



HOLY TRINITY
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Proclaim. Exalt. Serve.

FUNERAL PLANNING GUIDE

The burial of a Christian is an occasion of both sorrow and joy—our sorrow in the face of death, and our joy in Jesus’ promise of the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

The Christian burial liturgy looks forward to eternal life rather than backward to past events. It does not primarily focus on the achievements or failures of the deceased; rather, it calls us to proclaim the Good News of Jesus and his triumph over death, even as we celebrate the life and witness of the deceased.

The readings should be drawn from the Bible, and the prayers and music from Christian tradition. A visitation preceding the service and a reception following the service are appropriate places for personal remembrances. Where possible, the burial liturgy is conducted in a church, and may be celebrated within the context of Communion.

The Book of Common Prayer has always admonished Christians to be mindful of their mortality...It is important while in health to provide direction for one’s own funeral arrangements, place of burial, and the Scripture readings and hymns of the burial liturgy, and to make them known to the minister.

Anglican Church in North America: Book of Common Prayer 2019

How to use this planning guide

Planning a funeral service can be complicated! We have tried to make this guide as user-friendly as possible, but a basic introduction is necessary. What you will see over the next few pages is a mock-up of a funeral bulletin. All of the printed text in the service that follows is standard to a funeral, such as the opening anthem, the collect, the creed, and prayers. Throughout the service there will be places where you can choose scripture passages or hymns. You do not need to have a scripture reading or hymn for every spot. It will be important, however, to have at least one scripture reading (preferably a gospel reading). If you would prefer not to have music that is acceptable.

It is typical for the funeral to take place in the church building prior to burial in a cemetery or inurnment of ashes. Occasionally, funeral and burial will be reversed in order which will lead to a few minor alterations in both liturgies. A member of our clergy team will walk you through those. It is also possible to include a personal remembrance (a eulogy) in the funeral service, but before you make plans for this we would like to discuss it with you.

If you are uncertain about anything please don’t hesitate to contact us.

(COVER PAGE)

A Service Celebrating The Life of

FULL Name and Date of Birth _____

(you can pick an appropriate verse from the suggested readings
or one you prefer, subject to clergy approval.)

Example:

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ~ 1 John 3:1-2

Preferred Scripture for Cover Page: _____

FAMILY ENTRANCE - DO YOU WANT TO PROCESS IN OR BE SEATED IN THE SANCTUARY BEFORE THE SERVICE? (CIRCLE ONE)

(The order of service)

PRELUDE

THE OPENING ANTHEM

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. *JOHN 11:25*

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. *JOB 19:25-27*

For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. *ROMANS 14:7-9*

For we brought nothing into the world, and it is certain we carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. *1 TIMOTHY 6:7; JOB 1:21*

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; Even so, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors. *REVELATION 14:13*

THE COLLECT

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant **Name**, being raised with Christ, may know the strength of his presence and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

POSSIBLE HYMN (*Suggested hymns are listed on page 14*)

WRITE NAME OF HYMN (If applicable)

THE LESSONS (*suggested readings for funerals are on page 15*)

Old Testament Reading: _____

Reader: _____
WRITE NAME OF READER

A suitable psalm may follow, if desired.

Psalm: _____

Reader: _____
WRITE NAME OF READER

New Testament Reading: _____

Reader: _____
WRITE NAME OF READER

A suitable psalm may follow, if desired.

Psalm: _____

Reader: _____
WRITE NAME OF READER

POSSIBLE HYMN (*see page 14*)

WRITE NAME OF HYMN (If applicable)

The Gospel Reading: _____

HOMILY

POSSIBLE HYMN (*see page 14*)

WRITE NAME OF HYMN (If applicable)

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*said by all professing Christians*)

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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.**

Let us pray, saying, "Hear our prayer."

Almighty God, you knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord: Grant, we pray, to your whole Church in heaven and on earth, your light and peace.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you in faithful obedience.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your fatherly care, that, casting their grief on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Grant us grace to entrust **Name** to your never-failing love; receive him/her into the arms of your mercy, and remember him/her according to the favor which you show to all your people.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of you, he/she may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy
People: Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, the fullness of life in your eternal and ever-lasting glory, and, with all your saints, to receive the crown of life promised to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COMMENDATION

Officiant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
All: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Officiant: You only are immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you decree, 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: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Officiant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,
All: Where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

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 sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN *(see page 14)*

WRITE NAME OF HYMN (If applicable)

POSTLUDE

The funeral service may be followed by the Committal, a series of prayers at the graveside before the coffin or urn is placed in the ground. The Committal begins on the next page.

At The Cemetery (please circle if applicable)

Under certain circumstances, the actual funeral service may be held at the cemetery, please let us know if that is what you would like and we will provide a different template.

THE COMMITTAL

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. *John 6:37*

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells within us.

Romans 8:11

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices. My flesh also shall rest in hope. *Psalm 16:10*

You shall show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy, and at your right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

Psalm 16:12

Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin, the Celebrant says these words

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

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

PRAYERS

**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.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, set your passion, cross, and death, between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living, pardon and rest to the dead, to your holy Church peace and concord, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Officiant: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend your servant **Name**, our dear brother/sister, as into the hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Savior, beseeching you that he/she may be precious in your sight. Wash him/her, we pray thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb that was slain to take away the sins of the world; that, whatsoever defilements he/she may have contracted in the midst of this earthly life being purged and done away, he/she may be presented pure and without spot before you; through the merits of Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord. **Amen.**

All: Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of all comfort: Deal graciously, we pray thee, with all those who mourn, that casting every care on thee, we may know the consolation of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Officiant: Rest eternal grant to him/her, O Lord:

People: **And let light perpetual shine upon him/her.**

Officiant: May his/her soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God,

People: **Rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen**

NECESSARY INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Death: _____

Family Members to Contact:

_____ Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Funeral Home: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Where will service be held: _____

Where will the burial/inurnment take place: _____

Which member of the clergy would you like to lead the service:

Which member of the clergy would you like to preach:

Would you like to have a family member or friend share a word of remembrance during the service?

Soloists or Special Musicians: *(there may be a fee for this)* _____

Reception in lower lobby following service? _____

Caterer: _____ Phone: _____

Florist: _____ Phone: _____

Number of seats to reserve for the family: _____

Anticipated attendance (for bulletin prep): _____

Would you like us to arrange a livestream/video recording? *(there is a \$350 fee for this)*

Additional/Special Arrangements: _____

Suggested Hymns for Funerals

General Praise:

- *Holy, holy, holy*
- *Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*
- *Praise to the Lord, the almighty*
- *All hail the power of Jesus's name*
- *O God, beyond all praising*
- *Love divine, all loves excelling*
- *A mighty fortress*
- *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah*

Traditional Hymns for Funerals:

- *O God, our help in ages past (para. Ps. 90)*
- *How firm a foundation*
- *For all the saints*
- *My shepherd will supply my need*
- *The King of love my shepherd is (and other Ps. 23 settings) Amazing grace, how sweet the sound*
- *Ye holy angels bright*
- *Abide with me*
- *Rock of ages*

Suggested Readings for Funerals

Old Testament:

- *ISAIAH 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)*
- *ISAIAH 61:1-3 (To comfort all who mourn)*
- *LAMENTATIONS 3:22-26,31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait)*
- *JOB 19:21-27A (I know that my Redeemer lives)*

Psalms: *A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow.*

The following Psalms are appropriate: 39, 42:1-7, 46, 90:1-12, 121, 130, 139:1-11.

New Testament:

- *ROMANS 8:14-19,34-39 (The glory that is to be revealed)*
- *1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-26,35-38,42-44,53-58 (The imperishable body)*
- *2 CORINTHIANS 4:16—5:9 (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 am making all things new)*

Psalm: *A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow. (please circle one)*

The following Psalms are appropriate: 23, 27, 106:1-5, 116.

The Gospel:

- *JOHN 5:24-27 (Whoever believes has eternal life)*
- *JOHN 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to me)*
- *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)*

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy.
The service finds all its meaning in the resurrection.
Jesus Christ lived the perfect life and died the perfect death on the cross
to pay for our sin and offer us full access to God the Father forever.
Therefore, we who trust Christ to present us before the Father
“without blemish and free from accusation” (Colossians 1:22)
shall be raised with Him to be with God forever.
This is the good news of the Gospel that we proclaim today.

The liturgy, 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 power, 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.” – Romans 8: 38 - 39

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 the one we love
has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord,
we sorrow with Christ in sympathy with those who mourn.

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For calendar, ministry info, and other
resources visit:
www.htcraleigh.org
www.facebook.com/htcraleigh

The Rev. Dr. John W. Yates III, Rector
The Rev. Claudia Greggs, The Rev. Caleb Burr, The Rev. Jason Palacio. The Rev. Tripp Gordon

**Holy Trinity is a member of the Anglican Church in North America,
Diocese of the Carolinas.**