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Planning a
Funeral
at Christ Church
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PLANNING & PREPARATION OF THE SERVICE

Advance planning of service details may be done with the Rector at any time, and advance burial plans are normally filed in the Parish Office.

When a Funeral or Burial is imminent, the bereaved should schedule a meeting with the Rector as soon as possible to plan the service.

TYPES OF SERVICES OFFERED BY CHRIST CHURCH

At Christ Church four liturgical rites are celebrated for the Burial of the Dead.

Mass of the Resurrection

- This service includes two or three readings from Scripture, one or two Psalms, a sermon, and the Holy Communion.
- Hymns, organ/piano music, and choral music may be included in a Mass of the Resurrection.
- One or more eulogies or remembrances may be offered at the start of the service.
- A Mass of the Resurrection may be offered on the anniversary of the death of a person.

The Burial Office (without Holy Communion)

- This service includes two or three readings from Scripture, one or two Psalms, and a sermon.
- Hymns, organ/piano music, and choral music may be included in a Burial Office.
- One or more eulogies or remembrances may be offered at the start of the service.

The Commendation of the Departed

- Prayers over the casket or urn are always offered at the conclusion of the Mass of the Resurrection or Burial Office. If a casket or urn is not present, the Commendation is not offered.

The Committal of the Body

- Graveside prayers are offered after the Mass of the Resurrection / Burial Office, or at another time.

LOCATION OF SERVICES

In the Church

The Prayer Book states: “Baptized Christians are properly buried from the church. The service should be held at a time when the congregation has opportunity to be present.” If possible, we recommend that the funeral service of every member be offered at Christ Church. When the funeral service is offered at Christ Church, the service is normally a Mass of the Resurrection including the Commendation. A Burial Office may be offered in place of the Mass of the Resurrection. If there is no casket or urn present, the Commendation is not offered.

In a Funeral Home or Cemetery Chapel

When the funeral service is offered away from Christ Church, the service is normally a Burial Office including the Commendation. If there is no casket or urn present, the Commendation is not offered.

Graveside in a Cemetery or Garden of the Resurrection

The Committal of the Body is offered at the grave where the deceased will be buried or interred. If the burial takes place at a significantly later date than any church service, or if no church service was offered, the Burial Office and Committal may be offered at the graveside as well.

LESSONS FROM SCRIPTURE

A list of suggested Scripture lessons/readings is included at the end of this booklet. The type of service determines the number of lessons.

MUSIC, HYMNS, AND SONGS

All hymns and music are chosen in conversation with the Director of Music. The appropriate fee for the Director of Music will apply if there is music at the funeral.

Accompaniment and instrumental music may be played on the organ or the piano by the Director of Music or someone designated by him.

Hymns are normally chosen from the Burial section of the Hymnal 1982 (#354 to #358), from the Easter section of the Hymnal (#174 to #213), or from other sections of the Hymnal 1982. A list of appropriate hymns is below.

Choral music by a soloist or small choir or other instrumental music may be arranged with the Director of Music. Appropriate fees will apply. Outside musicians (friends of the family, etc.) are generally discouraged and must audition for and be approved by the Director of Music.

Here is a list of hymns that are often sung at funerals in the Episcopal Church. This list is intended as a guideline and a point of departure for conversation. It is appropriate to sing any favorite hymn of the departed's during the funeral or memorial service and most especially appropriate to sing hymns that speak of the Resurrection of Jesus. If hymns are chosen as part of the service, we recommend that one of our professional staff singers be engaged to assist in singing.

From *The Hymnal 1982*

- 208 The strife is o'er, the battle done, *Victory*
- 287 For all the saints, *Sine Nomine*
- 335 I am the bread of life, *I am the bread of life*
- 357 Jesus, son of Mary, *Adoro te devote*
- 358 Christ the victorious, *Russia*
- 482 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, *Slane*
- 517 How lovely is thy dwelling place, *Brother James' Air*
- 541 Come labor on, *Ora labora*
- 620 Jerusalem my happy home, *Land of Rest*
- 608 Eternal Father, strong to save, *Melita (the Navy Hymn)*
- 645 The King of love my shepherd is, *St. Columba*
- 662 Abide with me, *Eventide*
- 665 All my hope on God is founded, *Michael*
- 671 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, *New Britain*
- 680 O God, our help in ages past, *St. Anne*
- 685 Rock of Ages, *Toplady*
- 690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, *Cwn Rhondda*

From *Lift Every Voice and Sing II*

- L-54 Nearer, my God, to thee, *Bethany*
- L-60 How great Thou art, *How great*
- L-106 Precious Lord, take my hand, *Take my hand, precious Lord*
- L-188 It is well with my soul, *Ville du Havre*

FLOWERS

Flower deliveries should be made the morning of the funeral or on Friday if the funeral is on a Saturday. The parish administrator can recommend a florist.

FORMAT OF THE MASS OF THE RESURRECTION AND BURIAL OFFICE

The Burial Office and the Mass of the Resurrection are very similar services. The order of service is listed below, differences between the Office and Mass are noted. The Rector or other clergy member of Christ Church is always the officiant or celebrant of the service. The service is taken from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer, Rite 1 or Rite 2. Elements from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer may be included upon request.

Procession at the Entrance

When the service is in the Church, the service begins with a procession of the ministers. When there is a casket and the service takes place in the church, the priest greets the casket at the door and offers prayers midway through the entrance procession. The Casket is covered with a pall or other appropriate covering at this time. When there is a casket, the pall bearers, processes in behind the priest from the Narthex. Instrumental music, a hymn, or an anthem said by the priest is offered during this procession.

Opening Prayer (Collect of the Day)

When all are in place the priest prays the opening prayer. All are seated after the prayer.

Readings from Scripture

One or two passages from Scripture are read. The Readings are from the Old or New Testament and are normally read by the family members or friends of the deceased. A list of suggested readings is included at the end of this booklet.

Psalm or Hymn

A Psalm or Hymn may be read, recited by all, or sung after each reading. A list of suggested psalms is included at the end of this booklet.

Gospel (required at Mass of the Resurrection/Optional at Burial Office)

The Gospel is read by the Priest or Deacon. A list of suggested gospel readings is included at the end of this booklet.

Eulogies/Remembrances

If a eulogy is desired, it is offered now. A eulogy is normally between five and ten minutes, and it must be written in advance (100 words = 60 seconds). If more than one eulogy is

desired, the total time for eulogies should not exceed 15 minutes. If any poems are to be read, they are included among the eulogies.

Homily

The Priest delivers the homily. In very rare cases another priest may deliver the homily, with permission from the Rector.

Apostles Creed

The Apostles Creed is said by all. It may be omitted when the service takes place outside of the church.

Lord's Prayer (Burial Office Only)

At a Burial Office the Lord's Prayer is now said by all. (It is said during the Holy Communion in the Mass of the Resurrection).

Prayers for the departed and for those who mourn

The Prayer Book provides specific prayers for the departed and those who mourn. Often these prayers are read by a family member or friend.

The Peace (Mass of the Resurrection only)

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn or other Music

A Hymn may be sung or instrumental music may be offered at this point.

The Great Thanksgiving (Mass of the Resurrection only)

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated in a Mass of the Resurrection. Forms used are Prayer 1 and Prayer A on page 333, 361, respectively, of the Book of Common Prayer.

Breaking of Bread and Holy Communion (Mass of the Resurrection only)

At the breaking of bread and during Holy Communion instrumental music may be offered.

Post Communion Prayer (Mass of the Resurrection only)

Special Post Communion Prayers are used for a Mass of the Resurrection.

Commendation

If there is a Casket or Urn, Prayers of Commendation are now offered. A Hymn may be sung or instrumental music may be offered at this point.

Recession at the Exit

When the service is in the Church, the service concludes with a recession of the ministers. The priest, followed by the casket and pall bearers, processes last. Family members and members of the congregation are invited to follow the Casket out of the church. If there is an urn rather than a casket, the urn is carried out by the priest or a pall bearer (unless burial is not to follow immediately and in that case the urn is left in place). Instrumental music, a hymn, or an anthem said by the priest is offered at during this recession.

Prayers at the hearse

When the service takes place at the Church, and there is a hearse, prayers are offered by the priest at the hearse as the Casket/Urn is placed in the hearse.

The Committal at the Grave

When the departed is buried or interred, Prayers are offered by the priest at the grave. The Committal service is on page 484 or 501.

AFTER SERVICE RECEPTIONS

The Parish Hall and Library may be available upon request for an after-service reception. Appropriate fees will apply. All food and beverages are catered by outside catering companies. The parish administrator has a list of caterers who work well with the church.

APPENDIX 1

SUGGESTED READINGS FOR FUNERALS

When there is Holy Communion:

Normally, there is one Old Testament Reading, one Psalm, one reading from an Epistle, and one Gospel Reading. A second Psalm may be used in place of a hymn before the Gospel.

When the funeral is at a funeral home or does not have Holy Communion:

Normally, there are at least two readings and 1 psalm. The following options are a good starting point:

- 1 Old Testament; 1 Psalm; 1 Gospel
- 1 Epistle; 1 Psalm; 1 Gospel
- 1 Epistle; 1 Psalm; 1 Gospel
- 1 Old Testament; 1 Psalm; 1 Gospel

In addition, any of those options, you can add a third reading as follows:

- 1 Old Testament; 1 Psalm; 1 Epistle; 1 Gospel
- Old Testament; 1 Psalm; 1 Epistle; 2nd Psalm; 1 Gospel

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

[He will swallow up death for ever]

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of fat things, a feast of wine on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wine on the lees well refined. And he will destroy on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth; for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, “Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

[To comfort those who mourn]

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to

give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

[The Lord is good to those who wait for him]

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. For the Lord will not cast off for ever, but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve the sons of men.

[The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God]

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be an affliction, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of men they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his elect, and he watches over his holy ones.

[I know that my Redeemer lives]

Job 19:21-27a

“Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! Why do you, like God, pursue me? Why are you not satisfied with my flesh? Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were inscribed in a book! Oh that with an iron pen and lead they were graven in the rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then from my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

PSALMS

Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Psalm 27

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the LORD;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *

I will sing and make music to the LORD.

10 Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

13 You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.

15 Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.

17 What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!

18 O tarry and await the LORD'S pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the LORD.

Psalm 42:1-7

1. As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
so longs my soul for you, O God.
2. My soul is athirst for the God,
athirst for the living God; *
when shall I come to appear
before the presence of God?
3. My tears have been my food day and night, *
while all the day long they say to me,
"Where now is your God?"
4. I pour out my soul when I think on these things; *
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God.
5. With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
among those who keep holy-day.

6. Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
and why are you so disquieted within me?
7. Put your trust in God; *
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Psalm 46

1. God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.
2. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;
3. Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
4. The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
5. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.
6. God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.
7. The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
8. The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
9. Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.
10. It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.
11. "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth."
12. The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Psalm 90:1-12

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
 or the land and the earth were born, *
 from age to age you are God.
 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
 "Go back, O child of earth."
 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
 and like a watch in the night.
 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
 we fade away suddenly like the grass.
 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
 in the evening it is dried up and withered.
 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
 we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
 and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
 9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
 we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
 10 The span of our life is seventy years,
 perhaps in strength even eighty; *
 yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
 for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
 11 Who regards the power of your wrath? *
 who rightly fears your indignation?
 12 So teach us to number our days *
 that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Psalm 106:1-5

1 Hallelujah!
 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
 for his mercy endures for ever.
 2 Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD *
 or show forth all his praise?
 3 Happy are those who act with justice *
 and always do what is right!
 4 Remember me, O LORD, with the favor you have for your people, *
 and visit me with your saving help;
 5 That I may see the prosperity of your elect
 and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
 that I may glory with your inheritance.

Psalm 116

- 1 I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
- 2 The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; *
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 Then I called upon the Name of the LORD: *
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."
- 4 Gracious is the LORD and righteous; *
our God is full of compassion.
- 5 The LORD watches over the innocent; *
I was brought very low, and he helped me.
- 6 Turn again to your rest, O my soul. *
for the LORD has treated you well.
- 7 For you have rescued my life from death, *
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 I will walk in the presence of the LORD *
in the land of the living.
- 9 I believed, even when I said, "I have been brought very low." *
In my distress I said, "No one can be trusted."
- 10 How shall I repay the LORD *
for all the good things he has done for me?
- 11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 12 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people.
- 13 Precious in the sight of the LORD *
is the death of his servants.
- 14 O LORD, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the LORD.
- 16 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD *
in the presence of all his people,
- 17 In the courts of the LORD'S house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!

Psalm 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

Psalm 130

- 1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice; *
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
- 2 If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, *
O LORD, who could stand?
- 3 For there is forgiveness with you; *
therefore you shall be feared.
- 4 I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; *
in his word is my hope.
- 5 My soul waits for the LORD,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
- 6 O Israel, wait for the LORD, *
for with the LORD there is mercy;
- 7 With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Psalm 139:1-11

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places *
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 You press upon me behind and before *
and lay your hand upon me.
- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.

EPISTLE READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

[The glory that shall be revealed]

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. Who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that

neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[The imperishable body]

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. But some one will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" You foolish man! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body which is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. For this perishable nature must put on the imperishable, and this mortal nature must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

[Things that are unseen are eternal]

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9

We do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Here indeed we groan, and long to put on our heavenly dwelling, so that by putting it on we may not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we sigh with anxiety; not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always of good courage; we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. We are of good courage, and we would

rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

[We shall be like him]

1 John 3:1-2

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; it does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

[God will wipe away every tear]

Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no man could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits upon the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and whence have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night within his temple; and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

[Behold, I make all things new]

Revelation 21:2-7

I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away." And he who sat upon the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the fountain of the water of life without payment. He who conquers shall have this heritage, and I will be his God and he shall be my son."

GOSPEL READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

[He who believes has everlasting life]

John 5:24-27

Jesus said to the people, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes him who sent me, has eternal life; he does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. Truly, truly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself, and has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of man."

[All that the Father gives me will come to me]

John 6:37-40

Jesus said to the people, "All that the Father gives me will come to me; and him who comes to me I will not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

[I am the good shepherd]

John 10:11-16

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd."

[I am the resurrection and the life]

John 11:21-27

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

[In my Father's house are many rooms]

John 14:1-6

Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me."

APPENDIX 2

FEES & SUGGESTED DONATIONS

Fees & Suggested Honorariums and Donations

Donations and Honorariums of any amount are always appreciated. Members never need to pay any fee for the services of the Clergy of Christ Church, nor do members need to pay to use the Church.

The Church

Donation for Church Use (for parishioners)	<i>Any amount is appreciated</i>
Donation for Church Use (for non-parishioners)	<i>\$1000 (suggested)</i>

Clergy Honorarium

Honorarium (for parishioners)	<i>Any amount is appreciated</i>
Honorarium (for non-parishioners)	<i>\$500</i>
Discretionary Fund	<i>\$500 (suggested)</i>

Music – If the service has music of any sort, the Director of Music's fee is applied.

Director of Music Fee	<i>\$400</i>
Soloist/Singers Fee (per singer and if applicable)	<i>\$250</i>
Quartet	<i>\$1000</i>

Livestream – If the service is livestreamed or recorded the following fee is applied.

Livestreamer Fee	<i>\$100</i>
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The Parish Hall may be rented for an after-service reception for up to 3 hours.

Parish Hall Rental	<i>\$300</i>
Sexton Fee	<i>\$150</i>

Garden of Resurrection Interment Fees

Niche Price (for Parishioners)	<i>Speak to Parish Administrator</i>
Open/Close Niche/Install Plaque	<i>\$360</i>
Plaque Order (as of 2026)	<i>\$350</i>

APPENDIX 3

IMMEDIATE FUNERAL/BURIAL FORM

This form is to be filled out by the person organizing a funeral at Christ Church in the immediate aftermath of a death. The form is available online: <https://parishofchristtheredeemer.breezechms.com/form/funeral-form>

About the Deceased

Full name of the deceased: _____

Birth date of the deceased: _____

Death date of the deceased: _____

Age of the deceased at time of death: _____

Last home address of the deceased: _____

When will the deceased be buried or interred? _____

Does the deceased have written funeral/burial plans,
if so, where are they? (Attach them if possible) _____

Where will the deceased be buried or interred? _____

Does the deceased have a Niche at Christ Church?
If so, what is the Number? _____

If you do not have a Niche at Christ Church,
do you want to purchase one? _____

Contact Person for the Funeral

Name of person organizing funeral: _____

Phone of person organizing funeral: _____

Email of person organizing funeral: _____

Requests for the Service

Will the service take place at Christ Church?	Yes	No
When would you like the service to happen (date and time of day)?	_____	
Mass of the Resurrection (with Communion)?	Yes	No
Burial Office (without Communion)?	Yes	No
Rite 1 (traditional language) or Rite 2 (contemporary language)?	Rite 1	Rite 2
Will there be a coffin at the funeral?	Yes	No
Will there be an urn at the funeral?	Yes	No
Do you want any music?	Yes	No
Are you interested in using the Parish Hall for a Reception?	Yes	No

Requested Scripture Passages to be read:

_____	_____
_____	_____

Requested Hymn or other music:

_____	_____
_____	_____

Please note any special requests below:

We will try to honor all of your requests within the confines of our space, resources, and traditions.

APPENDIX 4

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE EVENTS FOLLOWING MY DEATH

This form is designed to assist the church, your family, and your lawyer in preparing the events following your death. You may update this form at any time, please sign and date updated forms and deliver copies to the church, your next of kin, and your lawyer. Please note that this is not a legal will, your next of kin and the church will use this form as a guide for planning the events immediately following your death. Please fill out as much or as little of this form as you are comfortable doing.

Your Basic Information

Name: _____ Birthdate: ____/____/____
Last First Middle M D Y

Address: _____

- ☐ I am a United States Veteran.
☐ I am a Member of the Clergy (order & denomination) _____

Signature: _____ Today's Date ____/____/____
M D Y

- ☐ I understand that this is not a legal will, and that my next of kin and the church will use this form as a guide for planning the events immediately following my death.
-

Contacts

The following people know about this form and/or should be contacted ASAP:

Funeral Home: _____

Phone: _____

- ☐ has a copy of the form ☐ should be notified immediately upon my death

Contact Name: _____ This person is my: _____

Phone: _____

- ☐ has a copy of the form ☐ should be notified immediately upon my death

Contact Name: _____ This person is my: _____

Phone: _____

- ☐ has a copy of the form ☐ should be notified immediately upon my death

Contact Name: _____ This person is my: _____

Phone: _____

- ☐ has a copy of the form ☐ should be notified immediately upon my death

Will, Living Will, Safety Deposit, and other legal Instructions

I have a will on file with the following people:

- ☐ Next of Kin: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Attorney: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Other: _____ Phone: _____

I have a living will on file:

- ☐ Physician: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Next of Kin: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Attorney: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Other: _____ Phone: _____

My safety deposit box information is with:

- ☐ Next of Kin: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Attorney: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ Other: _____ Phone: _____

I have provided other written plans with the following:

- ☐ Next of Kin: _____ Phone: _____
 - ☐ Attorney: _____ Phone: _____
 - ☐ Other: _____ Phone: _____
 - ☐ Funeral Home: _____ Phone: _____
-

Memorials & Gifts

Please ask that donations in my memory be given to (check any applicable preference):

- ☐ Christ Church (all memorials are applied to the Endowment unless specified)
- ☐ This specific ministry at Christ Church: _____
- ☐ Some other charity/organization: _____
- ☐ Some other charity/organization: _____

In addition, I request that my family offer the following Memorial or Gift:

Casket / Urn

My preference for the disposition of my Physical Remains (check all applicable preferences)

- ☐ I have no preference & I leave this decision to my next of kin.
- ☐ Remains are to be given to medical science, if possible, and I have taken appropriate legal steps for this to happen.
- ☐ Remains shall not be cremated.
- ☐ Remains shall be cremated:
 - ☐ Immediate Cremation (your next of kin must contact the Crematorium)
 - ☐ At once through the Funeral Home
 - ☐ After the Wake/Visitation
 - ☐ After the Funeral

I have the following special requests for my Urn or Casket:

Wake / Visitation

- ☐ I do not wish to have a Wake/Visitation
- ☐ I wish to have a Wake/Visitation (check all applicable preferences)
 - ☐ At the Funeral Home
 - ☐ In the Bolton Chapel
 - ☐ Other Location _____
 - ☐ I wish for a Christ Church Priest to say prayers at my Wake/Visitation
 - ☐ I wish for my casket to be open at the Wake/Visitation
 - ☐ I wish for an American Flag to be displayed on my casket at the Wake/Visitation
NOTE: This is an honor that is often reserved for military, police, fire, or elected civil servants, but any citizen of the United States may request this. The US Government provides an American Flag to any Veteran whose next of kin requests one. If you are a Veteran, the Funeral Home can make this request.
 - ☐ I am a Clergy Person, and I wish to have my Body Vested for Wake / Burial
NOTE: Contact the Rector and/or Bishop's Office for further details.

I have the following special request(s) for my Wake/Visitation:

Funeral Service Location

- ☐ I wish to have my Funeral Service at Christ Church.
- ☐ I wish to have my Funeral Service at a location other than Christ Church.
 - ☐ I wish to have my funeral at the Funeral Home.
 - ☐ I wish to have my funeral at some other location:
Place: _____ Phone: _____
 - ☐ I wish to have my funeral officiated by a Priest from Christ Church.
 - ☐ I wish to have my funeral officiated by someone else:
Place: _____ Phone: _____

Funeral Service Clergy

The Rector normally preaches and officiates at all funerals held at Christ Church. The involvement of any clergy must be approved by the Rector. I request that the following clergy be given a role in my Funeral Service.

Please ask _____ to be given a role at my Funeral.

- ☐ This person is or has been a Clergy Person at Christ Church.
- ☐ This person is an Episcopal Clergy Person.
- ☐ This person is ordained in another denomination.
- ☐ This person is in my family.

Please ask _____ to be given a role at my Funeral.

- ☐ This person is or has been a Clergy Person at Christ Church.
- ☐ This person is an Episcopal Clergy Person.
- ☐ This person is ordained in another denomination.
- ☐ This person is in my family.

Please ask _____ to be given a role at my Funeral.

- ☐ This person is or has been a Clergy Person at Christ Church.
- ☐ This person is an Episcopal Clergy Person.
- ☐ This person is ordained in another denomination.
- ☐ This person is in my family.

Funeral Service Format

In the Episcopal Church, Holy Communion is normally part of the Funeral Service. When a Funeral service takes place at a location other than the church, Holy Communion is not practical.

- ☐ I want Holy Communion to be celebrated at my Funeral Service
- ☐ I do not want Holy Communion to be celebrated at my Funeral Service.
- ☐ I prefer Rite 1 (“thee” and “thy” language)
- ☐ I prefer Rite 2 (“you” and “your” language)

Funeral Service Eulogies

- ☐ I do not want a Eulogy or Remembrances.
- ☐ I would like a Eulogy. Please ask _____ to offer my Eulogy.
- ☐ Instead of a Eulogy, I would like several brief Remembrances.
 - Please ask _____ to offer a brief remembrance.
 - Please ask _____ to offer a brief remembrance.
 - Please ask _____ to offer a brief remembrance.

Funeral Service Readings

Old Testament Lesson (pick one):

- ☐ 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)

Psalms (pick one):

- ☐ Psalm 23 ☐ Psalm 27 ☐ Psalm 46 ☐ Psalm 90:1-12 ☐ Psalm 106:1-5
- ☐ Psalm 116 ☐ Psalm 121 ☐ Psalm 130 ☐ Psalm 139:1-11

New Testament (Non-Gospel) Lesson (pick one):

- ☐ 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)

Gospel Lesson (pick one):

- ☐ 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)

Readers:

- ☐ I request the following people to serve as Readers for the Service
 - Please ask _____ to be a Reader.
 - Please ask _____ to be a Reader.
 - Please ask _____ to be a Reader.

Funeral Service Music

- ☐ I do not want any music at my funeral service.
- ☐ I want music at my funeral
 - ☐ I would like the professional parish choir at my funeral service.
 - ☐ I would like one of the parish professional soloists at my funeral service.
 - ☐ I want only the parish organist to play at my funeral service.
 - ☐ Please try to include the following person(s) who is a musician and a family member/friend in my funeral service.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____
- ☐ I would like some of the following hymns at my funeral service.

☐ Christ the Victorious

☐ Jesus Son of Mary

☐ The Strife is O're

☐ Love Divine All Loves Excelling

☐ The King of Love My Shepherd Is

☐ O God Our Help in Ages Past

☐ Amazing Grace

☐ A Mighty Fortress is Our God

☐ Abide with Me

☐ Rock of Ages

☐ Lord of all Hopefulness

☐ Other _____

☐ Other _____

☐ Other _____

☐ Other _____

I have the following musical requests for choral or instrumental music:

Burial Details

If I am to be Cremated, my Ashes are to be

- ☐ Interred in the Christ Church Garden of Resurrection
 - ☐ I have purchased a Niche in the Garden of Resurrection
 - ☐ I intend to be buried in this Niche with: _____
- ☐ Interred in a local/regional cemetery: _____
- ☐ Interred in another church or place: _____
- ☐ Other: _____

Other Requests

*Use this page for any special requests that you
have regarding your wake/visitation, funeral service, or burial.*

APPENDIX 5

CLERGY, CHURCH, AND FUNERAL HOME AT THE TIME OF DEATH

WHAT CAN A MEMBER OF THE CHRIST CHURCH CLERGY OFFER?

- A Member of the Clergy can visit with you when you are sick, offer prayers and Holy Communion, and a Priest can hear your Confession
- A Member of the Clergy can be present with you to offer Last Rites and prayers at the time of your death.
- A Member of the Clergy can be present with your next of kin for support, prayers, and guidance at the time of your death.
- A Member of the Clergy can guide your next of kin through some of the immediate steps following a death. If your next of kin would like, a Member of the Clergy can be present when they meet with the Funeral Director.
- A Member of the Clergy can offer prayers at your Wake/Visitation.
- A Priest can officiate at your Funeral Service.
- A Priest can officiate at your Burial.

WHAT CHRIST CHURCH CAN OFFER?

- Your Wake/Visitation may be held in Bolton Chapel.
- Your Funeral Service can be at Christ Church.
 - A Priest (along with the Administrator and Director of Music) will help your next of kin plan your Funeral Service.
- You or your next of kin can (on your behalf) purchase a Niche in the Christ Church Garden of Resurrection, and you can be buried in a Niche in the Christ Church Garden of Resurrection.
- A Reception after your funeral service or Visitation/Wake can be held at Christ Church.

WHAT CAN A FUNERAL HOME OFFER?

- A Funeral Home can respectfully transfer your body to the Funeral Home where it can be prepared for Visitation, Funeral Services, and Burial.
- A Funeral Home can prepare/embalm your body for a Wake/Visitation, Funeral Services, and Burial.
- A Funeral Home can assist with Cremation, if that is your wish.
- A Funeral Home can assist your next of kin in purchasing a casket and/or urn.
- A Funeral Home can offer a location for and assist your next of kin in planning a Wake/Visitation.
- A Funeral Home can provide other services (cards, mementos, guest book, etc.).
- A Funeral Home can transfer your casket/urn to another location for a Wake/Visitation.
- A Funeral Home can offer a location for, and assist your next of kin in planning a Funeral Service.
- A Funeral Home can transfer your casket/urn to another location for a Funeral Service.
- A Funeral Home can help your next of kin purchase a grave in a local cemetery.
- A Funeral Home can transfer your casket/urn to a cemetery or another location for Burial.

APPENDIX 6

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED AND FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Almighty God, with whom still live the spirits of those who die in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful are in joy and felicity: We give you heartfelt thanks for the good examples of all your servants, who, having finished their course in faith, now find rest and refreshment. May we, with all who have died in the true faith of your holy Name, have perfect fulfillment and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered: Make us, we pray, deeply aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life; and let your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days; that, when we shall have served you in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the Catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a religious and holy hope, in favor with you, our God, and in perfect charity with the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, the King of saints, we praise and glorify your holy Name for all your servants who have finished their course in your faith and fear: for the blessed Virgin Mary; for the holy patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs; and for all your other righteous servants, known to us and unknown; and we pray that, encouraged by their examples, aided by their prayers, and strengthened by their fellowship, we also may be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life: Raise us, we humbly pray, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; that when we depart this life we may rest in him, and at the resurrection receive that blessing which your well-beloved Son shall then pronounce: "Come, you blessed of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world." Grant this, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. Amen.

Grant, O Lord, to all who are bereaved the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience; not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. And this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER
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*Christ Church Pelham is a Christian Community in the Episcopal tradition.
As members of the Body of Christ, we are dedicated to spiritual growth
and committed to service God through worship and
service to our community and the world.*