

## *Funeral and Memorial Service Planning Considerations*



*“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die” -John 11:25-26*

*As followers of Jesus, we believe that in life and in death we belong to God. That is why for us, death is not an end to our existence, but a fulfillment of Jesus’ promise that we live on in the everlasting life he granted us. And so, we do not fear death but face it with hopeful expectation. Accordingly, our funeral and memorial services are called, “A Witness to the Resurrection” and all the features of these services direct our attention to this Good News. As you plan your service, or that of a loved one, here are some considerations:*

**Service Time:** Upon meeting with the Pastor, we will compare schedules and check the church calendar for any conflicts.

**Scripture:** The Pastor will offer suggested readings and guidance. It is helpful to have in mind passages or verses that are particularly meaningful to you and/or your loved one.

**Music:** All music should give glory to God and assist in the proclamation of the Good News. For that reason, secular music is ordinarily not permitted. Again, the Pastor will give guidance on appropriate hymns and special music.

**Remembrances:** In our tradition, we usually have one to two family remembrances whereby members of the family or close friends share memories that speak to the person’s character. This is not required.

**Bulletins:** The church will provide a service bulletin after consultation with the Pastor. Please indicate the number of family and guests anticipated.

**Pictures:** All pictures of the loved one can be displayed in the Duntreath Hall.

**Guest Book:** We welcome the family bring a guest sign-in book which will be placed at the entrance to the sanctuary.

**Flowers:** Flowers are welcome within the Sanctuary as well as the reception space. Ordinarily, there is one arrangement placed on the Chancel shelf. There is room in the Narthex and/or Fellowship Hall, as well, but it is up to the family. We encourage you to make arrangements with a local florist. We customarily use Coleman Brothers Florists located at 2104 Dumbarton Road, Richmond. The phone number is 804-262-8681. You are, of course, welcome to use any florist of your choice. Please ensure they know it is for a chancel arrangement. We recommend having them delivered the day of the funeral after 9am-or the day beforehand between 9am-3pm (M-Th)

**Reception:** A reception is provided free of charge by the special reception committee of the church. The time of day of the service will determine what type of food is provided, for example heavy appetizers around the lunch hour or lighter fare for an afternoon service.

**Memorial Garden:** Our Garden is designated as a final resting place for the cremains of our church members and their family. If you are interested, please let the Pastor know. The contract is \$400/ person.

**Suggested Honorariums:** There are no fees for the service. However, families often inquire as to honorariums for the Pastor, Organist and other leaders of the service. There is a \$150 honorarium for the organist as well as any cantor who may sing. A check can be payable to each person separately. A suggested amount for the pastor is \$150-\$250 but is not required.

**Memorial Gifts:** We welcome gifts in memory of your loved one as well as those you may designate in your memory. Unless otherwise designated, all gifts are placed in the Undesignated Memorial Fund. The Church Treasurer will contact you or a loved one to determine if there is an expressed desire for its use.

*As you prepare for your death or mourn the death of your loved one, our prayer is that God's peace will be yours and that you will take comfort in the Good News of the Resurrection to Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church Clergy Contact:**

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## *Memorial Service Planning Worksheet*

**Full Name** (First, Middle, Last Name) of Loved One

**Birthday** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Date of Death** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Memorial Service or Funeral?** Circle One.

### **Primary Point of Contact**

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

### **Funeral Home**

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Would you like assistance planning a **burial service** or **interment**? Yes or No

Is there an **obituary** that we can share with the congregation?

Would you like the pastor to offer a **meditation**? Yes or No

If a technician is available, would you like the service...

- **Live-streamed**? Yes or No
- **Recorded**? Yes or No

Do you have a preference for the **banner** used in the Sanctuary?

**Is there anything else helpful for us to know?**

**Scriptures (Choose up to four):**

**Old Testament**

- Job 19:23-27
- Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
- Isaiah 25:6-9
- Isaiah 40:1-8
- Isaiah 40:28-31

Version: \_\_\_\_\_

- Isaiah 43:1-2, 4-5
- Isaiah 61:1-3
- Wisdom 3:1-5, 9
- Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm:**

- Psalm 23
- Psalm 27
- Psalm 42:1-7
- Psalm 46
- Psalm 90:1-12

Version: \_\_\_\_\_

- Psalm 106:1-5
- Psalm 121
- Psalm 130
- Psalm 139:1-11
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gospel:**

- Matthew 5:1-10
- Matthew 25:34-40
- John 5:24-27
- John 6:35-40

Version: \_\_\_\_\_

- John 10:11-16
- John 11:21-27
- John 14:1-6
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

**New Testament:**

- Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39
- I Corinthians 13:1-13
- I Corinthians 15:20-26; 35-38,  
42-44, 53-58
- II Corinthians 4:16-5:9

Version: \_\_\_\_\_

- I John 3:1-2
- II Timothy 4:6-8
- Revelation 7:9-17
- Revelation 21:2-7
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

**Alternative Readings\*:** This can include special poetry, prayers, or other readings. The pastor can be a resource if you need assistance selecting a reading.

**Hymns or Special Music** (please consider up to three)

*Abide With Me*

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

*Amazing Grace*

*Be Still My Soul*

*Blessed Assurance: Jesus Is Mine*

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*For All the Saints*

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

*Great Is Their Faithfulness*

*How Great Thou Art*

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

*Lift High the Cross*

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

*Morning Has Broken*

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Remembrances** (please consider up to three family members or friends):

Yes  No

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_