

Sample Order of Service

Prelude

Our pianist/organist will generally prepare music for before and after the service (Gathering/Processional and Postlude/Recessional).

Word of Grace and Prayer

The pastor will generally lead the times of prayer unless a member of the family or a friend would like to participate in the service in this way.

Hymn or Special Music

Hymns sung by the congregation are always appropriate. Our church musicians will usually play for all memorial services. Other instrumental music and/or special vocal music may be included. The pastor can work with the family to choose appropriate music.

Scriptures

The pastor will work with the family to choose scriptures to be read.

Message

The message is a short meditation on scripture intended to comfort and provide hope in eternal life through reflection on the text as well.

Witness

At this time we remember the life of your loved one. This can be done in various ways including having people speak, having the pastor(s) read letters or remembrances written by family and friends, or with the pastor remembering the life of the deceased.

Hymn

Prayer

With this prayer we “commend” your loved one into the loving arms of God praying that God receive and him or her into peace of everlasting life.

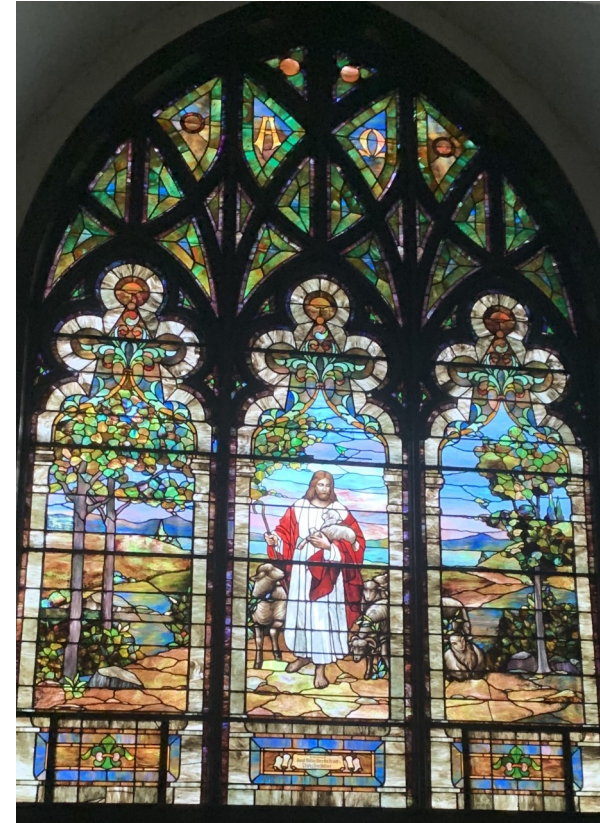
Benediction

God’s blessing on we who grieve and a commission to love and serve God.

Postlude

This order can be shortened, lengthened or changed in order to create a service to remember and celebrate the life of your loved one.

Funerals at Stroudsburg UMC



547 Main Street

Stroudsburg PA 18360

570-421-6020

www.stroudsburgumc.com

The Rev. Monica B Guepet, M.Div., Lead Pastor

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Old Testament Lessons

Job 19:23-25 I know that my redeemer lives
Isaiah 25:6-9 God will swallow up death
Isaiah 40:1-8, 28-31 Comfort my people
Isaiah 40:28-31 Those who wait for the Lord
Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-19 pass through the waters
Isaiah 44:6-8 I am the first and the last
Isaiah 61:1-4 The spirit of the Lord is upon me
Isaiah 65:17-25 new heavens and a new earth
Lamentations 3:22-32 Lord's steadfast love
Psalms 23 The Lord is my shepherd
Psalms 27 The Lord is my light and my salvation
Psalms 42:1-6a As a deer longs for water
Psalms 46:1-5, 10-11 present help in trouble
Psalms 90 Teach us to number our days
Psalms 91 The one who dwells in the shelter
Psalms 103 Bless the Lord, O my soul
Psalms 106:1-5 O give thanks to the Lord
Psalms 118 Open the gates of righteousness
Psalms 121 I lift up my eyes to the hills
Psalms 130 Out of the depths I cry
Psalms 139:1-12 Where shall I go from you
Psalms 145 I will extol you, O God my King
Psalms 146 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord

New Testament

Matthew 5:1-12a Beatitudes
Matthew 25:1-13 Wise and foolish bridesmaids
Matthew 25:31-46 Last Judgment
Luke 7:11-17 Jesus raises
Luke 23:39-43 in Paradise
John 3:16-21 God so loved the world
John 5:24-29 Whoever hears and believes
John 6:37-40 Anyone who comes to me
John 6:47-58 Whoever believes in me
John 11:17-27 resurrection and the life
John 14 Let not your hearts be troubled
Romans 5:1-11 Hope does not disappoint
Romans 6:3-9 Baptized into Christ's death,
Romans 8:14-23 Nothing can separate
Romans 14:7-9 Whether we live or die,
1 Corinthians 15 Christ raised from the dead
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1 Visible things
2 Corinthians 5:1-10 From God we have a house
Ephesians 1:11-2:1, 4-11 Saved by grace
Philippians 3:7-11 Knowing him and the power
Philippians 3:20-21 Our citizenship is in heaven
2 Timothy 2:8-13 If we died with him
Hebrews 2:14-18 Christ was tested in every way
Hebrews 11-12 the cloud of witnesses
1 Peter 1 Without seeing Christ, you love him
1 Peter 3:18-22; 4:6 Christ's ministry
1 John 3:1-3 We are children of God
Revelation 14:1-3, 6-7, 12-13 Rest for the saints

Planning Materials...Hymns, Scriptures and Other Resources

Opening Hymns

- No. 110 - A Mighty Fortress is Our God
- No. 302 - Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
- No. 189 - Fairest Lord Jesus
- No. 711 - For All the Saints
- No. 577 - God of Grace and God of Glory
- No. 140 - Great Is Thy Faithfulness
- No. 529 - How Firm a Foundation
- No. 77 - How Great Thou Art
- No. 89 - Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
- No. 384 - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- No. 368 - My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
- No. 139 - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Closing Hymns

- No. 127 - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
- No. 580 - Lead On, O King Eternal
- No. 159 - Lift High the Cross
- No. 117 - O God, Our Help in Ages Past
- No. 308 - Thine Be the Glory

Hymns of Hope and Comfort

- No. 700 - Abide with Me
- No. 378 - Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
- No. 534 - Be Still, My Soul
- No. 297 - Beneath the Cross of Jesus
- No. 369 - Blessed Assurance
- No. 557 - Blest Be the Tie That Binds
- No. 141 - Children of the Heavenly Father
- No. 707 - Hymn of Promise
- No. 156 - I Love to Tell the Story
- No. 314 - In the Garden
- No. 377 - It Is Well with My Soul
- No. 301 - Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross
- No. 191 - Jesus Loves Me
- No. 452 - My Faith Looks Up to Thee
- No. 143 - On Eagles' Wings
- No. 474 - Precious Lord, Take My Hand
- No. 361 - Rock of Ages, Cleft to Me
- No. 381 - Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
- No. 723 - Shall We Gather At the River
- No. 706 - Soon and Very Soon
- No. 328 - Surely the Presence of the Lord

Dear Family and Friends,

We join with your family in prayer during this tender time. In the past, we have had the privilege of sharing with families the struggle and hard work to put together an appropriate celebration and remembrance for their loved one. In these experiences we also have seen how important and significant it is for families to have communication from their loved one about the funeral or memorial service. Such forethought makes their planning easier, and it helps focus their efforts toward how their loved one wants things to be.

We have prepared this resource to be used when a loved one has died, as well as assisting in making plans for your own desires for your service. In this Funeral and Memorial Service Planning Guide, we have included information that we hope will aid you in the many decisions that you face.

If you have any further questions, or other issues arise, that we have not included, please feel free to call upon us to assist you. We will be glad to help. May God grant you peace and comfort during this time.

In God's Love,

The Rev. Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor
The Rev. Margie Good, Visitation Pastor
The Rev. Ted Good, Visitation Pastor

A Place to begin

Prior to death: Our pastors consider it a sacred privilege to visit and pray with you during this difficult time. If time and circumstances allow, please call the church office (570-421-6020) to notify us. One of our pastors will make every effort to come and pray with you and your family.

When death occurs: When your loved one dies, please call the church office (570-421-6020). If possible, one of our pastors can be with you. If you are calling after business hours, you may choose Pastor Monica's mailbox and get her cell phone number.

Setting the date and time for the service: Our pastors wish to help you plan a meaningful service to celebrate the life of your loved one. One of our pastors will coordinate the service, please contact prior to scheduling the service date and time. The pastor will review the availability of our facilities and calendar to set a time that is convenient for everyone.

Planning the service: The pastor will want to meet with the family members at mutually convenient location to coordinate the service. This is a time to share stories and favorite memories of your loved one. Family members will find this to be a very helpful time as well as a source of comfort. Your loved one may have left instructions about the service, please share these instructions with the pastor at this time. In the back of this resource, you will find a list of hymns and scripture that will be a helpful resource to you prior to meeting with the pastor.

Working with Funeral Homes: If you are working with a funeral home, please have the Funeral Director coordinate with the pastor for set-up, internment, and support. If the funeral home will not be present at the service, please advise the pastor so that we might plan for church greeters and support.

Internments: Our pastors are privileged to walk with your family at all parts of the service. If you are intending to intern your loved one at a time other than the funeral or memorial service, please coordinate with the pastors to plan a mutually agreeable time.

Expenses

There are no building usage fees for services held at Stroudsburg UMC.

Musicians: There is a suggested honorarium of \$100-150 for our musician. If a vocalist or instrumentalist is desired there will be an additional honorarium of \$100 is suggested for this person or persons.

Custodial care: Our custodian cares for the building before and after the services and is remunerated at \$100.

Clergy: While pastoral services including the memorial service are offered free of charge to members of the church and to the community, many people still ask what a recommended honorarium would be. We recommend an honorarium of \$150- 300 for the pastor. These honorariums are due on the day of the service and should be made payable to the individual.

Flowers & Memorial Gifts: The family may wish to provide flowers for the altar. Delivery should be at least one hour prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, families may wish to offer donations to the church in memory of their loved one. We recommend donations to our Endowment Fund to continue the vital ministries that support you and your loved ones.

Bulletins: A suggested donation for the cost and preparation of the bulletin is \$10 for 50 bulletins and \$20 for 100 bulletins.

Funeral Luncheon

The church can arrange to have a luncheon provided at your request. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.