

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH
ELCIC**

*600 Cambridge Street
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**FUNERAL
ORDER OF SERVICE**

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**Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Funeral Order of Service**

At a person's death, the church shares the grief of those who mourn and remembers the brevity of life on earth. At the funeral we give voice to sorrow, thank God for our loved one, and entrust this companion of ours into the hands of God. Trusting in God's promise in baptism that we are claimed by Christ forever, we rest in the sure hope of the resurrection.

When the church gathers to mark the end of life, Christ crucified and risen is the witness of worship, the strength of mutual consolation, and the hope of healing.

This booklet provides the form of the service for you to follow. A service bulletin will provide further details of the order of service including the listing of the hymns to be sung. The bulletin may also include invitation(s) to join the family at a committal service and a reception. If there is no bulletin, many of these parts will be announced.

INTRODUCTION

The presiding minister may address the assembly using these words.

Welcome in the name of Jesus,
the Savior of the world.
We are gathered to worship,
to proclaim Christ crucified and risen,
to remember before God our *sister/brother* name,
to give thanks for *her/his* life,
to commend *her/him* to our merciful redeemer,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

A thanksgiving for baptism may follow.

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus,
we were baptized into his death.
We were buried therefore with him
by baptism into death,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life.
For if we have been united with him in a death like his,
we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

A procession may form and enter, the ministers leading. A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

GREETING

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

A LIFE REMEMBERED

A Eulogy and other reflections may take place.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God of grace and glory

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our *sister/brother*, name. We thank you for giving *her/him* to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

OR

At the death of a child

Holy God, your beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to entrust *name* to your never-failing care and love. Comfort us as we bear the pain of *her/his* death, and receive us all into your everlasting arms, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS

Two or three scripture readings are proclaimed. When the service includes communion, the last is a reading from the gospels. Responses may include a psalm in response to a reading from the Old Testament, a sung acclamation preceding the reading of the gospel, or other appropriate hymns, songs, and psalms.

SERMON *Silence for reflection follows.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

The assembly proclaims the word of God in song.

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayers of intercession are prayed. To each petition the assembly responds:

God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers. The assembly responds
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

OR

**Our father in heaven, hallowed by your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread;
And forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us;
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
Now and forever. Amen.**

COMMENDATION

The ministers take their places at the coffin. The presiding minister leads the commendation.

Let us commend name to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

The presiding minister may place her/his hand on the coffin during this prayer.

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 child of your own redeeming. Receive her/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.

A hymn or song may be sung.

If the committal occurs at another time, a blessing may precede these words of sending.

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

A procession may form and leave the church, the ministers leading.