

# Funerals and Memorials

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At Christ Church, 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 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. We offer you a community of ongoing Christian care during this time of loss and transition and our goal 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 Pastoral Care Associate. We will arrange for one of our pastors to meet with family members to start the process of remembering your loved one, offer Christian care and plan the service. Please use the *Summary of Choices* form in the back of this booklet. It is very important to keep the Pastoral Care Associate informed of all your requests and choices and note on the *Summary of Choices* form confirmed requests.

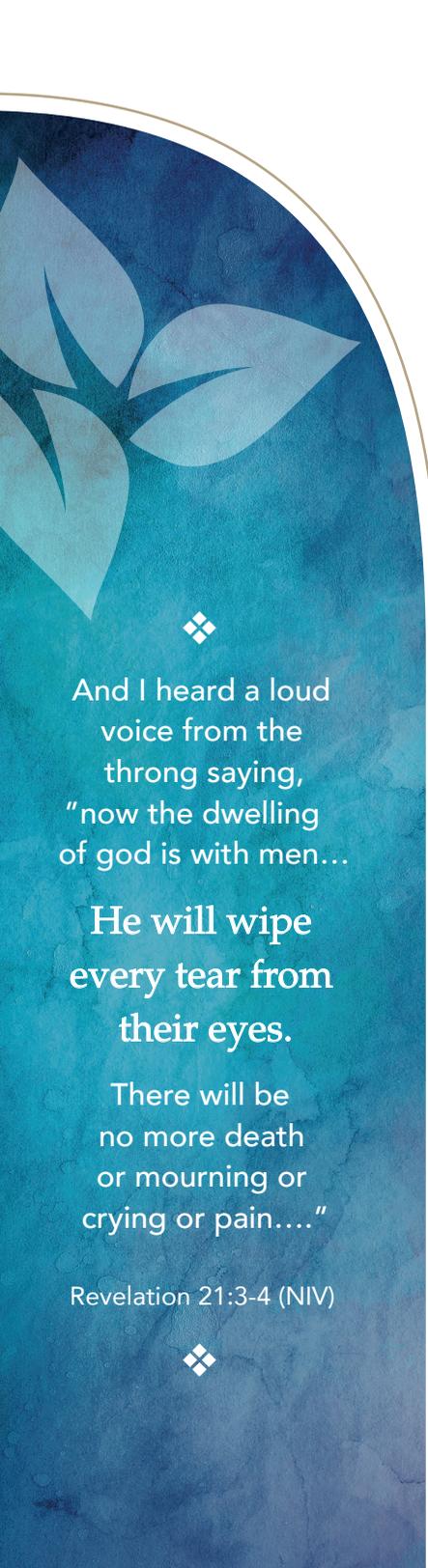
Pastoral Care Associate  
630.321.3936

## 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 when we are able. The 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 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. The Pastoral Care Associate will welcome your requests and make every effort to accommodate them. Sometimes your preferred pastor may not be available or scheduled ministries and activities may preclude your requested time. We strongly suggest not making any travel plans to attend the service until the Pastoral Care Associate confirms the date and time. It is possible for clergy from other churches to participate in services, but their specific responsibilities need to be discussed and approved in advance by the Christ Church pastor who is leading the service.



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And I heard a loud voice from the throng saying, “now the dwelling of god is with men...

**He will wipe every tear from their eyes.**

There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain....”

Revelation 21:3-4 (NIV)

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## 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 Sanctuary or the Garden Chapel. If your loved one is a U.S. veteran, we would be pleased to coordinate the planning of a military funeral.

## Choosing Scripture readings and music

The Christ Church pastor will ask if your loved one had any favorite Scripture passages or requested any particular Scripture readings. You may have suggestions as well. The pastor will gladly select a few Scripture readings if you 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 are appropriate. Lists of (common) Scripture passages and songs and Christ Church approved musicians are included for your consideration. We place a high value on live music and musicians, and therefore prohibit the use of prerecorded music. If you desire a particular family member or friend play an instrument, sing, read Scripture or share another reading, we welcome your request. All musicians, songs and readings must be discussed in advance with the pastor leading the service.

## **Displays of photographs, eulogies and celebrations of life**

We desire funeral and memorial services to be personal 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. Sample liturgies are available for review in the Pastoral 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 Pastoral Care Associate with an appropriate photograph to scan or preferably in digital format (JPEG) at the first meeting with the pastor or sent via email.

## **Musicians**

All non-Christ Church musicians 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.

## **Guest Book**

A stand for a guest book 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 them. Flowers need to be removed within a reasonable time frame on the day of the service. Please speak with the Pastoral Care Associate if flowers need to be taken after the graveside service. If you prefer not to take the flowers, we will bring them to home-bound and nursing home individuals.

## 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 bring in a thumb drive or burn to a DVD to ensure compatibility with the church's equipment. The digital format presentation must have preset transitions between pictures. A copy of the DVD or thumb drive must be given to the technician 48 hours before the service (or a minimum of 24 hours prior) 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 required for a reception need to be pre-arranged and approved. A copy of the CD with music for the reception must be given to

the technician, 24 hours in advance. If your requested service or reception would require a second technician, we will attempt to provide one. An audio link of services is typically given to the family. If an independent videographer will be recording the service or reception, please inform the Pastoral Care Associate 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.

## Holy 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. Christ Church regards this Sacrament as an act of the whole Church community. 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 Holy Communion at funerals, weddings or other private occasions which take place at Christ Church.

## Receptions

If appropriate spaces are available, our Food Services/Christ Church Deaconesses can 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. Outside catering must be reviewed with our Food Service Director.

## Honorariums/Fees

For suggested honorariums for pastors, organists, pianists and vocalists provided by Christ Church, please contact a Pastoral Care Associate at 630.321.3936.

## Christ Church approved instrumentalists

Dave Garza | contemporary vocalist/guitarist  
Marianne Kim | piano and organ  
Margo Misiaszek | piano  
Suzanne Galdun | alto/pianist  
Stephanie Koklys | contemporary vocalist/guitarist

Additional instrumentalists are available through the Pastoral Care Office.

## Suggested 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  
Give Me Jesus

## Suggested Scripture

Deuteronomy 33:27  
John 11:25-26  
Psalm 23  
John 3:16  
John 14:1-7  
Psalm 34:1-19  
Romans 8:38  
Psalm 46:1  
1 Corinthians 15:51-57  
Psalm 90:1-2  
2 Corinthians 5:6-9  
Psalm 91:1-4  
2 Corinthians 4:16-18  
Psalm 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  
Deuteronomy 33:27

*The lyrics of these songs and the words of these Scripture passages are available for review in the Pastoral 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       Yes     No

Reception       Yes     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
- Photographs on CD
- No photographs

*Review requirements on page 3.*

### Reception Music on CD

- Music Approved
- Equipment pre-arranged

*Review requirements on page 5.*

### Set up time

\_\_\_\_\_ a.m. | p.m.

Set up time at Christ Church for family and/or funeral home.

*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		





Everyone who calls  
on the name of  
the Lord  
will be saved.

Romans 10:13 (NIV)

CHRIST CHURCH



OAK BROOK | BUTTERFIELD

630.654.1882 | [ChristChurch.us](http://ChristChurch.us)

All funerals are held at 501 Oak Brook Rd., Oak Brook, IL 60523