

**RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FUNERAL PLANNING WORKSHEET**

*When planning your funeral, or a funeral for a loved one, there are many choices to make. Facing some of those choices now will make the process less demanding for your loved ones later. This Funeral Planning Worksheet will lead you through a variety of decisions. After death, a Pastor of Resurrection will meet with family members and review your worksheet to finalize the funeral or memorial service.*

*This worksheet may be used by:*

*† an individual making their advance plans known, or*

*† a family planning the funeral of a loved one nearing death or recently deceased.*

*Please supply as much information as you wish to share on any parts of the worksheet.*

**Guide for the Christian Funeral of**

---

Full Name: First, Middle (Maiden), Last

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

*For the Person Making Advance Plans:*

When you have completed this worksheet, please share a copy with a Resurrection Pastor. Your information will be kept in a confidential file. It will be used in consultation with your family or whomever you have directed to carry out these wishes upon your death. Also, after completing the worksheet, consider discussing and sharing it with someone you trust, making certain it is clear.

Consider providing copies:

1. To your Family
2. Attached to your Will or Trust Plan
3. Financial Planners or agencies such as Thrivent or [www.agingwithdignity.org/five-wishes.php](http://www.agingwithdignity.org/five-wishes.php)
3. To a Funeral Director
4. Or simply give it to someone you trust with a note that says,

I have recorded my desires regarding my death and burial. I keep this information in the following place:

\_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. on file at the church, with my will, etc.). At the time of my death, I ask that you use this information to provide guidance for my family and my church in making arrangements for the funeral I desire. Although this information is being left for safekeeping, I understand that it is not legally binding or enforceable. This worksheet does not make the church or anyone obligated or responsible for the execution of these instructions.

With gratitude,

Signature and Date

*For Family Members Making Plans for the Funeral of a Loved One Nearing Death or Recently Deceased:*

Please use this worksheet to assist with plans that will honor your loved one's expressed wishes or desires and will reflect his/her values. If you haven't already contacted a Funeral Director, please consider doing so now. The professional services, compassionate care, and guidance they provide will greatly assist you in the days ahead. Of course, Resurrection's Pastors are always available as well. When death occurs, please contact the church office at 317-881-7854 or, after hours, please use the personal phone numbers of the pastors on the voice message or listed on RLC's website.

**Visitation**

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

Will a Visitation be Held?

Yes

No

Location of Visitation

At the Funeral Home

At Resurrection Lutheran 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

Momentos (Awards, Certificates, etc.)

Bible of the Deceased

Video Tribute (May be produced by family or the Funeral Home)

Other:

---

***Christian Worship Service Plans***

Location of Service

- Resurrection Lutheran Church
- Funeral Home
- Cemetery (A Graveside Service Only)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. Care Facility Chapel, etc.)

Time of the Worship Service

- Morning
- Afternoon
- Evening

Will the Remains be Present at the Worship Service?

- Yes (Coffin or Urn with Ashes)
- No

Will Holy Communion be Celebrated? (Normally only available for services at RLC)

- Yes
- 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 (Only Used During Visitation and at Cemetery)

Please Note: The Funeral Pall will always be used to cover the casket during the worship service unless expressly declined.

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

Readers

- The Pastor who officiates will read.
- I would like this/these person(s) to read at my service: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Bible Readings

- The Pastor who officiates may choose the readings.
- My Family will choose the readings.
- I have chosen from the suggested readings as indicated below.

*Old Testament*

Job 19:23-27

Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31; Isaiah 40:28-31; Isaiah 65:17

Psalms 23; Psalm 46:1-5, 10-11; Psalm 90:1-10, 12; Psalm 121; Psalm 130; Psalm 139:1-12

*Gospels*

Matthew 5:1-12a

Luke 23:33, 39-43

John 11:17-27

John 14:1-6, 25-27

*New Testament*

Romans 8:14-23, 31-39

Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12

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

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Revelation 21:1-4, 22-25, 22:3-5

Revelation 22:1-5

Other Readings Selected: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Congregational Hymns

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

\_\_\_\_\_ My family will choose the hymns

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

*Suggested Hymns*

Beautiful Savior

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

For All the Saints

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Lift High the Cross

The Lord's My Shepherd

Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me

A Mighty Fortress

My Faith Looks up to Thee

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Amazing Grace

How Great Thou Art

This Is My Father's World  
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Other Hymns Selected: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Soloist

If possible, I would like this vocalist to sing: \_\_\_\_\_

Vocal Solos Selected (Selection of solos must aim to reflect the spirit of Christian worship.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Remembrance/Eulogy to be Shared During Worship by a Family Member or a Friend  
(Please consult pastor with this)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

I would like this person to speak: \_\_\_\_\_

Reception Following Worship

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

I would like the Reception

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

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

Location for the Reception

\_\_\_\_\_ Resurrection Lutheran Church

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Menu for the Reception

\_\_\_\_\_ Dessert and Coffee/Beverage

\_\_\_\_\_ Light Lunch (Sandwiches, Salads, dessert)

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

***Funeral Home Preferred Company***

---

(Specific arrangements in advance at the funeral home of your choice are encouraged.)

Have Pre-Arrangements Been Made?

Yes

No

Disposition of the Body

Embalm Body (Usually required if unrefrigerated over 24 hours before burial.)

Cremate Body Shortly After Death

Cremate Body After Visitation and/or Service

Burial Wishes

Bury Coffin/Urn in Cemetery

Other:

---

(This might include keeping ashes with a family member, spreading ashes at a favorite spot, etc)

Bury Coffin or Urn

Before Visitation

After Visitation but Before Funeral Service

After Funeral Service but Before Luncheon Reception

After Luncheon Reception

At a Later Date:

---

Grave Marker

I have made arrangements for a grave marker with this company:

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

Name:

Dates: (birth/death dates)

Maiden name:

Bible Verse:

Graphic:

Other:

---

Eligible for Military Honors

Yes

No

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

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

***Cemetery***

I have made arrangements for my burial.

Name of Cemetery

\_\_\_\_\_

Location of Cemetery

\_\_\_\_\_

I do not have arrangements for my burial. I suggest the following arrangements:

\_\_\_\_\_

I have arrangements for a memorial marker with the following company:

\_\_\_\_\_

(Include Contact Information)

Desired Expressions of Sympathy

Flowers

I desire Memorial Gifts in lieu of Flowers

***Memorial Suggestions***

Resurrection Lutheran Church Endowment Trust Fund

This is an Endowed Fund where memorial gifts are invested, and the interest growth is disbursed annually to support a variety of ministries and missions of Resurrection.

Resurrection's Memorial Fund

Specific Mission or Ministry: \_\_\_\_\_

Ideas include: Food/Hunger Ministries, Youth Ministry, Music Ministry, Building/Mortgage Fund, Campus Ministry or Seminary Scholarships, etc.

Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Obituary**

Full Name (including Maiden Name)

---

Birth Date and Location

---

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

---

Baptism Date, Church, and Location

---

Confirmation Date, Church, and Location

---

Marital Status, Marriage Date, and Name of Spouse

---

Other Marriages/Divorces/Spouse(s)

---

Names of Children

---

---

---

---

---

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.



---

Location and Date of Will/Living Trust

---

Location of my Five Wishes Booklet or Living Will

---

Attorney/Will Preparer

---

Power of Attorney/Financial

---

Power of Attorney for Health Care

---

Executor of Will/Estate

---

Guardian (for Minor Children)

---

Additional Comments