GUIDELINES for FUNERALS and MEMORIAL SERVICES

Trinity Memorial Episcopal Church

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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 Funeral Service is for us, the living, to celebrate the life of*
I. MAKING PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUNERALS

Parishioners are encouraged to leave funeral requests on file with the parish office. This form may be used for that purpose. Leaving such plans makes it easier for families to plan appropriately at the time of death.

The following information may be useful to the family in making plans. If you have preferences about funeral expenses, it is helpful to spell them out here also. The clergy can provide information about limiting expenses.

### ARRANGEMENTS CHECKLIST

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<th>Preferred Undertaker</th>
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<th>Cemetery or Other Resting Place</th>
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<th>Other Requests</th>
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| Location of Will               |  |
II. VISITATION

It is important to give people a chance to offer sympathy to the family and to share with each other at the time of death. Opportunities for visiting may include:

- A specified time for family to receive friends at home
- A time at the church
- After the service at the church
- The family may receive people in the Hoyt Room prior to the service.
- Visiting hours at the funeral home

Many people find that receiving people at the church after services either in the gym or the Hoyt Room puts the least burden on the family.

Suggested Time and Place for Visitation:

III. PUBLIC SERVICES

The principal service may be held immediately before the interment of the body or the ashes, or at time after interment. It should be scheduled at such a time (before or after the committal) that people who may wish to attend can be present.

The following guidelines should be observed:

1) “The coffin is to be closed before the service, and it remains closed thereafter.
   It is appropriate that it be covered with a pall or other suitable covering [such as a flag for those who have served in the armed forces]” (Book of Common Prayer, page 468).
   When there are ashes, they are covered in a similar way.

2) Flowers are appropriate on the altar. Other arrangements in the church should be limited.
   A floral blanket or spray may be placed on the coffin when the pall is removed as the procession leaves the church.

3) Music is appropriate. Hymns selected should be general hymns of faith, hymns related to the readings, Easter or All Saints’ hymns, or those appointed in the Hymnal for burial.
   Care should be taken that the hymns and service music are known to those who are likely to be in the congregation. A list of suitable hymns is attached.

4) A celebration of the Eucharist is appropriate as an expression of the union of the living and the departed in Christ in the communion of saints. All who feel God's call are welcome at the altar for communion.

5) Family and friends are encouraged to take an active part in the service.
   At this emotional time, care should be taken about choosing close relatives to read.
   Parts of the service which are appropriate for family and friends are:
   - Reading the lessons
   - Leading the Prayers of the People
   - Bringing the bread and wine up for communion
SERVICE PLANNING CHECKLIST

_____ Rite I _____ Rite II

Music at the Entrance

_____ Organ Music _______________________________________________________

_____ Hymn or Anthem ___________________________________________________

Opening Sentences (Anthems)

_____ Rite I, page 469

_____ Rite II:

_____ 1st anthem, page 491

_____ 2nd anthem, page 492

Collects

_____ Rite I

_____ Rite II:

_____ 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 _____ said or _____ sung?

_____ 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 ___________________________________________________________
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 _____ said or _____ sung?
  ____ 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 ______________________________________________________________

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: __________________________________________________________
  ____ Share thanksgiving to God for _________________________________________

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

- No celebration
- Rite I
- Rite II

Preparation of the Bread and Wine for the Eucharist

- Organ Music
- Hymn or Anthem
- Persons bringing up the Bread and the Wine

Eucharistic Prayer

- Rite I: Eucharistic Prayer I
- Rite I: Eucharistic Prayer II
- Rite II: Eucharistic Prayer A
- Rite II: Eucharistic Prayer B
- Rite II: Eucharistic Prayer C
- Rite II: Eucharistic Prayer D

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)
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 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  O 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
180  He is risen, he is risen
194  Jesus lives, thy terrors now
208  Alleluia! The strife is O’er

All Saints’ Hymns
287  For all the saints, who from their labors rest
526  Let saints on earth in concert sing
618  Ye watchers and ye holy ones
620  Jerusalem, my happy home
625  Ye holy angels bright

Communion Hymns (A Selection)
303  I come with joy to meet my Lord
335  I am the bread of life
339  Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness
357  Jesus, Son of Mary, fount of life alone

Other Hymns
390  Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
397  Now thank we all our God
447  The Christ who died and rose again
482  Lord of all hopefulness
487  Come my way, my truth, my life
488  Be thou my vision
490  I want to walk as a child of the light
517  How lovely is thy dwelling place
522  Glorious things of thee are spoken
623  O what their joy and their glory must be
636/637  How firm a foundation
671  Amazing Grace
686  Come, thou fount of every blessing
690  Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
692  I heard the voice of Jesus say

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