

# Funeral Planning Guide



## *Final Wishes*

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Next of Kin Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Service:  Church  Graveside  Funeral Home

Visitation: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Service Participants: Readers \_\_\_\_\_

Pall Bearers \_\_\_\_\_

Special Music \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Music:  Organ  Piano

Communion:  Yes  No

Meal at the Church:  Yes  No Caterer: \_\_\_\_\_

Burial Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Military Honors:  Yes  No [Family to contact Legion]

Scripture Readings: Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_

New Testament \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel \_\_\_\_\_

Hymns: Gathering Hymn \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn of the Day \_\_\_\_\_

Sending Hymn \_\_\_\_\_

Technology:  Video Slide Show during Visitation  Live Stream Funeral Service

3 Words that Describe Your Loved One: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Hobbies/Activities/Passions: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Planning the Service*

Please contact Grace Lutheran Church as your loved one is nearing death. Our office number is (507) 238-4418. If you would like a pastoral visit, our pastors will gladly visit at your home or hospital. Chaplains at our hospital and care facility are also available for visits but due to privacy laws, they are unable to share their visit with your pastors. Pastors are only informed if a parishioner is in the hospital if informed by the family or friends.

Funerals are held at the church most days with the exceptions of holidays and Sundays. Visitation can be held at the church or funeral home. The pastors at Grace Lutheran will conduct the funeral unless otherwise agreed to in advance. Grace Lutheran will prepare your funeral bulletin. The pastor will consult with you on your selections of scripture, hymns, and special music to accompany the Lutheran funeral service.

### **Suggested Scripture Readings**

The following readings are a few of the many wonderful options to comfort one another during the challenging time of grief and loss. God's Holy Word provides hope and assurance that Christ is with us and will give us the strength to make it through what seems unbearable. The pastors can help you discern which readings will be fitting after speaking with you and learning more about your loved one.

#### ***Old Testament***

Genesis 3:19	For you are dust and to dust you shall return
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	For everything there is a season
Job 19:23-27a	For I know that my redeemer lives
Isaiah 25:6-9	The Lord God will wipe away the tears
Isaiah 43:1-3a, 5-7	Fear not for I have redeemed you
Isaiah 55	For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace
Jeremiah 31:8-13	I will turn their mourning into joy
Lamentations 3:22-24	The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases

#### ***Psalms***

Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want
Psalms 27	The Lord is my light and my salvation
Psalms 46:1-10	Be still and know that I am God
Psalms 55:22	Cast your burden on the Lord
Psalms 103: 8-16	The Lord is merciful and gracious
Psalms 118	O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good
Psalms 121	My help comes from the Lord

#### ***Gospels***

Matthew 5	The Beatitudes
Matthew 11:28-30	Come to me, all you who are weary
Matthew 25:34-40	Just as you did it to one of the least of these
John 1:1-5, 9-14	In the beginning was the Word

John 3:16-18                      For God so loved the world  
John 10:27-28                    My sheep hear my voice  
John 11:21-27                    I am the resurrection and the life

### ***New Testament***

Romans 8: 31-35, 37-39        If God is for us, who is against us  
1 Corinthians 2:9                God has prepared for those who love him  
1 Corinthians 15:55-57        Where, O death, is your sting  
2 Corinthians 1:1-4              God of all consolation  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21        If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation  
Hebrews 12:1-12                Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses  
Ephesians 2:8                    For by grace you have been saved through faith  
Philippians 3:20-21            Our citizenship is in heaven  
1 Thessalonians 4:13          So that you do not grieve as those without hope  
1 Timothy 1:15                  Jesus came into the world to save sinners  
2 Timothy 4:7-8                I have fought the good fight  
1 Peter 1:3-9                    You are receiving the outcome of your faith  
Revelation 7:9-17              There was a great multitude  
Revelation 21:1-6              Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth

### **Hymn Suggestions**

The following hymns are from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book and are some of the many comforting options for funeral songs. These hymns can be sung by the congregation, played as instrumental music, or offered as special music from a musician you have arranged.

Hymn #779 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

Hymn #503 “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

Hymn #838 “Beautiful Savior”

Hymn #338 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Hymn #638 “Blessed Assurance”

Hymn #781 “Children of the Heavenly Father”

Hymn #422 “For All the Saints”

Hymn #856 “How Great Thou Art”

Hymn #619 “I Know that My Redeemer Lives!”

Hymn #661 “I Love to Tell the Story”

Hymn #834 “Immortal Invisible God Only Wise”

Hymn #324 “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

Hymn #592 “Just As I Am, Without One Plea”

- Hymn #881 “Let All Things Now Living”
- Hymn #660 “Lift High the Cross”
- Hymn #765 “Lord of All Hopefulness”
- Hymn #767 “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”
- Hymn #759 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”
- Hymn #597 “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”
- Hymn #622 “Neither Life, Nor Death”
- Hymn #632 “O God Our Help in Ages Past”
- Hymn #787 “On Eagle’s Wings”
- Hymn # 774 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”
- Hymn #623 “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”
- Hymn #789 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
- Hymn #423 “Shall We Gather at the River”
- Hymn #780 “Shepherd Me, O God”
- Hymn #824 “This Is My Father’s World”
- Hymn #742 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
- Hymn #581 “You Are Mine”

### Fees

Church Use	No Fee
<i>Church Luncheon (optional)</i>	<i>\$100 plus the cost of food</i>
Custodian	\$25
Sound Tech	\$75
<i>Video Tech (optional)</i>	<i>\$75 (live streaming or video during visitation)</i>
Organist/Pianist	\$150
<i>Soloist (optional)</i>	<i>\$150</i>
Pastor	\$200 (suggested honorarium)