



**GUIDELINES FOR FUNERALS
and MEMORIAL SERVICES
Christ Episcopal Church**

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FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

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 (*page 462*).

It is appropriate that the family and friends come together for prayers prior to the funeral (*page 465*).

The death of a member of the Church should be reported as soon as possible to, and arrangements for the funeral should be made in consultation with, the Minister of the Congregation (*pages 468 & 490*).

Baptized Christians are properly buried from the church. The service should be held at a time when the congregation has opportunity to be present (*pages 468 & 490*).

The following checklist is provided as a service planning guide.

Full name of deceased: _____

Date of Birth _____ Date of Death _____

Rite I _____ Rite II _____

Music at the Entrance

_____ Organ Music _____

_____ Hymn or Anthem _____

Opening Sentences (Anthems)

_____ Rite I, page 469 or

_____ Rite II: *(choose one)*

_____ 1st anthem, page 491

_____ 2nd anthem, page 492

Collects

_____ Rite I or

_____ Rite II: *(choose one)*

_____ 1st Prayer, page 493

_____ 2nd Prayer

_____ 3rd Prayer

_____ Prayer for the bereaved, page 494

First Lesson *(Optional, or choose one of the following)* Reader: _____

_____ Isaiah 25:6-9 *The Lord will swallow up death forever*

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

_____ Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 *The Lord is good to those who wait for him*

_____ Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 *The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God*

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

_____ Other _____

After the First Lesson *(May be used as the Old Testament Reading. Choose one of the following.)*

_____ Hymn or anthem _____

_____ Psalm 42:1-7 *My soul longs for God as a deer for the water-brooks*

_____ Psalm 46 *God is our refuge and strength*

_____ Psalm 90: 1-12 *Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another*

_____ Psalm 121 *My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth*

_____ Psalm 130 *Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord*

_____ Psalm 139:1-11 *Lord, you have searched me out and known me*

_____ Other _____

Psalm _____ said or _____ sung?

Second Lesson *(Choose one of the following)* Reader: _____

_____ Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 *Nothing can separate us from the love of God*

_____ 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-45, 53-58 *The body raised in glory*

_____ 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9 *Things unseen are eternal*

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

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

_____ Other _____

After the Second Lesson (Choose one of the following)

- Hymn or Anthem _____
- Psalm 23 *The Lord is my shepherd*
- Rite I: The 1928 Prayer Book version (page 476 top) or
- King James version (page 476 bottom)
- Psalm 27 *The Lord is my light and my salvation*
- Psalm 106: 1-5 *Remember me, O Lord with the favor you have for your people*
- Psalm 116 *I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living*
- Other _____
- Psalm _____ said or _____ sung?

Gospel (Choose one of the following)

- John 5:24-27 *He who believes has everlasting life*
- John 6:37-40 *All that the Father gives me will come to me*
- John 10:11-16 *I am the good shepherd*
- John 11:21-27 *I am the resurrection and the life*
- John 14:1-6 *In my Father's house are many mansions*
- Other _____

Homily

Preacher: _____

Creed

Prayers of the People

- Vigil Prayers, page 465
- Rite I Prayers, page 480 (may also be used with Rite II)
- Rite II Prayers, page 497
- Other Prayers (when there is no Eucharist):
- for the departed _____
- for the bereaved _____
- for the congregation _____

Celebration of the Eucharist (if no Eucharist, continue with Anthem at the Final Commendation)

No celebration Rite I Rite II

Preparation of the Bread and Wine for the Eucharist

- Organ Music _____
- Hymn or Anthem _____

Eucharistic Prayer

Rite I: Eucharistic Prayer I Rite II: Eucharistic Prayer A

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

said Sung Hymnal, S _____

Hymns or anthem during Communion:

Anthem at the Final Commendation of the deceased (if body or ashes are present)

- said (pages 482-483 or page 499)
- Hymn 358 *Christ the Victorious*
- Nunc Dimittis* (Song of Simeon, Rite I: page 51; Rite II: page 93)

Final hymn or anthem

Other requests (such as pallbearers, officiating clergy, and special circumstances)

If flowers are desired, we suggest that you contact Patterson's Flower Shop (823-4942). We have a working relationship with them and they know the dimensions of the arrangements that fit on both our High Altar and the altar at St. Anne's Chapel. If you desire to use another florist, please let us know. A member of our altar guild will contact your florist with the measurements for the arrangements.

A LIST OF SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR FUNERALS

The following list suggests hymns that seem especially suitable, but other hymns may be suitable as well.

If "favorite" hymns are chosen, care should be taken that their themes are appropriate for a funeral.

Metrical Versions of the Psalms

Used between the lessons and the Commendation at the end of the service

Psalm 23 645/646 The King of love my shepherd is
664 My Shepherd will supply my need
Psalm 42 658 As longs the deer for cooling streams
Psalm 46 687/688 A mighty fortress is our God
Psalm 90 680 0 God our help in ages past

Anthem at the Commendation

358 Christ the victorious

Easter Hymns

178 Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord
194 Jesus lives, thy terrors now

180 He is risen, he is risen
208 Alleluia! The strife is o'er

All Saints Hymns

287 For all the saints, who from their labors rest
618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones
625 Ye holy angels bright

526 Let saints on earth in concert sing
620 Jerusalem, my happy home

Communion Hymns (A Selection)

303 I come with joy to meet my Lord
339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

335 I am the bread of life
357 Jesus, Son of Mary, fount of life alone

Other Hymns

390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation
397 Now thank we all our God
482 Lord of all hopefulness
488 Be thou my vision
517 How lovely is thy dwelling place
623 O what their joy and their glory must be
671 Amazing grace!
690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

447 The Christ who died and rose again
487 Come my Way, my Truth, my Life
490 I want to walk as a child of the light
522 Glorious things of thee are spoken
636/637 How firm a foundation
686 Come, thou fount of every blessing
692 I heard the voice of Jesus say