Memorial Services and Funerals



Christ Church
United Methodist

4614 Brownsboro Rd. Louisville, KY, 40207 | *ccum.net* | 502.897.6421

Memorial Services and Funerals

Dear Christ Church family,

The Worship and Congregational Care Ministries serve our faith community in a number of ways, not the least of which is care before, during, and after the loss of a loved one. We hope this information will provide a path to guide you during this significant time.

The inherent belief in the risen Christ is the cornerstone of a United Methodist service (either a funeral, graveside or memorial). Christ is our hope for eternal life and we offer this hope to the surviving family and friends that their beloved is now in God's eternal charge.

Planning a service can be a blessing to those in grief, a time to laugh and to cry as the stories are shared and retold. It is our pleasure to help you and your family at this joyful yet sensitive time.

For questions regarding Funeral or Memorial planning, please call our Associate Pastor for Congregational Care at the church at 502-882-9696.

Thank you,

Rev. Dr. Eric Bryant
Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Chapman
Associate Pastor

Rev. Leigh Ann Maynard
Associate Pastor

Dr. Daniel Blosser
Director of Music

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A Planning Guide

Planning for the Service

BEFORE DEATH OCCURS

The pastor will be happy to visit with you to help you plan a memorial service or funeral. Once completed, we will keep a file at the church to reflect your discussion and note that you have pre-planned your service.

Families who have chosen cremation might want to consider scattering of ashes here at the church in our Memorial Garden. To pre-arrange for this, please contact the Congregational Care Administrative Assistant for more information at 502-721-2104.

WHEN DEATH IS IMMINENT OR WHEN DEATH OCCURS

When a death is imminent, our pastors are honored to come and pray with you. If there is time, please contact the the Pastor-On-Call at 502-893-7774.

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF SERVICE

Funerals and Memorial Services can be held at either the Funeral Home or Christ Church in our Sanctuary or our Chapel. Visitations and Receptions can also be held at CCUM. Please call, or have the funeral director call, to coordinate with the church for scheduling space usage and to determine which pastor is available for the service.

TYPE OF SERVICE

There are several types of services to consider:

1. A traditional service (where the casket is present), graveside to follow
2. A memorial service (where there is no casket)
3. A graveside service only or scattering of ashes only
4. A graveside service or scattering of ashes prior to the memorial service

Additionally a visitation can be scheduled before the service on the service day or the afternoon and evening before in the Parlor or Fellowship Hall (if available). Receptions can be held in our Fellowship Hall or Café if it is available, before or after the service. The family is responsible for refreshments for receptions or luncheons.

MAKING SERVICE PLANS

Following the selection of the date, time, place and type of service, the pastor will arrange to gather the family and select favorite scripture verses, discuss musical choices, and learn family stories. This meeting is generally held at the church but can be held at the family home if necessary.

Internally, the church will handle the logistics of the visitation and service and make sure all the details are covered. We will contact the church's funeral coordinator, musicians, soloists and sound technicians necessary for a proper service. The church will prepare the funeral bulletin and will ask about the number of guests you expect. The family is asked to gather in the church Parlor at least 15 minutes before the service so the pastor can meet with them for prayer. Family wil be escorted into the service together and seated in the section reserved ahead of time for them.

FEES

Although there are no pastoral fees for funerals or memorial services held at Christ Church, please plan an honorarium for the accompanist, soloist. anmd sound technician. Pastors do not require any renumeration, but if you wish, you can provide a thank you honorarium for him/her. If the service is after normal business hours, an honorarium for custodial services may be needed.

MEMORIALS

In lieu of flowers, a directed gift of a memorial to the church or a specific ministry here is a caring way to honor your loved one. If you are interested in this type of opportunity, please let us know. The church can provide memorial gift envelopes to the funeral home for visitation.

FUNERAL HOME RESPONSIBILITIES

These are a few of the things the funeral home should provide or give guidance:

Casket or urn (we have 3 urns for you to borrow)
Cemetery choice
Flowers or Memorial Gifts
Processional to the cemetery
Visitation, if held at the funeral home
Obituary in the Courier Journal
Military Honors, if applicable
Guest book

FLOWERS

Floral offerings are a wonderful way to pay tribute to a loved one. The beautiful plants and blooms honor God's creation of life.

Removal of the arrangements is the responsibility of the family or funeral home and must be removed the day of the service.

MEMORABILIA

Frequently the family members set up a memory table(s) in the Parlor or Fellowship Hall during visitation with photos, albums, awards, certificates of achievement, or other personal items relating to their loved one. Christ Church is able to provide tables and easels for your use in these displays. We also have a tv/dvd player for videos or slide shows. Once again, please remove all items the day of the service.

CHRIST CHURCH MEMORIAL WALL

The Memorial Wall of Christ Church is located on the front western side of the property near the Chapel along the curving walkway. The Memorial Wall is not a columbarium. The Memorial Wall is used exclusively for plaques and the scattering of ashes of church members.

If you are interested in reserving a plaque for the Memorial Wall, please contact the Congregational Care Administrative Assistant. You will be able to choose a location on the wall for your plaque placement from the Memorial Wall Grid Layout Worksheet.

Complete the Memorial Wall Plaque Request form. The plaque will be a specific size and contain only the deceased's name, birth date and death date. A copy of this form will be given to you to keep with your Will; the original will be kept on file at Christ Church United Methodist.

Non-refundable donations may be made payable to Christ Church United Methodist at the time of the scattering of ashes or as a pre-donation when reserving the plaque in advance. A minimum donation of $600 is suggested for ordering the plaque and includes placement on the Memorial Wall and the use of the site for the scattering of ashes.

The plaque will be ordered and placed on the Memorial Wall by the church according to the request made on the Memorial Wall Plaque Request Form.

The scattering of ashes must include an appropriate Christian Memorial Service. The service associated with the scattering of ashes may be held in the Christ Church Sanctuary, the Chapel or at the Memorial Wall and must be attended by a Christ Church United Methodist Pastor.

MUSIC

Music is an integral part of any worship service here at Christ Church. So often music can speak volumes when we are unable to speak ourselves. We have music staff available to provide music for the service who will assist you in choosing appropriate selections. We use sacred music in worship and other approved, secular music in visitations/receptions.

Prelude/Gathering Music: The organist/pianist will play for several minutes prior to the service. Gathering music can include requested hymns or a selection of the musician's choice.

Processional: The family will be escorted into the Sanctuary following the pastor (who will ask the congregation to stand) and be seated. The family may request a special piece of music.

Solos and congregational hymns: Congregational singing and solos complement the service and will be interspersed at the discretion of the pastor and music staff upon the family's requests.

Recessional: The casket (if applicable), will be processed from the worship service first (with pallbearers when present), pastor and family exit the Sanctuary after the casket.

Postlude: The organist/pianist will play until the guests have left the Sanctuary. Family may request a special music selction for the postlude.

Hymns:

Some ideas of appropriate hymns include:

How Great Thou Art
In the Garden
Amazing Grace
Blessed Assurance
Great is Thy Faithfulness
It is Well with My Soul
Hymn of Promise
On Eagle's Wings
All Things Bright and Beautiful
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
A Mighty Fortress
Abide in Me
My Hope is Built
What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Sweet Hour of Prayer
For All the Saints
Old Rugged Cross
Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
Be Thou My Vision
For the Beauty of the Earth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

A typical order of worship at Christ Church includes the facets listed below. The presiding pastor can work with the family for a special order of worship when appropriate. Adjustments will be at the approval of the pastor.

- Prelude
- Greeting
- Hymn
- Opening Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer
- Old Testament Scripture
- Words of Remembrance
- Offering of Music
- New Testament Scripture
- Words of Hope
- Closing Prayer
- Hymn
- Benediction
- Postlude

SCRIPTURES

Job 19:25-27 - I know that my Redeemer lives...

Isaiah 40:28-31 - The Lord is an everlasting God...

Isaiah 41:8-13 - Do not fear, for I am with you...

Psalm 23 - The Lord is my Shepherd

Psalm 84 - How lovely is your dwelling place.

Psalm 103 - Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 121 - I lift up my eyes to the hills...

Paslm 139 - Search me, O God.

Matthew 25:31-40 - Just as you did it for one...

Luke 12:22-34 - Do not worry about your life...

John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world...

John 14:1-4, 18, 19, 25, 27 - Do not let your hearts...

Romans 8 (excerpts) - If God is for us, who can be against us...

1 Corinthians 15 (excerpts) - Where, O death, is your victory?

2 Corinthians 5:1-10 and 17 - If the early tent we live in is destroyed...

2 Timothy 4:6-8 - I have fought the good fight...

Hebrews 11:1-3 - Faith is the assurance of things hoped for...

Revelation 21:1-17 - Then I saw a new heaven.

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