



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

06321 Blue Star Memorial Highway

South Haven, MI 49090

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## 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 liturgy 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 liturgy of the Word (and Holy Communion, if desired) is celebrated and presided over by the current pastor of this congregation. The service is open to the congregation, family members and guests who share in common grief. All those who are baptized and believe in Jesus Christ may take part in the Sacrament of Holy Communion if desired, at the Lord's own invitation through the Church. Following the church liturgy, a committal service at the graveside is the normative practice, except when cremation is desired. When extenuating circumstances requiring variations from 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:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Married:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Children:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grandchildren:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work History:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Church Involvement:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**You may choose one Old Testament reading:**

- \_\_\_ Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 (For everything there is a season)
- \_\_\_ Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death forever)
- \_\_\_ 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)
- \_\_\_ Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)
- \_\_\_ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**You may list a person whom you would like to read this reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**You may choose one Psalm to be read or sung by the congregation:**

- \_\_\_ 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 91 (Dwelling in the shelter of the Lord)
- \_\_\_ 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 one New Testament reading:**

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

\_\_\_ Romans 6:3-9 (Baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection)

\_\_\_ Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 (Nothing can separate us from the love of God)

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

\_\_\_ 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:7 (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 reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**You may choose one 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**You may choose up to three hymns:**

\_\_\_ Alleluia! Jesus is Risen! (WOV 674)

\_\_\_ This Joyful Eastertide (ELW 391)

\_\_\_ Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove (ELW 404)

\_\_\_ For All the Saints (ELW 422)

\_\_\_ I Am the Bread of Life (WOV 702)

\_\_\_ The King of Love My Shepherd Is (ELW 502)

\_\_\_ A Mighty Fortress (ELW 504)

\_\_\_ O Living Bread From Heaven (ELW 542)

\_\_\_ 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)

\_\_\_ Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631)

\_\_\_ O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ELW 632)

*(List is continued on next page)*

- \_\_\_ 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 (WOV 731)
- \_\_\_ 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 (WOV 779)
- \_\_\_ I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (WOV 649)
- \_\_\_ **Other** (as available in Lutheran hymnals): \_\_\_\_\_

**This is not an exhaustive list.**  
**If you have a favorite hymn that is not on here, please let us know what that is.**

### **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

**If cremains are to be interred in a columbarium, do you have a columbarium niche at another location?** (Circle one) Yes / No Please provide details below:

**Do you wish your cremains to be interred in the Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church Memorial Garden?** (Circle one) Yes / No Please provide any wishes below:

## 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?**

\_\_\_ Caterer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Peace's Priscilla Circle: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Eulogies and speakers are normally invited to share their memories of you at the funeral luncheon rather than at the funeral service itself. This provides a comfortable atmosphere and plenty of time for your loved ones to speak. Do you desire to allow for such a time at the luncheon?** *(Circle one)* Yes / No

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## Memorial Gifts

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

**Recipients include:**

\_\_\_ Peace Lutheran Church (you may also direct a gift of your estate to the church if you so desire. If you would like more information about that, please contact us in the Office)

\_\_\_ Peace Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund (used for scholarships for students of higher education and other mission projects supported by the congregation)

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

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

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

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**Please share any additional details or requests:**

**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 the pastor at any time for help with issues of death and dying.

**Please return form to:**

Peace Lutheran Church, 06321 Blue Star Memorial Highway, South Haven, MI 49090-1329

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## **Resources to Help in Time of Grief and Sorrow**

Augsburg Fortress Publishers (the publishing house of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America) offers many resources to help children and adults address serious illness, the death of a loved one, and the planning of funeral services.

**Good Grief** by Granger E. Westberg

**Understanding Mourning** by Glen Davidson

**When a Loved One Dies** by Philip W. Williams

**Lament for a Son** by Nicholas Wolterstorff

**On Grieving the Death of a Father and Grieving the Death of a Mother** by Harold Ivan Smith

**The Bereavement Ministry Program** by Jan Nelson and David Asker

**Helping Children Grieve** by Theresa M. Huntley

**To Comfort to Honor** by Jeanne Daly McIntee

*From Lutheran Funeral Practices: Looking Forward in Hope*