

Funeral Pre-Planning Information

Epiphany Lutheran Church Centerville, Ohio

Name _____

Date Submitted _____

Funeral Pre-Planning Worksheet

Upon a person's death, the church shares the grief of those who mourn and remembers the brevity of life on earth. A funeral service allows those who mourn to give voice to sorrow, thank God for their loved one, and entrust their companion into the hands of God. At the time of death, your family should notify and work with both the pastor and funeral director, ensuring your wishes are honored and Lutheran funeral practices are observed out of respect for your faith, your family, and the church family of which you are a beloved member.

Because the whole of Christian life is shaped by our Baptism into the crucified and risen Christ, formed by the proclaimed Word of God, and nurtured through the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the normative funeral rite of the Church also reflects these practices. Except in very unusual circumstances, the body or cremated remains of a church member are brought to the church, celebrating one's Baptism into Christ and promise of resurrection of the body. A public worship service is celebrated and presided over by one of the current pastors of this congregation. The service is open to the congregation, family members, and guests who share in common grief. Following the church liturgy, a committal service at the graveside is the normative practice. When extenuating circumstances requiring variations to these standard practices arise, other options should be discussed and arranged with the pastor.

For some, it is a comfort knowing that certain details of the funeral service have been prepared in advance. Still others prefer to have the pastor and loved ones plan the liturgy at the time of death. This worksheet gives you the opportunity to make some choices now regarding your funeral liturgy. If you would prefer to leave any of these decisions to the pastor or your next of kin, simply leave the options blank. Also on this worksheet is an option to communicate to the church your intended bequests, if any, and desired memorial gift recipients. This information will remain confidential and on file in the church office until the time of death, and you may update it at any time.

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name(s) of next of kin and/or those making funeral arrangements upon your death:

1) _____ Relationship: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail _____

2) _____ Relationship: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail _____

Spouse _____ Years married _____

Children _____

Grandchildren _____

Work History _____

Church Involvement _____

You may choose an Old Testament reading:

___ Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 (For everything there is a season)

___ Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)

___ 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 hands of God)

___ Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)

___ Other _____

You may list a person whom you would like to read this lesson: _____

You may choose a Psalm to be sung or read:

___ Psalm 23 (The Lord is my shepherd)

___ Psalm 27 (The Lord is my light and my salvation)

___ Psalm 42:1-7 (As a deer longs for flowing streams)

___ Psalm 46 (God is our refuge and strength)

___ Psalm 103 (Bless the Lord, O my soul)

___ Psalm 121 (I lift up my eyes to the hills)

___ Psalm 130 (Out of the depths I cry to you)

___ Psalm 139:1-14 (O Lord, you have searched me and known me)

___ Other _____

You may choose a New Testament reading:

___ Romans 5:1-11 (We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ)

___ Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)

___ 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (The imperishable body)

___ 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things that are unseen are eternal)

___ 1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)

___ Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)

___ Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

___ Other _____

You may list a person whom you would like to read this lesson: _____

You may choose a Gospel reading to be read by the pastor:

___ Matthew 11:25-30 (I will give you rest)

___ John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)

___ John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to you)

___ 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 rooms)

___ Other _____

You may choose hymns:

___ Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! (ELW 377)

___ This Joyful Eastertide (ELW 391)

___ Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove (ELW 404)

___ For All the Saints (ELW 422)

___ We Know That Christ Is Raised (ELW 449)

___ I Am the Bread of Life (ELW 485) *List is continued on next page*

- ___ The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ELW 502)
- ___ A Mighty Fortress (ELW 504)
- ___ O Living Bread from Heaven (ELW 542)
- ___ Thy Holy Wings (ELW 613)
- ___ Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer (ELW 618)
- ___ Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (ELW 623)
- ___ Jesus, Still Lead On (ELW 624)
- ___ Abide with Me (ELW 629)
- ___ In Heaven Above (ELW 630)
- ___ Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631)
- ___ O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ELW 632)
- ___ You Are the Way (ELW 758)
- ___ My Faith Looks Up to Thee (ELW 759)
- ___ Lord of All Hopefulness (ELW 765)
- ___ If You But Trust in God to Guide You (ELW 769)
- ___ Precious Lord, Take My Hand (ELW 773)
- ___ Jesus, Priceless Treasure (ELW 775)
- ___ The Lord's My Shepherd (ELW 778)
- ___ Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779)
- ___ Children of the Heavenly Father (ELW 781)
- ___ On Eagle's Wings (ELW 787)
- ___ Day by Day (ELW 790)
- ___ I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (ELW 815)
- ___ Other _____

Funeral Home & Visitation

Name of funeral home: _____ Location: _____

Have you done any pre-planning with the funeral home? (Circle one): Yes / No

Visitation location (Check one): ____ At funeral home ____ At the church

Final viewing location (Check one): ____ At funeral home ____ At the church

Cemetery & Interment

Interment (Check one): ____ in the earth ____ mausoleum ____ cremation

Name of Cemetery: _____ Location: _____

If interment will be in the ground, have you secured a cemetery plot? (Circle one): Yes / No

Would you be interested in discussing cremation with interment in Epiphany Lutheran Church if the church were to build a columbarium to house ashes? (Circle one): Yes / No / Unsure

Funeral Luncheon

Will there be a luncheon? (Circle one): Yes / No / Unsure

If you answered yes to the above:

Do you desire to have the luncheon at the church? (Circle one): Yes / No

If so, whom do you prefer to prepare the church luncheon? (Circle one):

____ Church Funeral Luncheon Committee

____ Caterer: _____

____ Other: _____

Memorial Gifts

___ I have shared with my next of kin where financial gifts in my memory should be directed.

Recipients include:

___ Epiphany Lutheran Church

___ Other: _____

___ Other: _____

___ Other: _____

Planned Giving (Optional Section)

___ I/We have included Epiphany Lutheran Church in my/our will.

___ I/We have planned another type of deferred gift.

(Please list: Life Insurance, Gift-Annuity, Charitable Trust, etc.):

If you have checked one of the above boxes, you may wish to note the following:

Epiphany Lutheran Church is included in my/our estate plan for:

___ Percentage: _____ % Estimated value of gift: \$ _____

___ Fixed amount \$ _____.

Please share any additional details or requests here or on additional pages:

Name of person preparing this form (print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Do you desire a visit with the pastor to discuss these plans? (Circle one): Yes / No

Please feel free to call upon one of the pastors at any time for help with issues of death and dying.

Please return to: Epiphany Lutheran Church, 6430 Far Hills Avenue, Centerville, Ohio 45459.