

## MEMORIAL HANDBOOK

*Updated on November 29, 2018*

*Gracious God, we entrust our loved one into your loving hands. We give you thanks for the love and friendship we shared together.*

*Send your Holy Spirit to deepen our faith in your presence and fill us with hope that your promises may be fulfilled for our loved one. Amen.*

This handbook is to help you in the planning the memorial service of a loved one. It offers a sample service and a step-by-step explanation of the options within the service.

Please know that you can be confident that all the people with whom you will be dealing in preparation for the service want to help you in every way.

The service is according to *The Book of Common Prayer* of the Episcopal Church and finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised. The service, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that “neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor 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.”

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

The fact that you are reading this guide means that you have lost someone important in your life. People grieve in different ways and on different timetables. Please take care of yourself and be patient with yourself.

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### **St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace**

*We embrace Christ at the center of our lives, sharing the Gospel with all people and loving ourselves and each other as Christ loves us.*

330 E. 16th St., Upland, CA 91784 + (909) 920-5565 + web: [stmarksupland.org](http://stmarksupland.org)

email: [church@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:church@stmarks-upland.org)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*I want to have a reception to celebrate the life of my father who will be buried with my mother. But I don't want to leave the reception early nor have the people wait until I get back from the mortuary. Does the Internment service at the mortuary need to immediately follow the Church service?*

No. It has become customary for these two events to occur on different days. The public church service is usually scheduled at a time when the whole community can gather to support the family and celebrate the life of the loved one. The internment of ashes or the body is sometimes delayed because of limitations by a third party like the mortuary or medical examiner. They may happen on different days and in any order.

*How many people should I have speak at the service?*

About two for the Eulogy; up to three for the readings; maybe one for the prayers; and a family member to thank people for their attendance and an invitation to the reception if appropriate. Everyone is invited to participate in the service through the various prayers and songs when selected.

An "open mike" for any to share their stories of the loved one is encouraged at the reception. The church liturgy is structured to support the family and community using a format similar to the community at worship on Sunday morning reinforcing the action of and connection with God through Jesus Christ.

*What should the people delivering the Eulogy speak about?*

A celebration of life will include two types of information presented at the Eulogy. First, the loved one's biography. This is important because people move in and out of our lives and even close friends lose contact and may not be aware of past or current personal information of the loved one. Second, stories and memories of the loved one. Please select one or two people who can prepare and deliver these stories on behalf of the family for the community.

*I have lots of pictures. What should I do?*

The display of pictures is optional. However if you do have them, they can help personalize the service. A customary option is to have one picture to be displayed at the front of the church.

Collages and albums are best displayed in the church entrance hallway (Narthex) before the service as people gather and then in the Parish Hall for the reception. You may use a laptop to display a slide show if you wish.

*Is it okay to have a church service during a school day?*

Yes. Please avoid the drop-off and pick-up times of 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. Our students are very respectful to all visitors and especially for these types of solemn occasions.

*My uncle is a Presbyterian minister. Would he be allowed to take part in memorial service?*

Yes, he is welcome to share in the liturgy. He may read the prayers or one of the lessons, or give a eulogy or a blessing. Discuss the opportunities with the Rector and your uncle and decide how you would like the ceremony conducted.

*My aunt is an organist. Would she be allowed to play the organ in the service?*

It is possible. However, you will still be responsible for the full fees for our organist. And she will need to arrange a meeting at our organist's convenience in order review protocol and procedures. This practice is commonplace and recognizes the fact that organs are complex, valuable and sensitive instruments.

*What about interning the cremains?*

The memorial garden at St. Mark's is a free option for those who are seeking a place of peace to place a loved one's cremains. Please ask the church office for more information.

**FEES**

<b>Item/Payable to...</b>	<b>Amount</b>
For the use of the Church for the service Make check payable to St. Mark's Church	\$100
For the use of the Parish Hall for a reception. Please be aware that there is an additional charge for the use of the table cloths. Can be included in check to St. Mark's Church	\$250
For Flowers at the Altar Can be included in check to St. Mark's Church	
One Sunday size arrangement	From \$100
Larger or multiple arrangements	From \$250
For Organist Separate check payable to: Blane Abernathy	\$200
For a Soloist Please see Blane Abernathy. Please be aware that a soloist requires additional rehearsal time for the organist and therefore a higher fee. Rates for the church soloist begin at \$100 and an extra \$50 rehearsal fee for the organist.	
Interment of Ashes in the St. Mark's Memorial Garden Please consider making a donation from \$50 to \$250 for upkeep and improvements to the garden payable to St. Mark's.	Free
Name Plaque of loved one Please consider making a donation from \$50 to \$250 for upkeep and improvements to the garden payable to St. Mark's.	Cost of Plaque \$200
For Clergy Honorarium for clergy is made payable directly to the clergy	At your discretion

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Memorial Coordinator  
Joan Watson  
(909) 377-5399  
[joanpwatson@yahoo.com](mailto:joanpwatson@yahoo.com)

Church Secretary: Service bulletin and space reservations  
Stephanie Delgadillo  
909-920-5565 (Church Office)  
[parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org)

- Please send us a copy of any obituary you may have already prepared for the local paper.
- Please provide a nice picture for the front of the Memorial Bulletin. If you would like to use two or three pictures, that is acceptable.
- We are happy to include reception invitations/directions, and any other information in the bulletin that will help accommodate your guests. Information about memorials may also be included. For example: In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to a “Charitable Organization” in the loved one’s name.
- Please remember the memorial garden as a free option for interment.

Flowers at the Altar  
Christy Hyder  
909-466-6434  
[Classylady3838@aol.com](mailto:Classylady3838@aol.com)

Organist and Director of Music Ministry:  
Blane Abernathy  
909-920-5565 (Church Office)  
[babernathy@stmarks-upland.org](mailto:babernathy@stmarks-upland.org)

### SOME MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

Memorial services at St. Mark's are best supported by music from our designated hymnals. It is also appropriate for a soloist to present a religious piece of music such as the *Ave Maria* in the context of the service. Please present other music at the reception.

Hymns are from *The Hymnal 1982*

151	From deepest woe I cry to thee
194/195	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
326	From glory to glory advancing
335	I am the bread of life
338	Wherefore, O Father, we thy humble servants
354	Into paradise may the angels lead you
355	Give rest, O Christ, to your servant(s)
356	May choirs of angels lead you to paradise on high
357	Jesus, Son of Mary
358	Christ the Victorious, give to your servants
429	I'll praise my Maker while I've breath
444	Blessed be the God of Israel
447	The Christ who died but rose again
455/456	O Love of God, how strong and true
487	Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life
499	Lord God, you now have set your servant free
517	How lovely is thy dwelling place
560	Remember your servants, Lord
620	Jerusalem, my happy home
621/622	Light's abode, celestial Salem
623	O what their joy and their glory must be
625	Ye holy angels bright
635	If thou but trust in God to guide thee
636/637	How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord
645/646	The King of love my shepherd is
658	As long as the deer for cooling streams
663	The Lord my God my shepherd is
664	My Shepherd will supply my need
665	All my hope on God is founded
666	Out of the depths I call
668	I to the hills will lift mine eyes
680	O god, our help in ages past
687/688	A mighty fortress is our God
690	Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
692	I heard the voice of Jesus say

**INFORMATION FOR THE BULLETIN AND THE CHURCH REGISTER**

Full Legal Name of Person (first, middle, and last):

\_\_\_\_\_

Familiar Name, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_  
For example, "He was always known as 'Bob,' never 'Robert.'"

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Cause of Death:  Natural     Accident

Other \_\_\_\_\_

City and state of last residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & time of service: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of service, if not St. Mark's: \_\_\_\_\_

Date & time of internment/burial, if not St. Mark's: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of internment/burial: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the internment/burial information be publicized in the bulletin? Yes/No

Date & time of reception, if not following the service: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of reception, if not St. Mark's: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the reception information be publicized in the bulletin? Yes/No

Was the person Baptized? Yes/No

Was the person Confirmed? Yes/No

Was the person a member of a congregation? Yes/No

Will the urn/ashes be present? Yes/No

Will the casket be present? Yes/No

*Please note that if the casket is present, it is closed and covered by a pall or flag. No flowers are to be placed on the pall or flag.*

Please remember the memorial garden as a free option for interment.

**Approximate number of bulletins needed:** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pews reserved for the family: \_\_\_\_\_

**Organist? Yes/No**, if yes, see contact information.  
*Other musicians or vocalists may be used with permission.*

**Holy Communion? Yes/No**

**Use of Parish Hall for Reception? Yes/No**, if yes, see contact information.

Memorial requests information, if applicable:  
For example: In loving memory of *Name*, please consider making a donation to a *charitable organization* in honor of *Name*. Please write your check to St. Mark's and note *Name-Charity* in the memo.

**Contact Person(s)**

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

Relationship to loved one: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\* Highlighted information is essential.

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF  
NAME  
*Month Day, Year of Birth to Month Day, Year of Death*

*Day, Month Day, Year at Time of Service*  
*Place*  
*Address if different from St. Mark's*

About 10 to 15 minutes before the start of the service, the family of the loved one is invited to gather in the guild room adjacent to the Parish Hall for a prayer with the clergy. This time allows the family to prepare for the service and it also signals to the community to take their seats. After the prayer, the family will be escorted to their seats by an usher.

*Opening Anthem*

I am resurrection and I am life, says the Lord. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, then, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

*(Optional) Opening Hymn: #123 "Title of hymn" found in the blue hymnal*

*Opening Prayer*

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our **brother Name**. We thank you for giving **him** to us, **his** family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence

we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Readings*

*Old Testament; Psalm; New Testament; and Gospel Citations*

One or more readings are presented. Please note that chapter and verse citations are not customarily spoken aloud. To see more options, please go to the “Burials” page of the “Lectionary Page” website at:  
<http://www.lectionarypage.net/YearABC/SpecServ/Burial.html>

A reading from the book of Lamentations

*Read by **Name, Relation (Optional)***

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The reading above is Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33. You may also choose from the following: Isaiah 25:6-9; Isaiah 61:1-3; Wisdom 3:1-5,9;and Job 19:21-27a.

Please read the Psalm in unison.

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

The reading above is the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm from the King James Version. You may also choose from the following: Psalm 23; 42:1-7; 46; 90:1-12; 121; 130; 139:1-11 (NRSV).

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

*Read by **Name, Relation (Optional)***

Who 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. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The reading above is from Romans 8: 34-35, 37-39. You may also choose from the following: Romans 8: 14-19, 34-35, 37-39, 1 Corinthians 15:20-6, 35-8, 42-4, 53-8; 2 Corinthians 4:16—5:9; 1 John 3:1-2; Revelation 7:9-17; Revelation 21:2-7

*(Optional) Sequence Hymn: #123 “Title of hymn” found in the blue hymnal*

*Please stand and face the reader for the proclamation of the Gospel.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The reading above from John 14:1-6. You may also choose from the following: John 5:24-27; John 6:37-40; John 10:11-16; John 11:21-27  
When there is to be Holy Communion, then a Gospel is read by the clergy.

*Eulogies*

*Name, Relation*

*Name, Relation*

If there is more than one speaker, please coordinate total time to no more than 15 minutes.

*The Apostles' Creed*

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

## *The Prayers*

Read by *Name, Relation (Optional)*

For the Prayers you may have a clergy person lead the prayers or appoint the person who leads the prayers also known as the Intercessor.

*Please choose between the 2 forms:*

### *Form 1*

*Intercessor:* For our **brother, Name**, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I am Resurrection and I am Life.” Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for **Name**, and dry the tears of those who weep. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You raised the dead to life; give to **Name** eternal life. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring **Name** to the joys of heaven. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* **Name** was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give **him** fellowship with all your saints. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* **Name** was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant **him** a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our **brother**; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* Father of all, we pray to you for **Name**, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May **his** soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Community:* **Amen.**

*Or Form 2*

*Intercessor:* Gracious God, we thank you for **Name**, who was so near and dear to us, and who has now been taken from us. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* We thank you for the love **Name** gave and received and for the strength and peace **he** brought. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* We pray that all the good things in **Name's** life will be remembered; that all that was important to **him** will be respected by those who follow; and that everything in which **he** was great will continue to mean much to us now that **he** is gone. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* We ask you that **Name** may go on living in **his** family and **his** friends; in our hearts and minds, in our hope and our courage. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* We ask you that we who were close to **Name** may now, because of **his** death, be even closer to each other, and that we may, in peace and friendship here on earth, always be deeply aware of your promise to be faithful to us in death. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* We pray for ourselves, who are tested by this death, that we do not try to minimize this loss, or seek refuge from it in words alone, and also that we do not brood over it so that it overwhelms us and isolates us from others. Lord, in your mercy;

*Community:* **Hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* Father of all, we pray to you for **Name**, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May **his** soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*Community:* **Amen.**

If there is no Holy Communion, the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, and then continues with the Commendation Prayer below.
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## *Explanation of the Holy Eucharist*

The Eucharist is the church's most powerful sign of God's grace and presence in our lives, in the community, and in the world through Jesus Christ. In this church it is not meant to feel exclusive. All are invited.

If you wish to receive the bread, please hold out your hand. You may eat it, or have it dipped in wine. If you wish to take a sip of wine, please help the minister guide the chalice to your lips. If you want to receive a blessing instead of the bread or wine, please come forward and cross your arms across your chest.

### *(Optional) Offertory Music:*

#### *Offering of Symbols (Optional):*

*The family brings forward objects that represent **Name** (as well as the gifts of bread and wine).*

Receive, O Lord, these symbols presented by **Name's** family as a sign of their love for **him** and of **his** love shared with others.

*Community: **Blessed be God forever.***

*If young children present the symbols the following prayer may be said:*

Blessed are you Lord God of all creation. You have blessed us with the joy and care of children. And we ask your special blessing today on **Name (and Names)**. May the knowledge of you dawn on them, may the love of you grow in them and may the grace of your Spirit draw them to you.

*Community: **Blessed be God forever.***

The bread and wine are brought to the Altar in one of two ways.

1. They may already be on the Altar.
2. You may appoint people to bring up the bread and wine. This role is especially good for those who do not wish a speaking part. These people are called Oblation Bearers.

The gifts of bread and wine are brought to the Altar on behalf of the community by **Name, Relation (and Name, Relation)**.

*The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. (A proper preface is said here.) Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in

him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. After a period of silence the Celebrant says*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The community is invited to the altar with these or similar words:*

The Gifts of God for the People of God...

*Please be seated. At this time the bread and wine are distributed. All are welcome to receive communion. Please follow the directions of the usher. You may be seated until the appropriate time.*

The bread and wine may be distributed by the Clergy with the help of one or more people, also known as the Eucharistic Ministers.
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***Communion Music (Optional):***

*After Communion (Please remain seated until the final blessing.)*

**Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

If there is no Holy Communion, the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, and then continues with the Commendation Prayer below.

*Commendation Prayer (Please remain seated.)*

Let us thank God for our **brother, Name**. For the love **he** offered and received; for all the good things in **his** life; for all that was important to **him**; for everything in which **he** was great; and for all the things **he** will be remembered for by us, **his** family and friends.

Let us remember before God our **brother, Name**.

Silence or Commendation Anthem: \_\_\_\_\_

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting. You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song:  
*Community: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

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 **him** into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints of light. **Amen.**

*Committal Prayer*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our **brother, Name**; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless **him** and keep **him**, the Lord make his face to shine upon **him** and be gracious to **him**, the Lord lift up his countenance upon **him** and give **him** peace. **Amen.**

*Words from the Family*

Please invite a family representative to offer thanks, invitation, instruction, greeting, and/or acknowledgement as appropriate:

“On behalf of the family, we thank you all for being here. Your prayers and presence mean so much to us. A reception will immediately follow the service in the parish hall. Everyone is invited please come. The internment will be next month in mom’s home town. Thank you for being here.”

*Blessing and Dismissal (Please stand.)*

...and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

If there is a casket, then your chosen Pall Bearers will gather around the casket at this time and follow the directions of the mortuary representatives.

*Please remain in place until the family leaves first.  
The family is immediately followed by the honorary pall bearers.*

***Recessional Music (Optional):***

*A reception follows the service at the residence of Name (or in the Parish Hall).*

Many thanks to those who participated in this memorial service: