



Trinity Episcopal Church Funeral Planning Form

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Living, loving, and trusting in the transforming power of God's grace.

**This document contains information for those desiring to plan
a funeral at Trinity Church.**

FUNERAL PLANNING

The best possible person to plan your funeral is you.

This brochure is an effort to help parishioners of Trinity Church understand the choices available to them. We recommend that you give the Church one copy to keep on file; another to your family; a third to your attorney; and keep a fourth with your will.

Each of us will die. When we die, it falls to members of our family, friends, distant relatives, or total strangers to plan our services and burials. Planning such things when you are grieving is both difficult and time-consuming. Often members of the surviving family live far apart and have never discussed these matters. When the time for planning comes they can have very different ideas about what the deceased person would have preferred or about what would be appropriate.

The best way to avoid this struggle, and even disagreement about what should be done, is to make your own plans. It is a very thoughtful gift both to your family and to yourself. You simply leave written instructions saying "This is what I prefer."

Before planning the service, with its many options, it will be helpful to your family if you provide certain preliminary information:
The Rector and Organist would be happy to meet with you to assist in the planning of this Service. Burial Services at Trinity Church are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979 beginning on page 491.

Your full name: _____

Date of birth: _____

Do you wish to have a viewing? _____

At the Church _____ Funeral Home _____

Do you wish to be cremated or buried in a casket? _____

Music

Do you wish to have music at the service? _____

Normally organ or other instrumental music is played before and after the service. Do you have a preference for what is played at that time?

Within the service there are opportunities for the singing of several hymns. Please list your preferences from either the Episcopal Hymnal 1982 or from some other source. (The latter can be photocopies if not under copyright and provided as inserts in the service leaflet.)

Readings and Prayers

There are normally three readings from the Bible interspersed with Psalms. The suggested Psalms, listed below from the Book of Common Prayer, need not be used in the order that they appear. You may also choose to not include a Psalm at all.

1. The first reading is from the Old Testament or from the Apocrypha. Choose one of the following:

_____ Isaiah 25:6-9

_____ Isaiah 61:1-3

_____ Lamentations 3:22-26; 31-33

_____ Wisdom of Solomon (Apocrypha) 3:1-5, 9

_____ Job 19:21-27a (the "a" means the first phrase in that verse)

2. If you wish, choose a Psalm:

23 King James Version _____; or 23 Prayer Book Version _____;
42:1-7 _____; or 46 _____; or 90:1-12 _____; or 121 _____; or 130 _____;
or 139:1-11 _____.

3. The second reading is from the New Testament. Choose one.

_____ Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

_____ I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44

_____ II Corinthians 4:16-5:9

_____ I John 3:1-2

_____ Revelation 7:9-17

_____ Revelation 21:2-7

4. If you wish, choose a second Psalm:

23 King James Version _____; or 23 Prayer Book Version _____;
or 27 _____; or 106:1-5 _____; or 116 _____.

5. The Gospel. Choose one.

_____ John 5:24-27

_____ John 6:37-40

_____ John 10:11-16

_____ John 11:21-27

_____ John 14:1-6

Other Choices for the Funeral Service:

1. Reflections: Is there anyone that you would like to have speak at the funeral? If so, please list their names below:

2. The Apostle's Creed may be said. This is the ancient Baptismal Creed and reminds us of the faith of the Church and the deceased.

3. Do you have any requests for friends or family members who may be willing to read lessons?

4. The Prayers of the People are located on page 497 in The Book of Common Prayer. Would you like to choose someone to read the prayers or would you like to have a member of the clergy read them?

If you are choosing a friend or family member to read the Prayers, please list the person's name:

5. Are you entitled to military honors? Yes No

6. If so, do you have the discharge papers? _____

7. If you own a burial plot, where is it located?

8. Additional requests:
