

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

***INFORMATION AND FORMS FOR PERSONAL PLANNING
OF A SERVICE OF BURIAL OF THE DEAD***

In making personal decisions about burial service plans, it is helpful to understand the theology of the Episcopal service. The service serves at least four purposes:

First, it is an opportunity for friends and family to share their grief and mourn their loss within the context of loving Christian community.

Second, it gives us the opportunity to give thanks to God for the life of the deceased.

Third, we are given the chance to view death through the lenses of the Christian faith. In other words, while we grieve for the loss, we celebrate the new Life that has begun in Jesus Christ. The burial service is, in essence, an Easter service, because we acknowledge our hope of life everlasting.

Fourth, the service gives family and friends the opportunity for realizing the finality of the loss and helps them begin life anew.

Because of this understanding, there are several important points to know about burial services in the Episcopal Church:

- ❖ Easter music is always appropriate with the service. It holds out Christian hope in a difficult time.
- ❖ "Eulogies" or personal testimonials are not appropriate. However, a homily on the meaning of Christian teaching about life, death and faith is appropriate.
- ❖ Flowers, usually given by the family and placed on the reredos, are the only flowers needed or allowed for the service. The pall (or the American flag for veterans) is used on the casket or urn in place of flowers. Most florists are aware of this policy.
- ❖ The casket is closed from the time it reaches the church.
- ❖ The tradition here at St. Paul's is that Holy Eucharist is a part of the burial service. However, the service may range from a very simple, brief burial office to an elaborate burial service with the Holy Eucharist. Any option within that range is fitting, depending on your wishes and the wishes of your family.
- ❖ Having a wake or visitation in the church is always appropriate. Please feel free to utilize the church for these purposes.
- ❖ Episcopal burial services should be held in the church. It is the home of our faith and our house of worship. Graveside services are appropriate for some pastoral situations.
- ❖ It is preferred that services be from *The Book of Common Prayer (1979)*. Either Rite I or Rite II may be used.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Faithfully yours,

The Reverend James K. Polk Van Zandt +
Rector

PLANNING SHEET FOR THE SERVICE OF BURIAL OF THE DEAD

REQUESTED PARTICIPANTS

FRIENDS OR FAMILY MEMBERS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SERVE AS READERS OF LESSONS DURING THE SERVICE?

ARE THERE LAY MINISTERS IN THE CONGREGATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SERVICE? IF SO, PLEASE LIST THEM:

Please remember that the people you request may no longer be available, willing or capable of serving!

**PLANNING WORKSHEET FOR THE SERVICE OF
BURIAL OF THE DEAD**

Please refer to the services for the Burial of the Dead found in The Book of Common Prayer. Rite I (the traditional Elizabethan English) begins on page 469. Rite II (the contemporary English) begins on page 491.

WOULD YOU PREFER **RITE I** or **RITE II**? _____ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER? _____

DO YOU WISH TO BE CREMATED? _____

IF SO, DO YOU OWN A NICHE IN ST. PAUL'S COLUMBARIUM? _____
(You may purchase a niche by calling the parish office?)

WOULD YOU LIKE THE HOLY EUCHARIST TO BE A PART OF THE SERVICE? _____
(It is the tradition of St. Paul's Parish that the Eucharist be a part of burial services. However, if you have questions about this option, please speak with the clergy. Please note that if the burial service is in Rite I or Rite II, the communion service will continue in that same Rite.)

HOW MANY READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE DO YOU PREFER? _____
(You may choose an Old Testament Reading, a psalm, an Epistle Reading, another psalm, and a Gospel Reading. It is normative to have at least one lesson and one psalm.)

WHICH COMBINATION OF SCRIPTURE WOULD YOU PREFER? _____

(Examples: Old Testament, one psalm, a Gospel Reading; or Old Testament, Epistle, one psalm, and a Gospel Reading; or any combination of the readings listed below. You may have up to three Scripture readings and two psalms. If there is Holy Eucharist, a Gospel reading is required.)

WHICH OLD TESTAMENT READING DO YOU PREFER? _____
(See pages 470 and 494, BCP)

WHICH IS THE FIRST PSALM YOU WOULD PREFER? _____
(See pages 475 and 495 and the bottom of page 494, BCP)

WHICH EPISTLE READING DO YOU PREFER? _____
(See pages 475 and 495, BCP)

WHICH IS THE SECOND PSALM YOU WOULD CHOOSE? _____
(See pages 476 and 479 and 495, BCP)

WHICH GOSPEL READING DO YOU PREFER? _____
(See pages 480 and 495, BCP)

WOULD YOU LIKE A HOMILY PREACHED AT THE SERVICE? _____
(A Homily is a brief sermon from scripture and is not a eulogy.)

ARE THERE PARTICULAR HYMNS OR PIECES OF SACRED MUSIC WOULD LIKE TO HAVE INCULDED WITHIN YOUR SERVICE? _____

(The Director of Music will be happy to consult with you concerning these selections. Please keep in mind that the burial service is an Easter, or Resurrection, service.)

DO YOU HAVE A PREFERENCE AS TO WHERE MEMORIALS SHOULD BE SENT? IF SO, PLEASE NAME THE PREFERRED RECEIPIENTS:

(For example: St. Paul's, St. Paul's Building Fund, The American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, as well as many others.)

ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS YOU WISH TO MAKE?

Date

Signature

Name – Please print!

This form will be kept on file in the parish office until needed. Please feel free to revise it at any time.

FINISHING WELL

Angela Tipps, Organist and Director of Music

Canons and Rubrics

2006 Constitution and Canons

“...It shall be the duty of every Member of the Clergy to see that music is used as an offering for the glory of God and as a help to the people in their worship in accordance with the Book of Common Prayer and as authorized by the rubrics or by the General Convention of this Church. To this end, the Member of the Clergy shall have the final authority in the administration of matters pertaining to music. In fulfilling this responsibility, the Member of the Clergy shall seek assistance from persons skilled in music. Together they shall see that music is appropriate to the context in which it is used.”

Book of Common Prayer (page 14)

Hymns referred to in the rubrics of this Book are to be understood as those authorized by this Church. The words of anthems are to be from Holy Scripture, or from this Book, or from texts congruent with them. On occasion, and as appropriate, instrumental music may be substituted for a hymn or anthem. When it is desired to use music composed for them, previously authorized texts may be used in place of the corresponding texts in this Book.

The Burial of the Dead: Rite II

Voluntary

Entrance Anthems (said or sung)

Collect

Gradual, Psalm, or Canticle after first lesson (read)

Psalm, **Hymn**, or Canticle after second lesson

The Holy Gospel

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of the People

Hymn, Anthem, Psalm or Canticle at the Offertory

Sanctus (usually said unless parishioners are present)

The Lord's Prayer

Communion: **soloist or instrumental music**

The Post-Communion Prayer

The Commendation (usually read, also 355 or S-383)

Hymn as sanctuary party moves into position

Concluding Anthems (said or sung) = **hymn** may be sung

Voluntary

Burial Anthems

Entrance Anthems (S-380, S-381, S-382)
Anthem at the Commendation (355, S-385)
As the body is borne from the church (354, S385, S388)
Benedictus (S-253, S-260, S-405)
Nunc dimittis (S-253, S-260, S-405)
Pascha nostrum (S-46, S-50)
Anthem at the Committal Rite (S-389)

Hymns (1982) = *Easter hymns

*195 Jesus lives! Thy terrors now
*208 Alleluia! The strife is o'er, the battle done
287 For all the saints, who from their labors rest
429 I'll praise my Maker while I've breath
517 How lovely is thy dwelling-place
620 Jerusalem, my happy home
636/637 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord
645/646 The King of love my shepherd is
671 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
680 O God, our help in ages past
688 A mighty fortress is our God
690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

Choral Music = *Eucharistic anthems

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come by Paul Manz
God Be in My Head by John Rutter
Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal by Alice Parker
On Eagle's Wings by Michael Joncas
Pie Jesu by Andrew Lloyd Webber (duet)
Shall We Gather at the River by John Carter
*Ave verum corpus by W. A. Mozart
*Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether by Harold Friedell
*Panis angelicus by Cesar Franck (tenor soloist)
487 Come, my way, my truth, my life
664 My Shepherd will supply my need
LEVAS 103 Steal away
LEVAS 106 Precious Lord, take my hand

Vocal Solos

Ave Maria by Schubert or Bach/Gounod (any voice)
Pie Jesu by Gabriel Faure (soprano)
Panis Angelicus by Cesar Franck (tenor)
I Know That My Redeemer Liveth by G. F. Handel (soprano)

READINGS FOR THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

From the Old Testament

Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.

⁷ And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)

²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' ²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. ²⁶ It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. ³¹ For the Lord will not reject for ever. ³² Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; ³³ for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)

¹But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. ² In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, ³ and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. ⁴ For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. ⁵ Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; ⁹ Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)

²¹ Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! ²² Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh? 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 for ever! ²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; ²⁶ and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, ²⁷ whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

From the New Testament

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39 (The glory that shall be revealed)

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ³⁴Who 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. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor 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.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (The imperishable body)

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

35 But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on imperishability and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.' ⁵⁵'Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

2 Corinthians 4:16—5:9 (Things that are unseen are eternal)

¹⁶ So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because 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. ¹For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— ³if indeed, when we have taken it off* we will not be found naked. ⁴For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

1 John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, ¹²singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.' ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' ¹⁴I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' ⁶Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'

The Gospel

John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)

²⁴Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life. ²⁵‘Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; ²⁷and he has given him authority to execute judgement, because he is the Son of Man.

John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to me)

³⁷Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; ³⁸for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And 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. ⁴⁰This 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 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)

¹¹‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

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

²¹Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ ²³Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ ²⁴Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ ²⁵Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ ²⁷She 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 (In my Father’s house are many rooms)

¹‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ ⁵Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ ⁶Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.