music for Reception		
Pictures for Printed Liturgy		

FINAL NOTES

MUSICIANS

All musicians not provided by Christ Church need to be present one hour before the service to rehearse their songs with the organist or pianist and to perform a sound check. Guest instrumentalists need to bring their own amps, cords, and accessories.

PRAYER BEFORE SERVICE

The Oak Room will be reserved for family and others participating in the service to gather prior to the beginning of the service for prayer with the pastor.

GUESTBOOK

A stand for a guestbook register will be placed outside the Sanctuary or Garden Chapel. Funeral Homes usually provide a guest book or they can be purchased at local card stores. If you anticipate a large number of guests, more than one guest book may be necessary or wise to prevent long lines.

FLOWERS

If you anticipate flowers at the service, please consider what vehicle(s) will be necessary to transport all of them. Flowers need to be removed within a reasonable time frame on the day of the service. Please speak with the *Adult Ministry and Care Associate* if flowers need to be taken after the graveside service. If you prefer not to take the flowers, please let us know. We will re-purpose and bring them to home-bound and nursing home individuals.



CHRIST CHURCH OF OAK BROOK
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