

CARE MINISTRY

Funerals and Memorials



Christ Church
OF OAK BROOK

What Do We Believe About Funerals?

We believe that funerals and memorial services are *worship services*.

This 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. This is a time to remember the life of your loved one and to celebrate all that was good and their godly influence in your lives. This is an opportunity to experience your loss and your grief and to express your love and your gratitude. This is an opportunity to receive the support of family and friends, and the love and hope of God.

The death of a loved one frequently stirs a variety of thoughts and feelings: sadness and loss and loneliness, sometimes anger, sometimes regret about the past or fear about the future, possibly relief or gladness that your loved one is now with God and gratitude for their influence in your lives. Our desire is to be a community of ongoing Christian care and hope during this time of loss and transition. Our desire 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 *Prayer and Care ministry assistant* at 630.654.3227. She will guide you through the various steps and choices. One of our pastors will meet with family members to start the process of remembering your loved one, offering Christian care, and planning the service. The **Summary of Choices** form in the back of this booklet should be helpful in keeping track of choices which need to be made and our requested or required time lines. It is very important to keep the *Prayer and Care ministry assistant* informed of all your requests and choices and to note on the **Summary of Choices** form those that she has confirmed.

Are Funerals only for Members?

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. But we also feel privileged to express the love of Christ to other households as well, as we are able. The regular funeral 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 set 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. You may have a specific time in mind for the service. The *Prayer and Care ministry assistant* will welcome and make every effort to accommodate your requests. But sometimes your preferred pastor may not be available. And sometimes scheduled ministries and activities may preclude your requested time. Certain ending times may also be required for the sake of our staff and volunteers. We strongly suggest that people *not* make travel plans to attend the service until the *Prayer and Care ministry assistant* confirms a specific date and time. Since this may require checking with several people and various ministries, she may not be able to give you an immediate confirmation. If there is a conflict, she will gladly explore other options with you.

It is possible for clergy from other churches to participate in services here but their specific responsibilities need to be discussed with and approved in advance by the Christ Church pastor who is leading the service.

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—because of time or distance or because it was a very private Funeral Service. 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 Garden Chapel or the main Sanctuary. Small and simple Memorial Services could be held in the Oak Room, Fireside Room or Reconciliation Chapel. If your loved one is a United States veteran, we would be pleased to coordinate the planning of a military funeral.

Choosing Scripture Readings and Music

The Christ Church pastor will likely ask if your loved one had any favorite Scripture passages or had requested any particular Scripture Readings for their Funeral. You may have suggestions as well. The pastor will gladly select a few Scripture Readings if you or your loved one 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 would be appropriate. Lists of frequently chosen Scripture passages and songs and approved musicians and vocalists are included for your consideration. The lyrics of these songs and the words of these Scripture passages are available for review in the Prayer and Care Ministry Office and online at my.cc-ob.org/care. If you desire a particular family member or friend play an instrument or sing, read Scripture or another reading, we welcome your request. Please know though that all musicians and

AND I HEARD A LOUD VOICE FROM THE THRONE SAYING,

“NOW THE DWELLING OF GOD IS WITH MEN ...

He will wipe every tear
from their eyes.

vocalists, all songs and readings need to be discussed in advance with the Christ Church pastor leading the service and be approved by either the Director of Classic Worship or the Director of Contemporary Worship. All musicians and vocalists not already approved by Christ Church 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.

Displays of Photographs/Eulogies and Celebrations of Your Loved One's Life

We desire Funeral and Memorial Services to be personal and for that reason we welcome and encourage appropriate displays of photographs of your loved one and eulogies. 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 strongly recommend it be limited to two or three people

and that each speak no longer than three to five minutes. It is wise and best for people to write out their eulogy in advance and time it to ensure they keep within the agreed upon time frame. Please discuss with the pastor in advance the people and the agreed upon length of eulogies so there will be no unpleasant surprises. The pastor will decide where the spoken Celebrations of your loved one's life best fit in the overall service.

A Printed Liturgy

Unless it is very small and simple, most Funeral and Memorial Services at Christ Church will include a printed liturgy prepared by the pastor and our ministry assistants. Sample liturgies are available for review in the Prayer and Care Ministry Office and online at my.cc-ob.org/care. 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. A picture of your loved one can be included on the front of the printed liturgy. Please provide the Prayer and Care ministry assistant with an appropriate photograph to scan or send by email.

THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH

OR MOURNING OR CRYING OR PAIN”

— REVELATION 21:3-4 (NIV)

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. The presentation must have preset transitions between pictures. Two copies of the DVD must be given to the technician a minimum of 60 minutes before the service. It is preferable to deliver the two copies of the DVD 24 hours before the service because that would allow the possibility of correcting any problems of compatibility with our equipment. 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 needed for a reception need to be pre-arranged and approved. Two copies of one CD with music for the reception must be given to the technician a minimum of 60 minutes before the Funeral or Memorial service, preferably 24 hours in advance. If your requested service or reception would require a second technician, we will attempt to provide one, but we can't always guarantee availability. Four CDs of services in the Sanctuary or Garden Chapel are typically given to the family. Additional CDs can be purchased for \$5. If an independent videographer will be taping the service or reception, please inform the *Prayer and Care ministry assistant* 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.

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. In some churches and Christian traditions, the sacrament is offered at weddings, funerals, and other private occasions. This experience often leads people to inquire as to whether that could be arranged here.

Christ Church regards the sacrament as an act of the whole Church community. It is a witness to our unity as members of the Body of Christ and is extended to all who confess Christ as Lord and Savior. 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 to this 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 Communion at funerals, weddings, or other private occasions which take place at Christ Church.

Receptions

If your loved one is a member of Christ Church and one of the Fellowship Halls are available, the Christ Church Deaconesses are able to 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 for either members or friends of Christ Church. Outside catering is not an option.

Honorariums

Organists or Pianists provided by Christ Church
\$150

Pastors or Vocalists provided by Christ Church
Check with Prayer and Care Ministry Assistant

Meals at Church receptions

Check with Christ Church Food Service Ministry
630.321.6779

Additional CDs of a Funeral or Memorial Service

Four CDs provided; additional CDs \$5 each

Christ Church Approved Musicians

Devon Hollingsworth – organ
Vivian Pearson-Borrink – organ/piano
Nate Klinger – piano
Noelle Hijuelos – flute
Adam Klinger – guitar
Nathan Klinger – guitar

Christ Church Approved Vocalists

Adam Klinger
Andrea Haupt
Bill Combs
Caryn Baham
Erika Lawson
Kate Lawson
Nate Klinger
Noelle Hijuelos
Russ Begitschke
Steve Cannon
Vivian Pearson-Borrink
Wendell Borrink

Please check with the Prayer and Care Ministry Assistant for any changes or additions to the list of approved musicians and vocalists.

YOU GUIDE ME WITH YOUR COUNSEL,

AND AFTERWARD **you will take me
into glory.** — *PSALM 73:24 (NIV)*

Frequently Chosen Songs

From the Christ Church Hymnal

Amazing Grace (111)
 Blest Be The Tie That Binds (171)
 Children of the Heavenly Father (30)
 Christ, The Lord, Is Risen Today (76)
 Eternal Father, Strong to Save (281)
 For All The Saints (170)
 Great is Thy Faithfulness (29)
 How Great Thou Art (8)
 I Need Thee Every Hour (221)
 Jesus Christ, Is Risen Today (78)
 My Faith Looks Up To Thee (233)
 O God, Our Help In Ages Past (31)
 O Lord My God (8)
 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go (238)
 O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus (122)
 Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me (67)
 The Lord Is My Shepherd (147)
 What a Friend We Have in Jesus (250)
 When Peace Like A River (242)

Frequently Chosen Scripture Passages

Deuteronomy 33:27
 Psalm 23:1
 Psalm 46:1
 Psalm 90:1-2
 Psalm 121:1-2
 Isaiah 57:2
 Ecclesiastes 3:1
 Matthew 5:1-10
 John 3:16

Additional Songs

Finally Home
 Go Light Your World
 I Can Only Imagine
 If We Could See Beyond Today
 In the Garden
 My New Life Has Begun
 Oh Lord My God
 On Eagles Wings
 Safe In The Arms of Jesus
 Safely Home
 The Lord's Prayer
 I Will Rise
 Grace Like Rain
 Beyond the Sky

The lyrics of these songs and the words of these Scripture passages are available for review in the Prayer and Care Ministry Office and online at my.cc-ob.org/care.

John 11:25-26
 John 14:1-4
 Romans 8:38
 1 Corinthians 15:51-57
 2 Corinthians 5:6-9
 Colossians 3:23-24
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 1 Peter 5:7
 Revelation 14:13
 Revelation 21:1-5

Funerals and Memorial Services at Christ Church of Oak Brook

Summary of Choices

Family

Contact

Phone

Requested		Confirmed by Lorri Winter
	First Choice	Second Choice
Pastor		
Location		
Day/Date		
Time (BEGINNING/ENDING)		
Graveside Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Reception	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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
 No photographs Photographs on DVD
Review requirements on page 6.

Reception Music on CD Music Approved Equipment pre-arranged
Review requirements on page 6.

Set up at Christ Church, for family and/or funeral home (time) _____

Honorariums are appreciated on the day of the service.

Summary of Choices page 2

Requested	First Choice	Second Choice	Confirmed with Lorri Winter	Discussed with Pastor	Approved by Pastor
Scripture Readings					
Readers					
Eulogies/ Length					
Musicians					
Vocalists					
Music for Service					
Music for Reception					

Travel Plans

We strongly suggest that people not make travel plans to attend the service until the Prayer and Care ministry assistant confirms a specific date and time.

Musicians

All musicians and vocalists not provided by Christ Church need to be present one hour before the service to rehearse their songs with the organist or pianist and to perform a sound check. Musicians must provide their own cords, amplifiers and music stand lights.

Prayer Before Service

The Fireside Room or 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.

Guestbook

A stand for a guestbook 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 all of them. Flowers need to be removed after the service. If you prefer to leave the flowers, please let us know and we will attempt to give them to those who would enjoy them.



**Christ Church
of Oak Brook**

630.654.1882 OFFICE

www.cc-ob.org

<http://my.cc-ob.org>

www.lovechangeslife.org

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