

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
ADVANCE FUNERAL PLANNING



Sparing the family

It is unfortunate that, at the very time God calls us home to be with Him that our family and loved ones often see it as a tragedy with many decisions and arrangements to be made. By preparing now for that inevitable time, you can make it easier on your family.

The purpose of this document, which has been adapted from the Larrison's Family Guide to Funeral Planning is to help you make those preparations. If you record the information asked, this document will be very helpful to your family in making your funeral arrangements.

Be sure and notify your family or friends that this document contains your wishes and information that they will need. You may desire to leave a copy in the church office to assist the pastor in preparing for your funeral. He can also make it available to the mortuary at the proper time.

To My Family

It is my wish that you be spared unnecessary expense, anxiety and inconvenience at the time of my death. In this document you will find information which I have recorded as a plan that represents arrangements I have made in advance, hoping in this way to relieve you at the time God has called me to my heavenly home.

I have taken this step in a spirit of love, feeling that you would be burdened by greater distress if these decisions were left for you to make with no indication of my wishes.

Though these arrangements may not be legally binding, I trust they will help to avoid confusion that might arise because of doubts or omissions. It is my sincere hope that the arrangements are in keeping with your wishes.

Date:

Signature:

Personal Remarks

These documents should be kept in a place where they will be immediately available at the time of death. **Do not keep them in a Safe Deposit Box.**

VITAL STATISTICS

Today's Date: _____

Name _____
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

Address _____
STREET CITY STATE

Birthplace _____
CITY STATE

Date of Birth _____

Date of Baptism _____ @ _____ Church

Baptismal Verse _____

Date of Confirmation _____ @ _____ Church

Confirmation Verse _____

Social Security Number _____

Education - Highest Grade Completed (0-12) _____ College (1-4, 5+) _____

Name of School(s) _____

Usual Occupation _____

Industry or Business _____

Year residence established in this community _____

If Veteran, name of war _____ Dates of Service _____

Branch of service and rank _____ Service

Serial No. _____

Marital Status: Married [] Single [] Divorced [] Widow(er) []

Name of Spouse _____

If Wife, give Maiden Name _____

Birthplace of Spouse _____ Date: _____
CITY STATE

Place of Marriage _____ Date: _____
CITY STATE

Pastor _____ @ _____ Church

Next of Kin to Notify: _____ Phone: _____

NAME CITY STATE

Some of this prior information will be necessary for the preparation of a death certificate. The Funeral Director will record it and have certified copies made. You will probably need six or more copies.

Important Note:

Copies of this page along with the next two pages should be provided to the Church and to the Funeral Home. A confidential file will be opened in your name at the church with this information.

MEMORIAL INSTRUCTIONS: The first thing following my death is to make arrangements with my Pastor and the Funeral Director. The following arrangements are in accordance with my wishes:

Funeral Home _____

Address _____

FUNERAL

Type of Service ☐ traditional ☐ graveside
 ☐ limited ☐ direct cremation
 ☐ other _____

Type of Casket ☐ cloth wood ☐ metal sealer ☐
 ☐ exposed wood ☐ metal
 ☐ other _____

Viewing (a) ☐ yes ☐ no (visitation)
 (b) ☐ open casket ☐ closed casket
 (c) ☐ traditional (evening and morning visitation) ☐
 evening and/or morning visitation only

Clothing ☐ my own ☐ new _____

Hair Dresser _____

Obituary ☐ yes ☐ no
 What newspaper(s) _____

Church (a) ☐ yes ☐ no
Services (b) ☐ Church ☐ Funeral Chapel
 (c) ☐ Pastor _____ ☐ Other _____
 (d) ☐ Organist _____ ☐ Vocalist _____
 (e) ☐ Hymns _____ ☐ Sermon Text _____

☐ Flowers only ☐ Memorials only ☐ Flower and Memorials

Memorials to: _____

Memberships – Churches over the years (listed in order) _____

Clubs, Socials, Etc. _____

CASKET BEARERS

BURIAL

The cemetery charges an interment fee. The funeral home will cash advance this item for you if you desire.

Type of Burial ☐ ground internment ☐ mausoleum
 ☐ tomb ☐ other _____

Cemetery Name _____
 ☐ own ☐ do not own
 Lot # _____

Vault ☐ yes (usually required) ☐ no

Do you have a monument? ☐ yes ☐ no

Hymns for Funerals

| Hymns | TLH | LW | LSB |
|---|-----|-----|---------|
| <i>A Pilgrim and a Stranger</i> | 586 | | |
| <i>Abide with Me</i> | 552 | 490 | 878 |
| <i>All Men Living Are but Mortal</i> | 601 | | |
| <i>All Praise to God Who Reigns</i> | 19 | | |
| <i>Amazing Grace</i> | | 509 | 744 |
| <i>Asleep in Jesus! Blessed Sleep</i> | 587 | | |
| <i>At the Lamb's High Feast</i> | | 126 | 633 |
| <i>Awake My Heart with Gladness</i> | 192 | 128 | 467 |
| <i>Be Still My Soul</i> | 651 | 510 | 771/752 |
| <i>Beautiful Savior</i> | 657 | 507 | 537 |
| <i>Behold A Host, Arrayed in White</i> | 656 | 192 | 676 |
| <i>By All Your Saints in Warfare</i> | | 193 | 517 |
| <i>By All Your Saints in Warfare</i> | | 194 | 518 |
| <i>Christ Is Arisen</i> | 187 | 124 | 459 |
| <i>Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands</i> | 195 | 123 | 458 |
| <i>Christ the Lord Is Risen Today</i> | 193 | 142 | 469 |
| <i>Christ the Lord Is Risen Today</i> | 191 | 137 | 463 |
| <i>Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice</i> | 387 | 353 | 556 |
| <i>Entrust Your Days and Burdens</i> | | 427 | 754 |
| <i>For All the Saints</i> | 463 | 191 | 677/855 |
| <i>For All the (Your) Saints, O Lord</i> | 468 | 195 | |
| <i>For Me to Live Is Jesus</i> | 597 | 267 | 742 |
| <i>God Moves in a Mysterious Way</i> | 514 | 426 | 765 |
| <i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i> | | 129 | 475 |
| <i>Hail Thee, Festival Day</i> | | 125 | 489 |
| <i>He's Risen, He's Risen</i> | 198 | 138 | 480 |
| <i>How Great Thou Art</i> | | 519 | 801 |
| <i>I Am Content! My Jesus</i> | 196 | 145 | 468 |
| <i>I Fall Asleep in Jesus' Wounds</i> | 585 | | |
| <i>I Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name</i> | 592 | | |
| <i>I Know That My Redeemer Lives</i> | 200 | 264 | 461 |
| <i>I Would Not Live Always</i> | 588 | | |
| <i>If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee</i> | 518 | | |
| <i>If You but Trust in God to Guide Thee</i> | | 420 | 750 |
| <i>I'm but a Stranger Here</i> | 660 | 515 | 748 |
| <i>In the Midst of Earthly Life</i> | 590 | | |
| <i>In the Very Midst of Life</i> | | 265 | 755 |
| <i>It Is Not Death to Die</i> | 602 | | |
| <i>Jerusalem, My Happy Home</i> | 618 | 307 | 673 |
| <i>Jesus Christ Is Risen Today</i> | 199 | 127 | 457 |
| <i>Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense</i> | 206 | 266 | 741 |
| <i>Jesus, I Live to Thee</i> | 591 | | |
| <i>Jesus Lead Thou On</i> | 410 | 386 | |
| <i>Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won</i> | 201 | 139 | 490 |
| <i>Jesus Savior, Pilot Me</i> | 649 | 513 | 715 |

| Hymns | TLH | LW | LSB |
|--|------------|-----------|------------|
| <i>Just as I Am</i> | 388 | 359 | 570 |
| <i>Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me</i> | 512 | | 722 |
| <i>Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart</i> | 429 | 413 | 708 |
| <i>My Course Is Run</i> | 599 | | |
| <i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i> | 394 | | 702 |
| <i>My Faith Looks Trustingly</i> | 378 | | |
| <i>Nearer, My God, to Thee</i> | 533 | 514 | |
| <i>Now All the Vault of Heaven</i> | | 131 | 465 |
| <i>O Lord, My God I Cry to Thee</i> | 600 | | |
| <i>O Sons and Daughters</i> | 208 | 130 | 470/471 |
| <i>Oh, How Blest Are Ye (You)</i> | 589 | 268 | 679 |
| <i>Rejoice My Heart, Be Glad</i> | 535 | 424 | 737 |
| <i>Salvation unto Us Has Come</i> | 377 | 355 | 555 |
| <i>Sent Forth by God's Blessing</i> | | 247 | 643 |
| <i>Tender Shepherd, Thou Hast</i> | 595 | 269 | |
| <i>This Body in the Grave We Lay</i> | 596 | | 759 |
| <i>The Day of Resurrection</i> | 205 | 133 | 478 |
| <i>The God of Abraham Praise</i> | 40 | 450 | 798 |
| <i>The King of Love, My Shepherd</i> | 431 | 412 | 709 |
| <i>The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want</i> | 436 | 416 | 710 |
| <i>The Lord's My Shepherd, Leading</i> | 417 | | |
| <i>The Strife Is O'er the Battle</i> | 210 | 143 | 464 |
| <i>The Will of God Is Always</i> | 517 | 425 | 758 |
| <i>This Joyful Eastertide</i> | | 140 | 482 |
| <i>What a Friend We Have</i> | 457 | 516 | 770 |
| <i>What God Ordains Is Always</i> | 521 | 422 | 760 |
| <i>When I Suffer Pain</i> | | 423 | |
| <i>When in the Hour of Deepest</i> | 522 | 428 | 615 |
| <i>When My Last Hour Is Close</i> | 594 | | |
| <i>Who Knows When Death May</i> | 598 | | |
| <i>Why Do We Mourn Departing</i> | 593 | | |
| <i>With High Delight Let Us Unite</i> | | 134 | 483 |

Organ Music

Air on a G String, Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesus Lead Thou On, Johann Sebastian Bach

Jesu, Joy of Man 's Desiring, Johann Sebastian Bach

Largo, G. F. Handel

O World, I Now Must Leave Thee, Johannes Brahms

Writing Your Obituary

An obituary may be printed and/or read. If it is read in the Funeral Service, it may occur before the Invocation on in connection the Sermon. Several options are provided below. They must be adapted according to circumstance and may be expanded to include addition information, such as the church and location of the deceased's Baptism and Confirmation. When published, the place of burial may also be included.

Example 1

Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Let us remember with thanksgiving what Gad has done through His servant name.

Full name was given life by his/her creator and was born on date, the child of name of father and name of mother. On date, he/she received the gift of Holy Baptism and became a child of God. On date, he/she publicly confessed his/her faith and was confirmed. He/She received the precious gift of the Lord's life-giving body and blood. On date, he/she received the gift of a beloved companion in his/her spouse, name of spouse. He/She was blessed with the gift of children (a child), name(s) of child(ren). God blessed name's life with many special people as he/she served God in his/her vocations at home, church, work, and in the community. Finally, on date God blessed name with a holy death and took him/her home to rest in the arms of Jesus to await the resurrection of the dead.

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for our brother/sister name.

Example 2

Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Let us remember with thanksgiving what God has done through His servant name.

Full name, son/daughter of name of father and name of mother was born in location on date. He/She was baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit on date. He/She confessed his/her baptismal faith in the rite of Confirmation on date and was admitted to the altar to receive the medicine of immortality, Christ's life-giving body and blood. Name was joined together in holy matrimony to name of spouse on date. On date, name, at the age of ___ years, fell asleep in Jesus. He/She is survived by _____. He/She is predeceased by _____. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for our brother/sister name.

Example 3

Our Savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Let us remember with thanksgiving what God has done through His servant name.

Full name was born in _____ on date to parents name of father and name of mother. He/She was reborn as a child of God in the waters of Holy Baptism on date. On date, he/she was confirmed in the Christian faith and was fed the life-giving body and blood of Jesus. He/She was united in holy marriage to name of spouse on date and blessed with _____ years of married life together. God also blessed them with the gift of children (a child): name(s) of child(ren). On date, God called name home to heaven. He/She is survived by _____. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. We give thanks to God our Father through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for our brother/sister name.

Space to write your obituary or include items you want in your obituary

[illegible]

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Special Requests (you might note here the “little” things which could make a big difference ... clothing, jewelry, glasses, flowers, etc.).

Relatives & Friends to Be Notified

| Relationship | Name | Address | Phone |
|--------------|------|---------|-------|
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(M) Mother; (F) Father; (H) Husband; (W) Wife; (S) Son; (D) Daughter; (GF) Grandfather; (GM) Grandmother; (B) Brother; (SR) Sister; (U) Uncle; (A) Aunt; (C) Cousin; (FR) Friend; (I) In-laws; (CO) Company; (O) Organization