

Immanuel Lutheran Funeral Planning Guide

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Princeton, Minnesota

Adopted August 2012

Visitation With or Without Prayer Service

Often friends and family wish to express their sympathy to you during a visitation time. The visitation typically takes place on the night before the funeral and/or just before the funeral. During this visitation a Prayer Service can take place. The visitation and Prayer Service can take place at the funeral home or at the church, depending on availability.

Either a Befriender or the Pastor will preside at the Prayer Service.

Some options available to choose are:

- ▲ Visitation at the Funeral Home or church- evening before
- ▲ Visitation at Church- day of funeral
- ▲ Prayer Service included during the visitation
- ▲ Memory Table at the funeral home or church
- ▲ Personal reflections can be done at a prayer service

Funeral/Memorial Service

Rituals and prayer surrounding death are a witness to the faith of the one who has died. They give comfort to the community of family, friends and associates who have surrounded the deceased during life. The funeral or memorial service can take place during the day or evening.

A Funeral Pall is available upon request, which is simply a cloth that covers the casket or urn. The white color of the pall reminds those assembled of their faith in the resurrection and further symbolizes putting on the robe of Christ's righteousness in baptism. The symbols on the pall are clearly Christian. The pall is adorned with Christian symbols such as lambs, I Am The Good Shepard and a symbol that focuses on the resurrection. The pall helps the congregation focus on the worship of God and the hope of the resurrection.

PLANNING A FUNERAL or MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Time for Grace

A Time to Remember the Person

A Time to Remember the Promises of Jesus Christ

Romans 14, verse 8 tells us, "So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lords."

A funeral or memorial service is an expression of the faith and hope of the Christian community. Being baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ, and having faith in His saving work on the cross, we have hope in the "communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." (from the Apostles' Creed)

Elements of the worship service include but are not limited to: Music, Scripture, reading of the Obituary, *Family remembrances, Sermon, and Prayers.

The following are possible Old and New Testament passages(not including the Psalms) also included in their entirety in the back of the booklet.

Ecclesiastes 3:1- For everything there is a season.....

Job 19:23- For I know that my Redeemer lives....

Romans 5:1- Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace....

Romans 8:37- We are more than conquerors....I Corinthians 15:12- The last enemy to be destroyed is death....

II Corinthians 4:16- Even though our outer nature is wasting away....

II Timothy 4:6- I have fought the good fight! I have finished the race!

Revelation 21:2- God will wipe away every tear. Death shall be no more....

Possible Gospel passages.

Matthew 11:25- Come to me, all you that are weary....

John 3:16- For God so loved the world that He gave....

John 6:37- Anyone who comes to me I will never drive away....

John 11:21- I am the resurrection and the life....

John 14:1- In my Father's house are many dwelling places....

*Personal reflections during the service can add a special touch to the entire grieving process. Please keep in mind that the focus is centered on the presence of Christ and the promise of the resurrection to all believers. Improvised testimonies tend to go on and on and can actually prolong a meaningful service. Therefore we request that all reflections be concise and written out.

MUSIC

People find hope and comfort in music. By singing and praying together we give praise to God and receive encouragement in ways that cannot be experienced through spoken prayer alone. For these reasons and many others, the church encourages music at all its celebrations.

As with all church services, we emphasize congregational singing at funerals. It is customary to begin and end the service with a hymn. The songs should be familiar to those who gather for the service and be appropriate for singing in church. Times are also provided for solo music. Be aware that this is a very emotional time and sometimes it is unrealistic to ask a family member to sing or play a song. It is possible that the "favorite song" is not suitable for a church setting and may be more appropriate at another time of remembrance. If you have questions, the pastor and music accompanist are available to help.

POSSIBLE HYMN SELECTIONS

A Mighty Fortress is our God

Abide with Me

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Amazing Grace Untitled

Beautiful Savior

Blessed Assurance

Borning Cry

Children of the Heavenly Father

Come, We That Love the Lord

Day by Day

For All the Saints

How Great Thou Art

Here I Am, Lord

I know that My Redeemer Lives

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Jesus Loves Me

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand

On Eagle's Wings

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Shall We Gather at the River

Softly and Tenderly

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

This is My Father's World

When Peace Like a River

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Be Thou My Vision

MUSIC NOT IN HYMNAL

Sing a New Song

In the Garden

The Old Rugged Cross

Hymn(Fly to Jesus)

He is Lord

Spirit Song

Luncheon

Lunch can be provided at the church. Contact information, cost and menu options are included in the **Luncheon Fee Booklet**. A catering service may also be used.

Funeral Coordinator

In the event a funeral home is not involved in planning a funeral, contact Shirley Miller (763-389-3099) for Immanuel funeral arrangements.

Funeral Stipend Guidelines for Immanuel Lutheran Church:

	Members	Non-members
Funeral Coordinator	\$50.00	\$100.00
Clergy for service	\$125.00	\$200.00
Organist/Pianist	\$ 75.00	\$125.00
Soloist	\$ 75.00/person	\$125.00
Sound Tech	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
Custodian	\$ 75.00	\$125.00
Printing Bulletin	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Facility Use		\$100.00
Immanuel's Cemetery Fees (members only)		
Cemetery grave staking	\$25.00	
Snow removal	fee pending weather	
Grave opening & closing (current rates)	\$250.00 cremation	
	\$500.00 casket burial	

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

¹ For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ² a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³ a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; ⁴ a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵ a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶ a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; ⁷ a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸ a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Job 19:23-25

²³ "O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! ²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! ²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

Romans 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Romans 8:37-39

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ 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.

I Corinthians 15:12-19

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ--whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸ because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

2 Timothy 4:6-8

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Revelation 21:2-7

² "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them to be false. ³ I also know that you are enduring patiently and bearing up for the sake of my name, and that you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 6:37-40

³⁷ Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; ³⁸ for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ 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 on the last day. ⁴⁰ This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

John 11:21

²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

John 14:1-6

¹ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.