

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church Memorial Handbook

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace

*To be a place where love and hope abound...
we welcome everyone to our worship and communion,
we help one another to understand God and know Jesus,
we nurture our community and the world, and
we celebrate diversity and work for social justice.*

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Email: parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org

Memorial Handbook

Updated June 9, 2022

*Gracious God, we entrust our loved one into your loving hands.
We give you thanks for the love and friendship we shared together.
Send your Holy Spirit to deepen our faith in your presence and fill us with hope
that your promises may be fulfilled for our loved one. Amen.*

This handbook is to help you in the planning of a memorial service for a loved one. It offers a sample service and a step-by-step explanation of the options within the service. **Please see the Addendum for information about current fees and our St. Mark's COVID safety protocols.**

Please know that you can be confident that all the people with whom you will be dealing in preparation for the service want to help you in every way.

The service is according to *The Book of Common Prayer* of the Episcopal Church and finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised. The service, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty 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.”

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

The fact that you are reading this guide means that you have lost someone important in your life. People grieve in different ways and on different timetables. Please take care of yourself and be patient with yourself.

Frequently Asked Questions

I want to have a reception to celebrate the life of my father who will be buried with my mother. But I don't want to leave the reception early nor have the people wait until I get back from the mortuary. Does the interment service at the mortuary need to immediately follow the Church service?

No. It has become customary for these two events to occur on different days. The public church service is usually scheduled at a time when the whole community can gather to support the family and celebrate the life of the loved one. The interment of ashes or the body is sometimes delayed because of limitations by a third party like the mortuary or medical examiner. They may happen on different days and in any order.

I have lots of pictures. What should I do?

The display of pictures is optional. However, if you do have them, they can help personalize the service. A customary option is to have one picture to be displayed at the front of the church.

My uncle is a minister. Would he be allowed to take part in memorial service?

Yes, he is welcome to share in the liturgy. He may read the prayers or one of the lessons or give a eulogy or a blessing. Discuss the opportunities with the Rector and your uncle and decide how you would like the ceremony conducted.

My aunt is an organist. Would she be allowed to play the organ in the service?

It is possible. However, you will still be responsible for the full fees for our organist. She will need to arrange a meeting at our organist's convenience in order to review protocol and procedures. This practice is commonplace and recognizes the fact that organs are complex, valuable, and sensitive instruments.

May we request to have a service on a weekday?

Yes.

What about interment of the cremains?

The memorial garden at St. Mark's is a free option for those who are seeking a place of peace to place a loved one's cremains. Standardized name plaques are available.

Schedule of Fees

Item/Payable to...	Amount
For the use of the Church for the service Make check payable to St. Mark's Church	\$100
For the use of the Parish Hall for a reception <i>Please be aware that there is an additional charge for the use of the tablecloths.</i> Can be included in check to St. Mark's Church	See Addendum
For Flowers at the altar Can be included in check to St. Mark's Church	
One arrangement	From \$150
Larger or multiple arrangements	From \$250
For Organist Separate check payable to: TBD	\$250
For a Soloist Contact Parish Admin. <i>Please be aware that a soloist requires additional rehearsal time for the organist and therefore a higher fee. Rates for the church soloist begin at \$100 and an extra \$50 rehearsal fee for the organist.</i>	
For Livestreaming Services <i>To include pre-production meeting via telephone or Zoom (30 minutes); live streaming of service (with two operators, cameras, and audio)</i> Can be included in check to St. Mark's Church	\$200
Interment of Ashes in the St. Mark's Memorial Garden <i>(Please consider making a donation of from \$25 to \$250 for upkeep and improvements to the garden with separate check payable to St. Mark's.)</i>	Free
Name Plaque of loved one Contact Connie Williams. <i>(Please consider making a donation for upkeep and improvements to the garden with separate check payable to St. Mark's.)</i>	\$200
For Clergy <i>(Honorarium for any clergy involved should be made payable directly to the clergy.)</i>	At your discretion

Contact Information

Memorial Coordinator
Cheryl Hunley
memorials@stmarks-upland.org

Service Bulletin and Space Reservations
Church Secretary
909-920-5565 (Church Office)
parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org

- Please send us a copy of any obituary you may have already prepared for the local paper.
- Please provide a picture for the service bulletin and electronic marquee. Please limit to three.
- We are happy to include reception invitations/directions, and any other information in the bulletin that will help accommodate your guests. Information about memorials may also be included.
- Please remember the memorial garden as a free option for interment.

Flowers at the Altar
Christy Hyder
flowers@stmarks-upland.org

Organist and Director of Music Ministry
Parish Administrator
909-920-5565 (Church Office)
parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org

Digital Ministry Coordinator
Bob Mattus
digitalministry@stmarks-upland.org

Memorial Garden Coordinator
Connie Williams
memorialgarden@stmarks-upland.org

Memorial Garden Request for Interment

I would like to apply for the burial of cremated human remains in the St. Mark's Memorial Garden, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Upland, California.

Name: _____

Contact Information: _____

Request for a Name Plaque

Name to appear on plaque: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____

Only the loved one's name and dates of birth and death appear on the plaque. No titles or terms of endearment are added. Only official church titles such as Canon or Reverend will be considered.

I am making a contribution of \$ _____, which will be placed in the Memorial Garden Fund.

I acknowledge that I have read the St. Mark's Memorial Garden Policy Statement and agree to abide by the policies set therein.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Memorial Garden Policy Statement

The St. Mark's Parish Memorial Garden is intended to be a simple, dignified meditation garden with plantings and benches, set aside as a place where the cremated remains of those who have died may be committed directly into the earth and where people may gather for reflection, prayer or meditation.

Interment shall be officiated by the Rector of St. Mark's Parish or a person appointed by the Rector. The committal rite shall be according to the Book of Common Prayer or as directed by the Rector. No containers or objects other than the cremated remains may be committed in the Garden.

Reservation and/or committal allows only for the privilege of use of the space and does not create or transfer real property rights. The Church has sole right to

the Memorial Garden and property. Any contribution for committal will be placed in the Memorial Garden Fund and shall be used for maintenance and enhancement of the Garden, at the discretion of the Vestry. The bereaved may not place flags, emblems, monuments, plaques, headstones, plants, floral arrangements or bouquets, or other objects on or near the site of committal or in the Garden. The remains of any person may be committed in the Garden, regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, or religious belief or absence thereof. The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. Marks Parish have full rights and responsibilities concerning the Memorial Garden. Any issue not covered in this Policy Statement shall be determined solely by that body. The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. Mark's reserve the right to change Memorial Garden policies from time to time, at their sole discretion.

The Memorial Garden

For many generations, people were buried in and around the church. Then, as time passed customs changed, restrictions were imposed, and in many cases people had to be buried elsewhere. Recently, concerns in human affairs have brought about a resurgence of interest in cremation of bodily remains. This has rebirthed the tradition of making one's final resting place on the grounds of the church. Such a memorial garden has been established at St. Mark's Episcopal Church. The Garden is located on the west end of the church building and is filled with plantings, benches, and is a place of tranquility and beauty to be enjoyed by everyone. Cremation is an old tradition and has been widely practiced throughout the world from earliest times. As Christians we regard burning as a proper reverent way of disposing objects blessed for religious use such as prayer books, altar linens, and palms. By common Christian consent we agree that this is a reverent way of returning that which has been set apart and used to the glory of God. Christians who favor cremation have every right or reason to cite this principle. The Church of England and the Episcopal Church support cremation as an acceptable, proper, and dignified way of treating the human body at the time of death. Almost a quarter of all Americans now choose cremation over other means of burial. In response to this need churches have established special facilities for the care and safekeeping of cremated remains.

Some Music Suggestions

Memorial services at St. Mark's are best supported by music from our designated hymnals. It is also appropriate for a soloist to present a religious piece of music such as the *Ave Maria* in the context of the service. Please present other music at the reception. Hymns are from *The Hymnal 1982 and Wonder, Love, and Praise* and are a variety of traditional and contemporary offerings.

The Hymnal 1982: 8, 178, 199, 209, 238, 265, 268, 287, 293, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 314, 315, 317, 318, 323, 324, 335, 336, 339, 344, 345, 347, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 362, 371, 372, 376, 377, 379, 388, 390, 392, 397, 400, 401, 405, 410, 414, 416, 423, 438, 456, 465, 469, 473, 488, 494, 508, 512, 528, 576, 593, 625, 632, 636, 645, 646, 657, 660, 662, 671, 680, 685, 686, 688, 690, 692, 693, 696, 711

Wonder Love and Praise: 721, 739, 754, 758, 770, 771, 775, 776, 791, 800, 804, 805, 811, 812

Flowers

Contact Information:

flowers@stmarks-upland.org

909-920-5565 (Church Office)



It is recommended that the St Mark's Flower Guild be contacted as soon as possible once a decision is made to have a memorial/funeral service at St Mark's Episcopal Church. The Flower Guild will be happy to prepare fresh seasonal flowers for the altar in your requested color range (note that dyed flowers are not recommended as they generally do not stay fresh for very long). Requests for specific flowers will be accommodated whenever possible. The Flower Guild does not do funeral wreaths for the altar area.

Please see photographs of some examples to give you an idea of size and placement. The sanctuary is a large space, and the Flower Guild will prepare flowers appropriate for the altar and the size of the space. We ask that the flowers remain in the sanctuary for the next Sunday service. The Sunday bulletin will note that the flowers are given in memory of your loved one.



If flowers and/or plants are ordered from an outside florist, please let the Memorial Service coordinator know so that someone can be at the church when delivery is made.

Some Scripture Suggestions

One or more readings are presented. Traditionally three readings are done: First Testament; Psalm; New Testament; and the Gospel. Please note that chapter and verse citations are not customarily spoken aloud. To see more options, please go to the “Burials” page of the “Lectionary Page” website at: <http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearABC/SpecServ/Burial.html>

The sample First Testament reading is Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33. You may also choose from the following: Isaiah 25:6-9; Isaiah 61:1-3; Wisdom 3:1-5,9; and Job 19:21-27a.

The sample Psalm reading is the 23rd Psalm from the King James Version. You may also choose from the following: Psalm 23; 42:1-7; 46; 90:1-12; 121; 130; 139:1-11.

The sample New Testament reading is from Romans 8: 34-35, 37-39. You may also choose from the following: Romans 8: 14-19, 34-35, 37-39, 1 Corinthians 15:20-6, 35-8, 42-4, 53-8; 2 Corinthians 4:16—5:9; 1 John 3:1-2; Revelation 7:9-17; Revelation 21:2-7.

The sample Gospel reading is from John 14:1-6. You may also choose from the following: John 5:24-27; John 6:37-40; John 10:11-16; John 11:21-27. When there is to be Holy Communion, then a Gospel is read by the clergy.

Some Speaker Suggestions

Eulogy:

Up to 3 speakers for a total of 15 minutes. Please see below for some prompts. An “open microphone” is not customary for our memorial services.

Readers for the scripture readings, prayers, and acknowledgements:

First Testament and New Testament may be said by one or two readers.

The psalm is traditionally said in unison.

The gospel is said by the clergy when there is a celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Prayers may be done by a reader or the clergy.

Acknowledgments are made by a family member or representative.

What should the people delivering the Eulogy speak about?

A celebration of life will include two types of information presented at the Eulogy. First, the loved one's biography. This is important because people move in and out of our lives and even close friends lose contact and may not be aware of past or current personal information of the loved one. Second, stories and memories of the loved one. Please select up to three people who can prepare and deliver these stories on behalf of the family for the community. Sometimes the following questions may be asked of family members and friends for the speaker. Or the speaker can use these following questions to inspire their own eulogy.

Questions to get started:

What are some traits, habits, and/or qualities about your loved one that everyone would nod and say, "that sure was them!"

What is a great, interesting, funny, and/or curious part of your loved one that not many people know about?

What is something you want everyone to know about your loved one?

How would your loved one want to be remembered?

What is your favorite memory of your loved one?

Information for the Bulletin and the Church Register

Note: Highlighted information is required.

Full Legal Name of Person: _____

Pronouns: he/him/his she/her/hers they/them/theirs Other: _____

Familiar Name, if applicable: _____

(For example: "He was always known as 'Bob' never 'Robert.'")

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Death: _____ **Age:** _____

Cause of Death: Natural Accident Other: _____

City and state of last residence: _____

Requested date and time of service: _____

Place of service, if not St. Mark's: _____

Date and time of interment/burial: _____

Place of interment/burial: _____

Should the interment/burial information be printed in the bulletin? Yes/No

Date and time of reception, if not following the service: _____

Place of reception, if not St. Mark's: _____

Should the reception information be printed in the bulletin? Yes/No

Was the person Baptized? Yes/No

Was the person Confirmed? Yes/No

Was the person a member of a congregation? Yes/No

If yes, what denomination, congregation, and city? _____

Will the urn/ashes be present? Yes/No

Please consider the memorial garden as a free option for interment of ashes.

Will the casket be present? Yes/No

Please note that if the casket is present, it will be closed and covered by a pall or flag. No flowers may be placed on the pall or flag.

Will an easel be needed to display an image? Yes/No

Will a table be needed to display objects of the loved one's life? Yes/No

What is the approximate number of bulletins needed? _____

How many pews should be reserved for the family? _____

Please consider social distancing between households.

Are you requesting an organist? Yes/No

If yes, see contact information on p. 4. Other musicians or vocalists may be used with prior arrangement.

Are you requesting Holy Communion to be part of the service? Yes/No

Are you requesting to use the St. Mark's Parish Hall for a Reception? Yes/No

If yes, see contact information on p. 4. Also see Addendum for applicable fees.

What memorial requests information should be included in the bulletin, if any?

(Examples: "Please consider making a donation to (charitable organization) in honor of (name) ." OR "Please write your check to St. Mark's and note (name) on the memo line.")

Contact Person and/or Closest Family Member

This person will be reminded that we are remembering their loved one by name on the next All Saints Sunday (the Sunday closest after Nov 1).

Name and Pronouns: _____

Relationship to Loved One: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF
NAME
Month Day, Year of Birth to Month Day, Year of Death

[Image of loved one]

Day, Month Year, Time of Service
Place of Service

Opening Voluntaries:

“All Glory Be to God on High” Johann Pachelbel
“I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus” Henry Baker/setting Benjamin Culli
“Holy Spirit, Light Divine” Orlando Gibbons/setting Kevin Hildebrand

At the threshold when a casket is present

With faith in Jesus Christ, we receive the body of **Name** for burial. Let us pray with confidence to God, the Giver of life, that God will raise **her/him/them** to perfection in the company of the saints

Deliver your servant, **Name**, O Sovereign Lord Christ, from all evil, and set **her/him/them** free from every bond; that **she/he/they** may rest with all your saints in the eternal habitations; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us also pray for all who mourn, that they may cast their care on God, and know the consolation of his love. Almighty God, look with pity upon the sorrows of your servants for whom we pray. Remember them, Lord, in your mercy; nourish them with patience; comfort them with a sense of your goodness; lift up your countenance upon them; and give them peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Procession

I am resurrection and I am life, says the Lord. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Flag presentation

Words of welcome from the rector

Opening Hymn

Opening Prayer

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day **Name**. We thank you for giving **her/him/them** to us, **her/his/their** family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Readings

*Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33; Psalm 23; Romans 8: 34-35, 37-39;
and John 14:1-6*

A reading from the book of Lamentations

*Read by **Name, Relation (Optional)***

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your 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 reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please read the Psalm in unison.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

*Read by **Name, Relation (Optional)***

Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, 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 convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

Please stand and face the reader for the proclamation of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 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? 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. And you know the way to the place 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 except through me.”

The Gospel of our Savior.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Eulogies
Name, Relation
Name, Relation

The Apostles’ Creed

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say the Apostles’ Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Read by *Name, Relation (Optional)*

For the Prayers, you may have a clergy person lead the prayers or appoint the person who leads the prayers also known as the Intercessor.

Please choose between the two following forms:

Form 1

Intercessor: For **Name**, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I am Resurrection and I am Life.” Lord, in your mercy;
Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for **Name**, and dry the tears of those who weep. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: You raised the dead to life; give to **Name** eternal life. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring **Name** to the joys of heaven. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

(if applicable)

Intercessor: **Name** was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give **her/him/them** fellowship with all your saints. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

(if applicable)

Intercessor: **Name** was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant **her/him/them** a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of **Name**; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Father of all, we pray to you for **Name**, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to **her/him/them** eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon **her/him/them**. May **her/his/their** soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Community: **Amen.**

Form 2

Intercessor: Gracious God, we thank you for **Name**, who was so near and dear to us, and who has now been taken from us. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: We thank you for the love **Name** gave and received and for the strength and peace **she/he/they** brought. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: We pray that all the good things in **Name's** life will be remembered; that all that was important to **her/him/them** will be respected by those who follow; and that everything in which **she/he/they was/were** great will continue to mean much to us now that **she/he/they is/are** gone. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: We ask you that **Name** may go on living in **her/his/their** family and **her/his/their** friends; in our hearts and minds, in our hope and our courage.

Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: We ask you that we who were close to **Name** may now, because of **her/his/their** death, be even closer to each other, and that we may, in peace and friendship here on earth, always be deeply aware of your promise to be faithful to us in death. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: We pray for ourselves, who are tested by this death, that we do not try to minimize this loss, or seek refuge from it in words alone, and also that we do not brood over it so that it overwhelms us and isolates us from others. Lord, in your mercy;

Community: **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Father of all, we pray to you for **Name**, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May **Name's** soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Community: **Amen.**

If there is no Holy Communion, the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, and then continues with the Commendation Prayer below.

Explanation of the Holy Eucharist

The Eucharist is the church's most powerful sign of God's grace and presence in our lives, in the community, and in the world through Jesus Christ. In this church it is not meant to feel exclusive. All are invited.

If you wish to receive the bread, please hold out your hand. If you want to receive a blessing instead of the bread, please come forward and cross your arms across your chest.

Offertory Music

The bread and wine are brought to the Altar in one of two ways.

1. They may already be on the Altar.
2. You may appoint people to bring up the bread and wine. This role is especially good for those who do not wish a speaking part. These people are called Oblation Bearers.

*The gifts of bread and wine are brought to the Altar on behalf of the community by **Name, Relation (and Name, Relation).***

Offering of Symbols (Optional):

*The family brings forward objects that represent **Name** (as well as the gifts of bread and wine).*

Receive, O Lord, these symbols presented by **Name's** family as a sign of their love for **her/him/them** and of **her/his/their** love shared with others.

Community: Blessed be God forever.

If young children present the symbols the following prayer may be said:

Blessed are you Lord God of all creation. You have blessed us with the joy and care of children. And we ask your special blessing today on **Name(s)**. May the knowledge of you dawn on **him/her/them**, may the love of you grow in **him/her/them** and may the grace of your Spirit draw **him/her/them** to you.

Community: Blessed be God forever.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

Presider: God be with you.
Community: **And also with you.**
Presider: Lift up your hearts.
Community: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Community: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Community: **Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Community: We remember Christ's death. We proclaim Christ's resurrection. We await Christ's coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. In Christ's sacrifice, unite us that we may be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Community: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Community: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Communion Music

All are invited to Holy Communion.

We come to the altar and receive the bread with our palms open, one upon the other. We ask the minister if we desire a gluten-free wafer. The wine is given in small individual cups. The empty cups are placed in the basket by the pillar.

To receive a blessing, we cross our arms across our chest. It is the historic position of the church that communion is complete with just one of the elements.

Please let an usher know if someone needs communion brought to them.

Order for Holy Communion: Back to Front. We will be receiving communion from the back pews to the front pews, instead of from the front to the back.

Before receiving communion, people may reverently acknowledge family members seated in the first pew. Please observe safe physical distancing and avoid hugs and handshakes.

Post Communion Prayer (Please remain seated until the final blessing.)

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

If there is no Holy Communion, the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, and then continues with the Commendation Prayer below.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Community: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Commendation Prayer (Please be/remain seated.)

Let us thank God for **Name**. For the love **she/he/they** offered and received; for all the good things in **her/his/their** life; for all that was important to **her/him/them**; for everything in which **she/he/they** was great; and for all the things **she/he/they** will be remembered for by us, **her/his/their** family and friends.

Let us remember before God **Name**.

Silence or Commendation Anthem

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song:

Community: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, **Name**. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a child of your own redeeming. Receive **her/him/them** into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints of light. **Amen.**

Committal Prayer

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God **Name**; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless **her/him/them** and keep **her/him/them**, the Lord make his face to shine upon **her/him/them** and be gracious to **her/him/them**, the Lord lift up his countenance upon **her/him/them** and give **her/him/them** peace. **Amen.**

Words from the Family

Please invite a family representative to offer thanks, invitation, instruction, greeting, and/or acknowledgement as appropriate:

“On behalf of the family, we thank you all for being here. Your prayers and presence mean so much to us. A reception will immediately follow the service in the parish hall. Everyone is invited please come. The interment will be next month in mom’s home town. Thank you for being here.”

Blessing and Dismissal (Please stand.)

...and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Community: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

If there is a casket, then your chosen Pall Bearers will gather around the casket at this time and follow the directions of the mortuary representatives.

*Please remain in place until the family has left first.
The family is immediately followed by the honorary pall bearers.*

Recessional Music

*A reception follows the service at the residence of Name
(or in the Parish Hall).*

Many thanks to those who participated in this service:

(For the back cover, one or two additional images of your loved one may be placed here along with a copy of an obituary.)