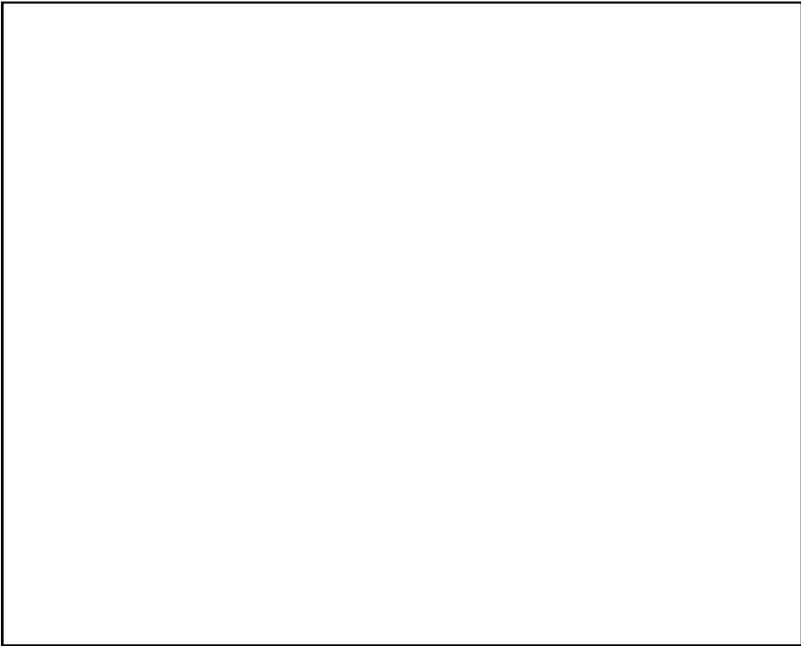


A Service Celebrating the Life of  
**Full Name**  
Date of Birth - Date of Death



Date / Time of Funeral  
Celebrant:  
Organist:  
(Location of service)

## Prelude

**Opening Hymn** Suggestions listed in the back (*usually a strong, grand hymn*)

### **Opening Anthem** (*this is optional*)

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord.  
Whoever has faith in me shall have life,  
even though he die.  
And everyone who has life,  
and has committed himself to me in faith,  
shall not die for ever.

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.

For none of us has life in himself,  
and none becomes his own master when he dies.  
For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,  
and if we die, we die in the Lord.  
So, then, whether we live or die,  
we are the Lord's possession.

Happy from now on  
are those who die in the Lord!  
So it is, says the Spirit,  
for they rest from their labors.

### **Welcome** (*clergy person*)

#### **The Collects**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant **NAME** and grant **her/him** an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with **NAMES** and their families in their grief. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **The Lessons** - Suggestions listed in the back

*(We may use all four or fewer but they will be done in this order. And you may include readings from an outside source, though clergy person would like to sign off on those ahead of time.)*

### **First Lesson**

**Psalm** *(Led by a reader. The congregation joins with them.)*

### **Second Lesson**

**Hymn** *(Quiet hymn.)*

**\*(Or Soloist here)**

### **The Gospel**

**No lead in or follow out**

**Reflections** *(A family member or a friend tell a story - not too much.)*

**\*(Or Soloist here)**

**Homily** *(clergy person)*

**\*(Or Soloist here)**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Leader:* O Gracious Light,

*People:* **Pure brightness of the ever living God.**

*Leader:* When we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,

*People:* **We sing your praises, O God:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

*Leader:* Let us give thanks to God for all the gifts  
so freely bestowed upon us,

*People:* **For the beauty and wonder of creation,  
in earth and sky and sea.**

*Leader:* For all that is gracious in our lives.

*People:* **For NAME who goes before us now.**

*Leader:* Comfort us in our sorrow at the death of our **friend, daughter,  
sister, wife, mother, aunt, grandmother.** (son, brother, husband,  
father, uncle, grandfather.)

*People:* **Let our faith be our consolation and eternal life our hope.**

*Celebrant:* In the midst of things we cannot understand, grant, O Lord that we may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience; not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of your great goodness, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those we love. **Amen.**

*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/her** soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

### **The Holy Eucharist**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them up to the Lord.**

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Bartholomew and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 Fraction**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia, Christ Our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* **Therefore let us keep the feast, alleluia.**

### **The Invitation**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### **The Communion**

*Please know that all are welcome to receive here at God's table. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine from the chalice, guiding it gently to your lips. (Or you may dip the bread into the wine.) We respond to communion by saying, "Amen." If instead you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate that by crossing your hands across your chest.*

### **The Post Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

**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.**

## The Commendation

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 mankind; 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: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints,  
**where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*The Celebrant, with hand on the ashes, says*

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 sinner of your own redeeming. Receive **him/her** into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

**Closing Words** (*clergy person*)

**The Blessing** (*or another if you prefer*)

My friends, life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us, so be quick to love and make haste to be kind. And rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned with the promise of our future than the mistakes of our past. And the blessing of God Almighty; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**The Recessional/Closing Hymn** (*usually a strong hymn*)

**The Dismissal**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People:* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant:* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

*At this point the service concludes. If committal is to take place, service will continue as follows:*

## **Readings**

### **From The Old Testament**

Genesis 32:22-30 (Jacob and the angel)  
Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death in victory)  
Isaiah 40:27-31 (They shall mount up on eagle's wings)  
Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort all that mourn)  
Jeremiah 31:7-14 (Break into shouts of joy)  
Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good unto them that wait for him)  
Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God)

### **From the New Testament**

Hebrews 11:1-8, 13-16, 12:1&2 (By faith are we called) *Very powerful lesson.*  
I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (Raised in incorruption)  
II Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things which are not seen are eternal)  
I John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)  
Philippians 3:8-14 (I press on toward the mark)  
Philippians 4:4-9 (Rejoice in the Lord always)  
Revelation 7:9-17 (God shall wipe away all tears)  
Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

### **Psalms**

Psalms 42  
Psalm 46  
Psalm 90  
Psalm 121  
Psalm 130  
Psalm 139  
Psalm 23  
Psalm 27  
Psalm 106  
Psalm 116

### **Gospel Readings**

John 5:24-27 (He that believeth hath everlasting life)  
John 6: 37-40 (All that the Father giveth me shall come to me)  
John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)  
John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)  
John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many mansions)  
Matthew 5:1-12 (The Beatitudes)  
Matthew 6:26-34 (Be not anxious/consider)

## Hymns

Make sure hymns are familiar and easy to sing.  
Include hymns which have had meaning to you in your faith.  
Here are a few recommendations. Use a hymnal to read the texts.  
If you request a hymn not in the Episcopal Hymnal, the music must be provided as arrangements are made.

### Quiet Hymns

- 24 *The day thou gavest*
- 42 *Now the day is over*
- 482 *Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy*
- 624 *Jerusalem the golden*
- 645 *The King of love my shepherd is*
- 662 *Abide with me: fast falls the eventide*
- 663 *The Lord my God my shepherd is*
- 664 *My Shepherd will supply my need*
- 669 *Commit thou all that grieves thee*
- 671 *Amazing grace! how sweet the sound*

### Strong Hymns

- 207 *Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!*
- 358 *Christ the Victorious, give to your servants*
- 376 *Joy, joyful, we adore thee*
- 397 *Now thank we all our God*
- 608 *Eternal Father, strong to save (Navy)*
- 623 *Oh what their joy and their glory must be*
- 653 *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*
- 665 *All my hope on God is founded*
- 680 *O God, our help in ages past*
- 688 *A mighty fortress is our God*

### Closing Hymns

- 287 *For all the saints, who from their labors rest*
- 541 *Come labor on*
- 618 *Ye watchers and ye holy ones*
- 625 *Ye holy angels bright*