

Funeral and Memorial Services



St. Andrew's River Heights United Church

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*A human life is sacred.
It is sacred in its being born,
it is sacred in its living,
and it is sacred in its dying.*

Funeral or Memorial Service at St. Andrew's

The church offers a place to celebrate the life of your loved one. Funerals and memorial services may take place in the church or in a funeral home/chapel. When in the church, they are to be conducted by one of the ministers of St. Andrew's Church. If you would like another minister to assist, this should be discussed with one of our ministers who will make those arrangements.

Our organist is responsible to play for all funerals and memorial services. If necessary, a substitute will be arranged by our organist.

The service recognizes both the pain and sorrow that accompanies death and the hope and joy of the promises of God to be with us in life, in death, in life beyond death. The service celebrates the life of the deceased, gives thanks for that person's life, and commends that life to God. It provides the community with an opportunity to support the bereaved with their presence. Its purpose is to affirm once more the powerful, steadfast love of God from which people cannot be separated, even by death.

The service is an act of corporate worship: God's word is read and proclaimed and prayers are offered. Music plays an important role. In particular, the use of congregational hymns is a wonderful way to allow friends and family to actively participate in the service. An outline of the Order of Service may be found on page 4. Suggestions of appropriate music and scripture readings may be found on pages 5-7.

Donations

The funeral director can arrange a newspaper obituary or you may arrange it yourself. It can be stated that you prefer donations to church (e.g. the St. Andrew's River Heights United Church Foundation) especially if the church played an important role in their lives, or charities, in lieu of flowers.

Bulletins

Bulletins are available but not mandatory, especially if memorial cards are being made by the funeral home that include the order of service. Bulletins can include a picture as well as the order of service. This should be discussed with the minister preparing the service.

Reception Following the Service

A reception is often held at the home, at the church, or at the funeral home. If a luncheon is held at the church, you may retain your own caterer, or there is a group that is familiar with the church that you may wish to use. They will provide the following services: coffee, tea, trimmings; set-up, clean-up and serving. Other services are available upon request. Church dishes and cutlery may be used. They will discuss with you their costs.

Honoraria and Fees

Fees should be placed in separate envelopes and left with the office administrator or one of the ministers.

Use of church facilities	no fee
Organist	\$150.00 (min.)
Soloist (subject to availability)	\$100.00 (min.)
Caretaker	\$100.00 (min.)
Sound System.....	\$100.00 (min.)
Minister's honorarium.....	\$200.00 (min.)

***Contact the church office to make arrangements for payments.*

Suggested Order of Service

Changes can be discussed with the minister planning this service:

Organ Prelude
Greeting
Hymn/Solo
Opening Prayer
Hymn
Recollections/Eulogy/Remembrances/Memories
Scriptures
Hymn
Meditation/Sermon/Message
Prayers of the People/Community Prayer
The Lord's Prayer/The Prayer of Jesus
Hymn
Commendation
Blessing and Sending Forth – Postlude

Music for Funeral/Memorial Services

The following list reflects the strong musical tradition of our congregation and includes pieces played by the current organist.

Recordings of many of these pieces can be found online, at YouTube or other sources. Track numbers in the list refer to a website found at www.trinity.unimelb.edu.au/about/flagship-programs/choir/booking-the-choir.html, which contains short samples for your perusal. No list will ever be all-inclusive. If you have alternate suggestions, please feel free to discuss them with the organist.

Prelude/Postlude

The organ prelude and the postlude are normally selected by the organist unless you have particular requests.

Solo

If you would like to have a soloist, please let us know as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made. If you have one of your choice let us know.

Hymns

Hymns provide family and friends with an opportunity to actively participate in the service. Singing together can enhance the sense of community and support for the family. Even a small congregation can sing effectively. You may already have a favorite hymn or hymns in mind, but if not, the following suggestions from *Voices United* may be helpful. Choose one or two hymns or songs:

HYMN	No.
Abide with Me	436
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God	262
All the Way My Saviour Leads Me	635
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound	266
Beneath the Cross of Jesus	135
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation	325
Come, Let Us to the God of Love	653
Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing	223

HYMN	No.
For All the Saints	705
Give Thanks for Life	706
Great Is Thy Faithfulness	288
Guide Me, O thou Great Jehovah.....	651
He Leadeth Me	657
Here I am Lord.....	509
How Firm a Foundation.....	660
How Great Thou Art.....	238
In the Bulb There is a Flower.....	703
I Need Thee Every Hour.....	671
In Suffering Love	614
In the Quiet Curve of Evening	278
I See a New Heaven.....	713
I Was There to Hear Your Bournig Cry.....	644
Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me	637
Joyful, Joyful.....	232
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.....	333
My Faith Looks Up to Thee	663
Morning Has Broken.....	409
Now Thank We All Our God	236
O God of Bethel.....	650
O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go	658
O Worship the King	235
O God , Our Help in Ages Past.....	806
On Eagle's Wings.....	808
Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven	240
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	220
Rejoice, the Lord is King.....	213
Shall We Gather at the River.....	710
She Flies On.....	380
Thine is the Glory	173
The Lord's My Shepherd.....	747

HYMN	No.
Those Hearts That We Have Treasured.....	494
What A Friend We Have in Jesus.....	664
We Shall Go Out With Hope.....	586
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross	149
Will Your Anchor Hold	675

PSALM	Page
23 The Lord’s My Shepherd	747
42 As the Deer Pants for the Water.....	766
90 O God, Our Help in Ages Past	806
121 Unto the Hills	842

Appropriate Scripture Readings

Many families leave the selection of scripture readings to the minister. If you would like to choose your own passages, but would like some assistance, we do have a list of scriptures passages, that can be copied or emailed to you directly. Please speak to one of the ministers or office administrator to receive this information.

Eulogies

Eulogies are welcomed. Eulogy means “good words.” A eulogy helps the gathered body to remember and celebrate the life of the deceased, Anecdotes and particularly moving short stories are received more positively than a complete version of the person’s entire life which is often written in the obituary for the newspaper. Family members or friends are welcome to lead this time, but it can be quite challenging. It is often easier for someone who is not part of the immediate family to take on this role. This will free the family to participate in the service and be as present as possible to each other rather than worrying about what they are going to say.

Flowers/ Pictures

Flowers are a lovely expression of beauty in Creation and are welcome to be present during a funeral/memorial service. Deliveries can be made to the church during weekdays between 9:00 and 3:00, arrangements for other times can be made, discuss this with the church office. If the family so chooses flowers may remain in the Sanctuary to be enjoyed by the

congregation for Sunday morning worship, in memory of your loved one. The flowers will then be shared with folks who are shut-in or hospitalized with illness. Families will often bring pictures for the church which can be put on the communion table or displayed at the back of the church. Have someone responsible for setting up the pictures and the flowers.

Service /Groups

Many folks are active in a number of service organizations beyond the Church community, which often have their own farewell liturgies; Shriners, Masons, Eastern Star, Kiwanis, Royal Canadian Legion. When a request is made to have these groups participate in the funeral/memorial, it is generally incorporated into the early part of the service. Please notify the minister if this is something you would like to integrate into the service.

Interment/Burial at the Cemetery

The actual burial of remains can happen at several different times. Some families decide to have the internment before the formal service, immediately following the service, after the reception and sometimes on a completely different day or season to accommodate for weather or out of town family. The internment will be discussed and planned when the family gathers with the Minister to prepare the service.

Contact Information

Church Office - office@standrewsriverheights.com	204-488-1130
Ministers: Karen Lumley klumley@standrewsriverheights.com	204-250-5073
Organist: Wes Elias	204-896-7710
Reception: Diane Bowles	204-488-0174

Please feel free to be in contact with Rev. Karen Lumley, should you have any further questions or concerns regarding a funeral/memorial service for you or your loved ones.

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