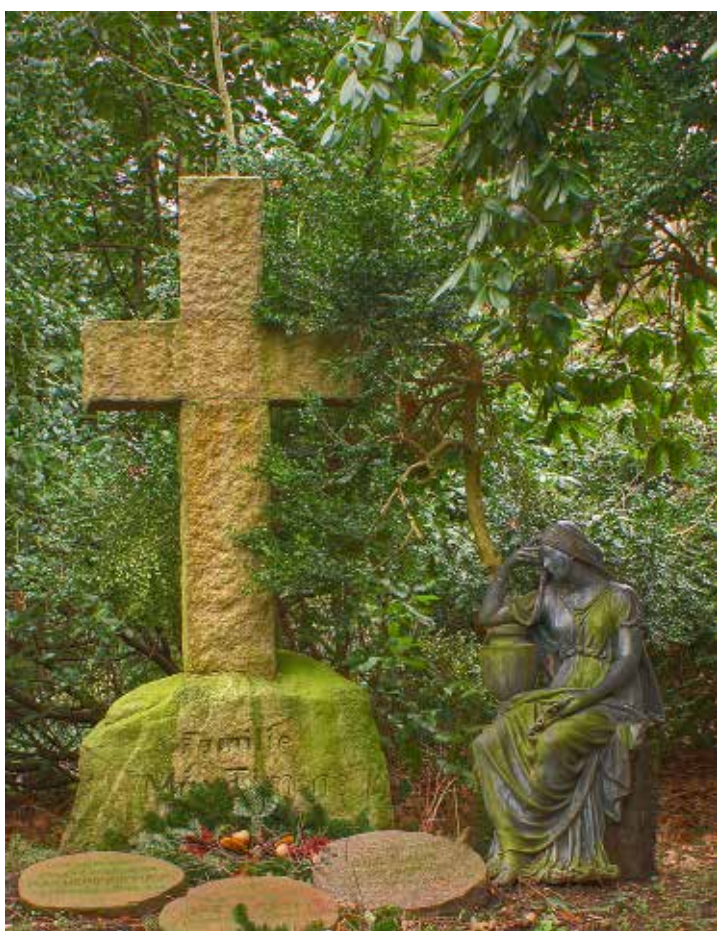


# Funeral Planning

A Service of Witness to the Resurrection



## First Presbyterian Church

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## **Christians and Death**

The resurrection is a central doctrine of the Christian faith and shapes Christians' attitudes and responses to death. Death brings loss, sorrow and grief. In the face of death, Christians affirm with tears and joy the hopes of the gospel. Christians do not bear bereavement in isolation but are sustained by the power of the Spirit and the community of faith. The church offers a ministry of love and hope.

## **Alternatives and Options**

The service may be observed before or after the committal of the body. In order that attention in the service be directed to God, when a casket is present at the church it remains closed and in Westminster Hall. The service shall be complete in itself, and any fraternal, civic or military rites should be conducted separately. When there are reasons not to hold the service in the place of worship, it may be held in another suitable location such as a home, a funeral home, a mausoleum, a crematorium or at a graveside.

## **Service of Committal**

Members and friends of the family of the one who has died should gather at the graveside or crematorium for a service of farewell, which is to be conducted with simplicity, dignity and brevity. The service includes readings from Scripture, prayers, words of committal and a blessing, reflecting the reality of death, entrusting the one who has died to the care of God, and bearing witness to faith in the resurrection from the dead.

## **What Does an Order of Service Include?**

Use of the following orders of worship is encouraged because they reflect the guidelines of the Presbyterian Directory for Worship. Some modifications may be planned in consultation with the presiding clergy. As with all worship, the focus is on God, the Gospel and God's promises in Christ. At a funeral/memorial service there is particular emphasis on the Resurrection.

## **Orders of Worship**

Committal:

- Scripture
- Words of Committal
- Prayers
- Benediction

Funeral/Memorial Service:

- Prelude
- Call to Worship
- Invocation
- Hymn
- Confession & Assurance of Pardon
- Scripture Lessons
- Special music/solo (optional)
- Homily (Thanksgiving for life, Witness to the Resurrection)
- Family Comments of Thanksgiving (optional; presiding clergy may place elsewhere in the service)
- Prayers of Thanksgiving
- Creed
- Hymn
- Benediction
- Postlude

## Funeral/Memorial Services

Service to be held at:       church               funeral home

Will the committal service (burial) precede the memorial service? (This is recommended.)  Yes       No

Flowers and decorations should be appropriate to our sanctuary setting and reflect the simplicity of the Christian life.

Special requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to have the casket present, it will need to remain closed in Westminster Hall (the room below the Sanctuary.)

Memorial contributions sent to:

First Presbyterian Church

Other charity or organization: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Music: The music, hymns and solos should reflect our belief in the promise of resurrection.

organ

instrumental

piano

vocal

Special Selections: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Scripture: Passage(s) to include: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Participants: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pall Bearers: (Not necessary if burial precedes service.) I suggest the following people be asked to serve:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Disposition of Body:

Burial at \_\_\_\_\_

Remains are to be cremated. (If ashes are to be placed in church's Memorial Garden, fees and arrangements need to be made through church office.)

Other arrangements/options: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Funeral/Memorial Services Continued

Arrangements:

Funeral Home in charge of arrangements: \_\_\_\_\_

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If funeral/memorial service is to be held at church will representatives from funeral home be present?

Yes

No

Who will be responsible for costs/fees if service is at church?

Family Member

Funeral Home

If family member, please provide contact information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The church has limited capability of providing a recording of the service. Arrangements need to be made 24 hours before the service for a recording tech to be available.

Yes, we want an audio recording of the service

No, we do not want to record the service.

Following the death of a First Presbyterian Church member, our Presbyterian Women provide refreshment services to the family at a nominal cost. If you choose either of the following, the church office will contact the person in charge of Memorial Receptions.

Reception in Westminster Hall following service. Cookies and beverage will be provided by Presbyterian Women. A suggested donation of \$50-\$150 to Presbyterian Women.

Light Lunch in Centennial Hall for up to 25 people. Ingredients for sandwiches (meats, cheese, rolls and/or bread) and beverages to be purchased by the Presbyterian Women's committee. Salads and cake/cookies will be donated by PW members. Family to pay for purchased food plus a suggested donation to Presbyterian Women of \$100-\$200.

Summary of Fees if service is held at church:

\$125 to church organist/pianist

\$75 to soloist (optional)

\$50-\$150 or \$100-\$200 to Presbyterian Women if reception follows service (optional)

Minister's gratuity is left up to the family to decide.

Fees for inurnment in church Memorial Garden are separate. Please see church office.



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