

# SERVICES OF DEATH AND RESURRECTION

## FUNERALS AT EASTPORT UNITED METHODIST

926 Bay Ridge Ave., Annapolis, Maryland 21403

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### THE CHRISTIAN FUNERAL

The resurrection is the centerpoint of the Christian faith and shapes Christians' attitudes and responses to the event of death. In the face of death, Christians affirm with tears and joy the hope of the Gospel. Christians do not bear bereavement in isolation, but are sustained by the power of the Spirit and the community of faith. The church offers a ministry of love and hope to all who grieve. Just as the church embraces us in our baptism and throughout our Christian life, so it should embrace us in our death and in our hope of resurrection to eternal life. Christians believe that the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ gives them hope and cause for thanksgiving in the face of death. In this faith, we entrust those who have died to the infinite mercy and love of God.

It is the commitment of the clergy and music leadership of Eastport United Methodist Church to present a properly balanced and theologically sound service that both honors our loved ones and praises God through worship and word.

### PASTORAL STAFF

Upon the death of one of our members, please contact the church administrator at the office, 410-263-5490, as soon as possible. If they cannot be reached, contact Pastor Chris at 318-349-7110. Upon receiving your call, arrangements will begin to be made to secure the pastor, if available, reserve the sanctuary/fellowship hall and inform our Director of Music of the service. The appointed pastor will make every effort to officiate. Unfortunately, there are times when the pastor(s) are out of town or unavailable. Please note that each of them - Pastors Chris Broadwell (appointed), Johnson (volunteer), and Barss (volunteer) - are here to serve and care for you and your family.

Should you desire an alternative pastor, this first must be approved by the appointed pastor before requesting a pastor outside of Eastport United Methodist.

Our pastors also earnestly desire to know of those who need comfort and counsel as they face death. By being involved early in situations of death or impending death, the pastor can help immensely with the necessary decisions regarding service arrangements as well as caring for the spiritual needs of those involved.

### TYPES OF SERVICES

All services conducted by the pastors of the church are services of worship for the community of faith. While the form of the services may differ, each is a Service of Witness to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

*Memorial Service*—The Memorial Service is a service in which the body is not present. Interment of the remains in a Service of Committal has either preceded the Memorial Service or will take place at a later time.

*Funeral Service*—The Funeral Service is a service in which the body is present in either a casket or an urn. The Funeral Service is concluded with a Service of Committal.

*Graveside Service*—The Graveside Service is a service that takes place at the burial site. The Service of Committal is part of the Graveside Service.

## **LOCATION OF SERVICE**

The service on the occasion of death ordinarily should be held in the usual place of worship in order to join this service to the community's continuing life and witness to the Resurrection. The service shall be under the sole direction of the pastor.

The church Sanctuary is the most appropriate place for a Memorial or Funeral Service. Here on the church property is where we worship every Sunday. Here is where we baptize our children, celebrate marriage, gather at the Lord's Table, remembering the love and grace of God. Here we are surrounded by the symbols of our Christian faith. In this place we have tangible reminders of the "great cloud of witnesses" that surround us and the community of faith that supports us with compassion and love.

## **VISITATION**

The Chapel provides a warm and familiar place for visitation with family and friends. Members are encouraged to use this facility for visitation as part of their arrangements. The fellowship hall is also appropriate for gathering for lunch or to receive friends and family.

## **THE SERVICE**

Memorial, Funeral and Graveside Services are acts of worship among the Christian community. The purpose of such services of worship are to glorify God, to affirm our belief in the resurrection to life everlasting and to comfort the bereaved. Additionally, gratitude and honor are to be expressed to God for the life and witness of the deceased. The pastor will collaborate with the family to design a service that both honors your loved one and glorifies God.

The service typically begins with scriptural sentences. It is appropriate for worshippers to sing hymns, psalms, spirituals or spiritual songs which affirm God's power over death, a belief in the resurrection to life everlasting and the assurance of the communion of saints.

The Scriptures are a rich source to which Christians have turned for comfort and assurance in times of grief. The pastor will guide the selection of appropriate scripture passages and would welcome suggestions of those with particular meaning for the family and/or the deceased. The service shall be complete in itself; however, fraternal, civic or military rites may be included at the discretion of the pastor.

## **MUSIC**

Hymns should be chosen which affirm the goodness and grace of God and which give comfort and support to those who grieve. The pastor and the organist will guide the selection of appropriate hymns. The appropriateness of musical selections will be determined by the church's music department. Additional instrumentalists or vocalists may also be employed but must be approved by the church's Director of Music. The family is expected to contact and to cover the cost of additional musicians.

## THE PALL

The church may provide a pall for a member's Funeral Service. A pall is a large cloth which covers the casket during the service. It represents the covering of the Christian by the righteousness of Christ and alludes to the baptismal waters of death and new life in Jesus. Since righteousness is an unmerited gift from God and all people stand equal in the eyes of God, the outer appearance of the casket in its cost or beauty is of no consequence to the Christian community. By use of the pall, the focus of the service may remain on the goodness and grace of God. If a casket is present at the service, it may be covered with the pall furnished by the church. Where appropriate (for those receiving military honors) the American flag may be used in lieu of the pall. The family may choose to use a flower pall/spray.

## CREMATION URN

In the case of cremation, the urn containing the ashes is usually only present at the time of committal, following or preceding the Funeral Service.

## FLOWERS

Typically, the family of the deceased will furnish the arrangement of flowers for the service. The church receptionist is present to receive flowers for an upcoming service from 9 until 2, Tuesday through Friday.

## COSTS AND FEES

For church members, we do request that an honorarium of at least \$275 be made to the accompanist: \_\_\_\_\_ and \$300 to the officiating pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

There are no charges or fees for members for use of the church's facilities. Costs for musicians or vocalists will be handled directly by the family. It will be the responsibility of the family to order flowers from the florist of their choice.

For non-church members, we request that an honorarium of at least \$300 be made to the accompanist: \_\_\_\_\_ and \$400 to the officiating pastor: \_\_\_\_\_

An additional \$500 for use of Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. \_\_\_\_\_

If financial hardship makes this difficult please consult with the pastor about a discounted rate.

## SCHEDULING

### Members

For members, the church is available for services Monday through Saturday, except holidays and as venues are available. On Saturdays and Sundays, Funerals may be held during afternoon hours only. Every effort will be made to work around prior scheduled events.

The church is closed or has limited availability on the following days: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Holy Week, July 4th, Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

### Non-Members

The church is honored to host funerals of non-members during normal working hours or as our schedule allows. Services may also be held on Saturday and Sunday afternoons when staffing and scheduling allows.

# Planning Checklist

## Venue

When considering a worship venue, keep in mind that our Sanctuary seats 300; The Chapel seats 40 and our Fellowship Hall seats 120.

## Video

Videos may be shown in the Sanctuary.

## Meals

Often, families desire a meal before or after the service. Members who are affiliated with a bible study class or other small group may have their small group host the meal. We encourage the use of catering services. Please note that if lunch is brought in by others, they will be responsible for all facets of the meals including drinks and clean-up.

There are ovens and a microwave oven in the church that guests are welcome to use.

The following pages are necessary for planning funeral services.

## Visitation

A visitation is an informal gathering for friends and family to express sympathy, view photographs/video tribute, etc. You are invited to consider Eastport United Methodist Church for the visitation when you work with a Funeral Director.

Will a Visitation be Held? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Location of Visitation

☐ At the Funeral Home

☐ At Eastport United Methodist Church

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the Remains be Present at the Visitation?

☐ Coffin with Viewing of Body ☐ Closed Coffin

☐ Urn with Photograph next to it ☐ No Remains Present

Time of the Visitation:

☐ Evening Prior to the Funeral or Memorial Service ☐ Before the Funeral or Memorial Service Only

☐ Both

Displays

☐ Photographic Displays ☐ Mementos (Awards, etc.)

☐ Bible of the Deceased ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Christian Worship Service Plans

Location of Service

☐ Eastport United Methodist Church

☐ Funeral Home \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Cemetery (Graveside Service Only)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. Care Facility Chapel, etc.)

Time of the Worship Service \_\_\_\_\_

Will the Remains be Present at the Worship Service?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes (Casket or Urn with Ashes) \_\_\_\_\_ No

Display Items to be On or Near the Casket/Urn

\_\_\_\_\_ Floral Spray and/or additional Flower Bouquets

\_\_\_\_\_ Bible or Other Symbol of Faith: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Photograph \_\_\_\_\_ Cross \_\_\_\_\_ Flag

Readers

\_\_\_\_\_ The Pastor who officiates will read.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like this/these person(s) to read at my service:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Favorite Biblical Theme or Image \_\_\_\_\_

Bible Readings

\_\_\_\_\_ The Pastor who officiates may choose the readings.

\_\_\_\_\_ My Family will choose the readings.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have chosen the readings as indicated below.

Preferred Bible Passages to be read: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for Bible Readings:

\_\_\_\_\_ Job 19:25-27

\_\_\_\_\_ Isaiah 40:1-11; 40:28-31; 65:17

\_\_\_\_\_ Luke 23:33, 39-43

\_\_\_\_\_ Romans 8:14-23, 31-39; 14:7-9, 10b-12

\_\_\_\_\_ 2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1

\_\_\_\_\_ Revelation 21:1-4, 22-25, 22:3-5; 22:1-5 8

\_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 23; 46:1-5, 10-11 121; 130; 139:1-12

\_\_\_\_\_ Matthew 5:1-12a

\_\_\_\_\_ John 11:17-27; 14:1-6, 25-27

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 50, 53-58

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Congregational Singing

\_\_\_\_\_ The Pastor may choose the hymns/songs. \_\_\_\_\_ My family will choose the hymns/songs.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have chosen the hymns/songs as indicated below.

Suggested Hymns

\_\_\_\_\_ Amazing Grace

\_\_\_\_\_ How Great Thou Art

\_\_\_\_\_ Great Is Thy Faithfulness

\_\_\_\_\_ My Faith Looks up to Thee

\_\_\_\_\_ This Is My Father's World

\_\_\_\_\_ Rock of Ages, cleft for me

\_\_\_\_\_ Blessed Assurance

\_\_\_\_\_ Love Divine All Loves Excelling

\_\_\_\_\_ In the Garden

\_\_\_\_\_ My Hope Is Built

\_\_\_\_\_ What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Other Hymns/Songs Selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Musician(s) \_\_\_\_\_

If possible, I would like this vocalist or group to sing:

\_\_\_\_\_

Vocal Selections (Selection of solos must aim to reflect the spirit of the service.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Remembrances to be Shared During Worship by a Family Member or a Friend

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No Please ask speakers to limit their remarks to 3 minutes.

I would like this person/these persons to speak:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Reception Following Worship

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like a reception following the service for conversation and consolation.

I would like the Reception

\_\_\_\_\_ Immediately Following the Worship Service; Before Burial

\_\_\_\_\_ Following the Worship Service and After Burial

Location for the Reception

\_\_\_\_\_ Eastport United Methodist Church (Fellowship Room)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Menu for the Reception

\_\_\_\_\_ Dessert (cakes) and Coffee/Beverage/juice

\_\_\_\_\_ Light Lunch (Sandwiches, Salads, pickles, chips, dessert(cakes))

\_\_\_\_\_ Secure your own caterer and wait staff.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Planning Ahead

I would like the following to be included on the grave marker:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates: (birth/death dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Bible Verse: \_\_\_\_\_

Graphic: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligible for Military Honors \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, which military branch? \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Pall Bearers (Six Pall Bearers needed only when there is a coffin for burial.)

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### Cemetery

\_\_\_\_\_ I have made arrangements for my burial.

Name of Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not have arrangements for my burial.

### Desired Expressions of Sympathy

\_\_\_\_\_ Flowers

\_\_\_\_\_ In lieu of flowers I request Memorial Gifts made to EUMC or \_\_\_\_\_

### Memorial Gift Suggestions

\_\_\_\_\_ Eastport United Methodist Church

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Biographical Information

Birth Date and Location \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names (including Mother's Maiden Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Baptism Date, Church, and Location \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Date, Church, and Location \_\_\_\_\_

Other Marriages/Divorces/Spouse(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Children and their spouses

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Next of Kin

\_\_\_\_\_

### Personal History

On a separate page, record additional information including place(s) of residence, special events, hobbies/interests, schools attended and degrees received, accomplishments, memberships, employment history, volunteer activities, military service, etc. Include as many full names, city of residence, birth and death dates, etc. as possible. All this information is important to your family. This information does not need to be prepared in paragraph form.

### Important Documents and Advisors

It is important that survivors be able to locate vital records and important documents. Before your death, you should have a current will/living trust and related health care directives which express your wishes on important personal, financial, medical, and charitable issues for your survivors.

If you need information regarding estate planning, planned giving, and/or the inclusion of a Christian preamble for your will, please consult your legal or financial advisor. If you would like the church to recommend someone for this task, contact the church office.