



Wellington UCC
Over 100 years of welcoming and still going strong.

Funeral/Memorial Service Planning Form

We want this service to celebrate your life, or the life of your loved one,
and illuminate that you are/they are God's beloved

This outline is meant to provide some direction for elements one might like to include in a service. Our standard service elements are listed below in regular type; optional service elements are listed in *italics*. Know that you can choose as much - or as little! - as you want.

- o Prelude
- o Welcome & Prayer
- o Call to Worship
- o Opening Hymn
- o Family Remembrance / Eulogy
- o Musical Selection or Hymn
- o *Reading(s) – See next page for a variety of options*
- o Musical Selection or Hymn
- o Community Remembrance
- o Pastoral Reflection
- o Musical Selection or Hymn
- o *Holy Communion (may also include additional music)*
- o *The Lord's Prayer*
- o *Commendation*
- o *Musical Selection or Sending Hymn*
- o Benediction
- o Postlude

*** if the deceased is to be interred or buried following the service, an abbreviated graveside service can also be officiated.*

Suggested Readings

*Especially appropriate at death of a child

From the Hebrew Bible

Job 19:23-27a *I know that my Redeemer lives*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 *For everything there is a season*

Isaiah 25:6-9 *God will swallow up death forever*

*Isaiah 40:1, 6-11 *God will gather the lambs*

Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31 *Comfort my people, says your God*

*Isaiah 43:1-3a, 5-7 *I have called you by name*

Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-19 *I am about to do a new thing*

Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-13 *Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters*

Isaiah 61:1-3 *The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me*

Isaiah 63:7-9 *God's steadfast love lifts up the people*

*Isaiah 65:17-20, 23-25 *A new heaven and a new earth*

*Isaiah 66:10-14 *As a mother comforts her child*

Jeremiah 31:8-13 *I will turn their mourning into joy*

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 *The steadfast love of the LORD*

Micah 6:8 *God has told you, O Mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you?*

From the Psalms

*Psalm 23 *The LORD is my shepherd*

*Psalm 42:1-5 *As a deer longs for flowing streams*

Psalm 46:1-7 *God is our refuge and strength*

*Psalm 121 *I lift up my eyes to the hills*

*Psalm 139:7-12 *The gracious omnipresence of the LORD*

*Psalm 142:1-6 *I cry to the LORD with my voice*

Psalm 143 *LORD, hear my prayer*

From the Gospels

*Matthew 5:1-10 *Blessed are those who mourn*

Matthew 11:25-30 *I will give you rest*

*Matthew 18:1-5, 10-14 *A child is the greatest in the kingdom*

*Mark 10:13-16 *Let the little children come*

Mark 16:1-7 *The resurrection of Christ*

Luke 24:1-9 *The resurrection of Christ*

John 1:1-5, 9-14 *The light shines in the darkness*

John 6:37-40 *I will raise them up on the last day*

*John 10:11-16 *I am the good shepherd*

John 11:21-27 *I am the resurrection and the life*

John 14:1-6 *Do not let your hearts be troubled...I prepare a place for you*

John 14:25-27 *Peace I leave with you*

From the New Testament

Romans 5:1-11 *Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ*

*Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 *Who will separate us from the love of Christ?*

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 *The greatest gift is love*

1 Corinthians 15:12-26 *Christ, the first fruits, has been raised*
2 Corinthians 4:6-12, 16-18 *Treasure in clay jars*
Ephesians 3:14-19 *The breadth, length, height and depth of Christ's love*
Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33 *Walk in love as Christ loved us*
*1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, 18 *Teaching about those who have died*
2 Timothy 4:7-8 *I have fought the good fight*
Hebrews 12:1-2 *Surrounded by a cloud of witnesses*
1 Peter 1:3-9 *A living hope through Jesus' resurrection*
*1 John 3:1-2 *See what love the Father has given us*
1 John 4:7-16 *Let us love one another for love is of God*
Revelation 7:9-17 *God will wipe away every tear*
Revelation 21:2-7 *I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem*
Revelation 22:1-5 *The Lord God will be their light*

Poems

[*Epitaph On A Friend*](#) by Robert Burns
[*Because I could not stop for Death*](#) by Emily Dickinson
[*Holy Sonnets: Death, be not proud*](#) by John Donne
[*Do not stand at my grave and weep*](#) by Mary Elizabeth Frye
[*Yes*](#) by Tess Gallagher
[*Elegy, Surrounded by Seven Trees*](#) by Rachel Eliza Griffiths
[*When Death Comes*](#) by Mary Oliver
[*Remember*](#) by Christina Rossetti
[*Let me go*](#) by Christina Rossetti
[*Requiem*](#) by Robert Louis Stevenson
[*Crossing the Bar*](#) by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
[*Do not go gentle into that good night*](#) by Dylan Thomas
[*Song of the Open Road*](#) by Walt Whitman

Suggested hymns/songs (not an exhaustive list) from *The New Century Hymnal*

*Especially appropriate at death of a child

35: O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder (How Great Thou Art)
99: Abide with me
158: O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright!
207: Just as I Am
223: What Wondrous Love Is This
224: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
247: My Shepherd is the Living God
253: Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!
257: Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!
297: Give Thanks for Life
299: For All the Saints
*327: Jesus Loves Me!
366: God of Our Life

368: Sheltered by God's Loving Spirit
369: Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning
386: The Church's One Foundation
393: Blessed Be the Tie That Binds
433: In the bulb there is a flower
472: Precious Lord, take my hand
476: My life flows on in endless song
479: God is my shepherd
547: Amazing Grace
595: Some Glad Morning (I'll Fly Away)
597: Shall We Gather at the River
599: Steal Away

Funeral/Memorial Service/Celebration of Life Worksheet

Full Name of Deceased _____
(as you'd like it to appear on the bulletin and in announcements)

Date of Birth _____ **Date of Death** _____

Date, Time, Location of Service _____

Date, Time, Location of Internment _____

Funeral Home and Contact Information _____

Would you like the service to be livestreamed? Yes ___ No ___
(*\$150 fee, based on availability of contractor*)

Reading(s)

Reader(s)

Hymns(s)

Ushers(s)

Additional Details

Would you like to host a reception at the church? Yes ____ No ____
(Based on availability of space.)

How many bulletins would you like printed? ____

Is there a specific photo of your loved one you would like on the cover of the bulletin?

Yes ____

No, the church can choose the cover art ____

Do you plan to have flowers delivered to the church?

Yes ____

No, we'll use whatever flowers are already in place ____

Do you plan to bring in framed photos for display at the service?

Yes ____ No ____

If so, would you like the church to provide a table or easel(s) for the display?

Yes ____ No ____

Additional Notes