

Funerals at Woodbury Lutheran Church



***A Guide
for You and Your Family***

Christians believe that eternal life with God is a free gift to all who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior from sin. Although death is a very difficult time at best, for Christians it is also a time of celebration of faith and life. With faith in Jesus, we can face the time of death – even our own death.

This brochure is intended to serve as a guide for you and your family to either pre-plan your funeral or to assist you when a loved one has passed. It is not intended to become a rigid rule and may be changed or revised at any time. It is intended to provide direction and suggestion at a time when grief may make such thinking and decision-making difficult for you and those who love you.

Working through this brochure is also a great opportunity to share your faith with your family, talking about what Jesus means to you or your loved one and how you want that expressed at the service. Because a funeral is for the living and for the dead, it is important to consider the wishes of your family as well. Feel free to indicate information which your family and church may find helpful.

After you have completed as much of this brochure as is comfortable for you, there are several things you can do with it. You will want to keep a copy at home for future reference and updating. If you wish the church to keep a copy, we can make a photocopy and keep it in a file at the Woodbury Lutheran Church office.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call one of your pastors. The church office number is **651-739-5144**.

Woodbury Lutheran Pastors

If A Death Has Occurred

Please contact either the church office or your officiating pastor. If you call the church office after hours, you are welcome to leave a message or follow the prompts to be connected with the on call pastor. The church office number is **651-739-5144**.

Funeral Home or Cremation Society

If you are able to, it's best to decide upon a funeral home in advance. Many funeral homes offer pre-planning services and can help you through the many decisions you will need to make through the funeral home. Contact several funeral homes and compare their services and fees. You also may want to check with relatives and friends about their experiences with directors and homes. You should feel comfortable with the director and the home you choose. And always remember, the more decisions you make now, the less your family will have to decide later. Some local funeral homes to consider are:

- **Wulff Funeral Home:** 651-738-9615
- **O'Halloran & Murphy Funeral Home:** 651-698-0796
- **Bradshaw Funeral Home:** 651-489-1349
- **Sandberg Funeral Home & Cremation Services:** 651-237-5540
- **KOK Funeral Home & Cremation Service:** 651-360-2337
- **Kandt-Tetrick Funeral Home & Cremation Services:** 651-455-5352
- **Cremation Society of MN:** 612-200-2777

Cemetery and Burial

If you are using a funeral home or Cremation Society, they will assist you with securing a cemetery and a plot or columbarium.

If you are a veteran, Fort Snelling is also an option. Please be aware that you or your loved one's burial will be at a later date if you choose to be buried at Fort Snelling.

Some area cemeteries include:

- **Union Cemetery:** 651-739-0466
- **The Grove United Methodist Cemetery:** 651-738-0305
- **Cottage Grove Cemetery:** 651-350-8922
- **Fort Snelling National Cemetery:** 612-726-1127
- **Forest Lawn Memorial Park:** 651-776-6420
- **Oak Hill Cemetery:** 651-451-3658
- **Resurrection Cemetery:** 651-454-5072
- **Evergreen Memorial Gardens:** 952-890-9291



Arrangements

WLC staff will work in coordination with the family and the funeral home on the

following arrangements:

- preferred date & time of service and visitation
- draft and finalize the service program (bulletin)
- delivery of flowers and other items
- reserved seating
- soloists/guest musicians
- easels and tables for pictures and memorabilia

Church Honorariums

We encourage gifting those who've served your family during this time. If payment of these honorariums is difficult for your family, please have a conversation with your officiating pastor regarding this. We never want to put a burden on a family for this. Suggested honorariums to WLC staff include (*Payment should be made to the individual*):

- Officiating Pastor - \$250
- Organist/Pianist - \$150
- Soloist - \$125
- Worship Band - \$100/person
- Audio Visual - \$125
- Live-streaming Services (Only at the Valley Creek Campus) - \$75
- Custodian (If no food is served) - \$100
- Custodian (if food is being served) - \$150
- Memorial Video - \$100
- Administrative - \$100

Guest Clergy

If you would like a guest clergy to officiate, please let your campus pastor know.

Visitation or Wake

Most families choose to have a time to welcome family and friends prior to the service. The typical length of this time is one hour, however, we can accommodate a longer or shorter time. If you choose to have a visitation the night prior, this is typically done at the funeral home. However, we will work with you to see if it's possible to use our space, if that is what is desired.

Funeral Luncheon

Each campus does this a little differently. Please work with the officiating pastor on the details for this. If providing a funeral luncheon is a burden for your family, please have a conversation with

your officiating pastor. Some options to consider are:

- a catered meal served by our volunteers (*all campuses*)
- a simple meal prepared by our volunteers (*currently only Oak Hill and Wakota Ridge*)
- desserts and coffee

Order of Service

This is a celebration of the life you or your loved one lived and we want it to reflect that. You can always add more scripture or more songs - or you can have less. A typical order of service includes the following items:

1. Family Processional
2. Welcome and Invocation
3. Psalm
4. Song (solo or congregational)
5. The Apostles' Creed
6. Scripture Reading(s)
7. Remembrance(s)
8. Song (solo or congregational)
9. Message
10. Song (solo or congregational)
11. Prayers & Lord's Prayer
12. Commendation
13. Blessing
14. Song (solo or congregational)
15. Recessional





Scripture Samples

You may wish to consider the following Bible passages of comfort, strength and hope for those you leave behind at the time of death:

- Psalms 23, 39, 46, 90, 121, 139, 143, 145
- Job 19:21-27a
- Isaiah 12:2; 25:6-9; 40:28-31; 43:1-3; 49:1-3, 13-16; 61:1-3
- Lamentations 3:22-23, 31-33
- Matthew 11:25-30; 25:1-13
- Mark 10:13-16
- Luke 12:35-40
- John 5:24-27; 6:37-40; 10:11-16; 11:21-27; 14:1-6; 20:1-9, 10-18
- Romans 8:31-39; 9:31-39; 14:7-9
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 35-57, 51-57
- 1 Peter 1:3-9
- 1 John 3:1-2
- Revelation 7:9-17; 21:2-7

Music Samples

Music can play several roles in a funeral service. Singing well-known songs or hymns together is a deeply important part of the “grieving with hope” that makes a Christian funeral service unique. Singing together is an outlet—for sorrow, frustration, hope, and joy. It’s also a way for us to comfort one another with God’s promises set to music.

Some suggestions for congregational music include:

- The Power of the Cross
- Abide with Me
- O Praise the Name
- Crown Him with Many Crowns
- In Christ Alone
- Goodness of God
- In the Garden
- Blessed Assurance
- Beautiful Savior
- My Hope is Built on Nothing Less
- For All the Saints
- Jesus Paid it All
- I Know That My Redeemer Lives
- 10,000 Reasons

A solemn congregational song may be chosen as well. This could be a vocal solo or small vocal ensemble, both with accompaniment; it could be instrumental only. Playing a favorite recording is an option, provided that the music is suitable Christian worship service. Some suggestions include:

- On Eagle’s Wings
- There Is a Hope
- The Lord’s Prayer
- I Will Rise
- I Can Only Imagine

Items to Bring with You When you Meet with the Officiating Pastor

The officiating pastor will sit down with you and your family and help you work through the details for the service. Below is a list of items to bring to that meeting or to provide to the church immediately following this meeting.

- Picture for the service folder. You are welcome to provide a second if you wish. These can be digital or originals.
- Obituary or life story of your loved one
- Selected scripture
- Selected music. If you have a soloist in mind from our congregation, please provide that name at this time.
- Names of those who will read scripture
- Names of anyone speaking during the time of remembrance
- Names of Pallbearers
- Expected number of people attending
- How many family members will be in attendance
- Lunch choice for following the service
- Will there be a casket or will it be cremation?
- Name of funeral home you are using
- Will you want the service to be live-streamed?
(Please note, this option is only available at the Valley Creek Campus.)
- Will you want our staff to create a memorial video for you?

- Name of a family member to contact for all of the details
- Any special requests

Memorials

If you so choose, any memorials received can be directed to Woodbury Lutheran Church, to the WLC Endowment Fund, or to a specific area.

Bereavement Support

It's not easy to cope after a loved one passes away. You will mourn and you will grieve. This is a natural and personal process. At WLC, we want to walk with you during your grieving process. During the year following the loss of a loved one, you will receive several booklets that will help in your grieving. Pastor Tim Marshall, Care Pastor, also holds a grief counseling group several times throughout the year. Please email Pastor Tim at pastortim@woodburylutheran.org or call him at 651-295-0938 to discuss these things and more with him.

Pre-Planning Form

The following pages are a pre-planning form that you can fill out and share with your family. Please give a copy to the church office so that we are prepared to assist your family.



Funeral Pre-Planning

Woodbury Lutheran Church – Woodbury, Minnesota

Date _____

Full name _____

Address _____

Date & place of birth _____

Date & place of baptism: (if known) _____

Date & place of confirmation: (if known) _____

Marital Status: *(circle one)* Single Married Divorced Widowed

Name of spouse _____

(Include maiden name)

Date and place of marriage _____

Father's name & address _____ (living?) Y N

Mother's name & address _____ (living?) Y N

Children's names, addresses, from oldest to youngest

1. _____ (Living?) Y N

2. _____ (living?) Y N

3. _____ (living?) Y N

4. _____ (living?) Y N

5. _____ (living?) Y N

Number of: Grandchildren: _____ Great Grandchildren: _____ Great Great Grandchildren: _____

Brothers, sisters, addresses:

1. _____ (living?) Y N

2. _____ (living?) Y N

3. _____ (living?) Y N

4. _____ (living?) Y N

Name Suggestions for Pallbearers:

Activities in Church and Community

Family, job, church offices, activities & service areas:

Personal Thoughts

Things I remember most about Church, Sunday school & special activities:

Personal experiences where my faith was especially meaningful to me:

My Confirmation verse (or other favorite Bible verses):

Some favorite hymns and songs are:

Funeral home _____

Cemetery _____

Memorials _____

Memorials can be directed to Woodbury Lutheran, to the WLC Endowment Fund, or to a specific area.

I am entitled to the following honors: (military, etc.) _____

My Suggested Details for the Order of Service:

Psalm: _____

Opening Song (solo or congregational): _____

Scripture Reading (s): _____

Remembrance(s): _____

Song (solo or congregational) Before the Message: _____

Song (solo or congregational) After the Message: _____

Closing Song (solo or congregational): _____

Additional suggestions for my funeral service:



WOODBURY LUTHERAN CHURCH

651-739-5144 | wlc.church

Oak Hill Campus | 9050 60th Street North, Stillwater, MN 55082

Valley Creek Campus | 7380 Afton Road, Woodbury, MN 55125

Wakota Ridge Campus | 255 W. Douglas Street, South St. Paul MN 55075