



# *Life After Death*

Planning a funeral or  
memorial service  
for your loved one  
or yourself

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# ARRANGEMENTS PRIOR TO DEATH

It is a gift to ourselves and to those we love when we take the steps necessary to plan and arrange for our own funeral before we die. Thinking about, preparing for and acting on this final, inevitable event in our life is an expression of care and concern for those we leave behind.

Over 50 decisions must be made within a very short time after death. It is difficult to make wise, discerning decisions when grief overwhelms. Death strains the emotions of most families, sometimes igniting disputes which can be avoided by careful planning. By identifying your wishes in writing, you will eliminate the need for your family to make many critical decisions.

Consider pre-paying your funeral expenses or providing financial resources (a designated bank account, life insurance policy, burial policy) that are sufficient to cover the costs and expenses of your funeral and interment. This amount should be readily available. Your funeral provider will identify costs, whether you choose to pre-pay or have designated funds used when necessary. A funeral can be financially devastating for your family if you have not made arrangements. If possible, do not leave this for someone else to pay.

Finally, the planning guidelines that follow should be discussed with the person who will execute your wishes or participate in the funeral. Someone should know exactly what you want and have planned before you die.

# WHAT TO DO AT THE TIME OF DEATH

There are some basic procedures to consider, especially those concerning the actual event of death, prior to implementing the wishes and directives specified by the deceased.

1. If death occurs in a hospital, the hospital will call the funeral director that you choose.
2. If death occurs at home under hospice care, call the hospice nurse, who will make all the necessary arrangements.
3. If death occurs at home and hospice care is not involved, call 911, and the dispatcher will contact the county medical examiner. The medical examiner will come to your home and certify the death. The medical examiner will then contact the funeral home and initiate any directives for transporting the body.
4. After the legalities of death have been satisfied, call the church office at, 214-368-1435. The after-hours emergency number is recorded there. A minister will respond and help you with funeral or memorial service scheduling and answer any questions you may have.
5. Arrange a meeting to plan the funeral service with the minister who you would like to officiate at the funeral.
6. As an alternative to burial, the church offers its members and immediate family inurnment in our Columbarium. There is a fee for rights of inurnment which includes a niche, up to two urns, plaque engraving, and perpetual care. It does not include cost of cremation, transportation and other off-premises cost.

In the event that the loved one is being inurned in our columbarium, the minister will include a representative from our columbarium committee to discuss the inurnment process. It should be noted that it may take up to two weeks for the funeral home to return ashes and for plaque engraving to be completed. Once engraving is complete, the family (or funeral home) can deliver ashes to the church for placement in the family's niche.

7. Arrange a meeting with the funeral director to complete any necessary arrangements and payment of services.

## PEOPLE TO NOTIFY UPON DEATH

Name	Phone
1. _____	
2. _____	
3. _____	
4. _____	
5. _____	
6. _____	
7. _____	
8. _____	
9. _____	
10. _____	

## LOCAL FUNERAL HOMES

Following is a sampling of reputable funeral homes in the Dallas area that you may wish to use in selecting a provider of funeral or crematory services for you and your family. After you have narrowed your choice, we suggest that you arrange to visit the funeral homes you have selected before making a final selection.

<b>Sparkman/Hillcrest Funeral Home</b>	214-363-5401
7405 W. NW Highway, Dallas, TX 75225	
<b>Restland of Dallas</b>	972-238-7111
9220 Restland Road, Dallas TX, 75243	
<b>Aria Cremation Service &amp; Funeral Home</b>	214-340-8008
10116 E. NW Highway, Dallas, TX 75238	
<b>Local Cremation.com</b>	214-343-4041
8499 Greenville Ave, 3107, Dallas, TX 75231	

# UNIVERSITY PARK UMC FUNERAL GUIDELINES

United Methodist clergy and clergy from other Christian denominations are welcome to assist in funerals at University Park UMC. The officiating clergy will extend the invitation and welcome the visiting clergy.

No fees for use of the building, for funerals or for the officiating minister's services are required for church members. The Sanctuary seats 5-600 people, the Chapel seats 20 and the Caldwell Room seats 60-80. Before setting a time with the funeral director, confirm with the minister of your choice his or her availability for the day and time of the service. This step should be done first so that it can be included in the obituary. For non-members, a clergy honorarium of \$200 is customary.

If you desire the services of an organist/pianist, soloist or an audiovisual person, University Park UMC will assist in finding the proper personnel. The customary honorarium for each is \$150-\$175. Each check should be made payable to the person who is part of the funeral service. If you prefer, a family member or friend may sing. Consult with our organist, Clinton Bray, cbray@upumc.org. No recorded music is permitted and electronic amplification (microphones) of vocal music is not permitted.

University Park UMC will create a printed program for the service if you desire. The number of programs printed will depend on the number of guests expected. There is no charge for printing the programs. You will be asked to submit a photo of your loved one and an obituary 72 hours in advance of the service, if possible.

Live-streaming of the service is available. Streaming will begin 20 minutes before the service and last 90 minutes past the stated start time. The customary honorarium for live-streaming is \$150.

Should you want a reception at the church, the minister who is officiating the service will help arrange the reception. Receptions may be held in three areas of the church. The rooms and the capacities are as follows:

<u>Room</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Gathering Area	100
Caldwell Room	100
Fellowship Hall	300
Activity Center	500

No more than one reception may be scheduled for one room on any one day to avoid usage conflicts.

Receptions must not last more than two (2) hours following the memorial service.

No alcoholic beverages are permitted.

If outside catering for the reception is desired, please contact our Director of Hospitality at 214-368-1435 about hosting a special event.

Memorial photos of your loved one may be displayed in the Sanctuary Reception Area prior to the service.

Generally, the family arrives at the church at least 30 minutes before the service. A private area for the family to gather before the service will be provided. A staff member will escort the family into the Sanctuary/Chapel at the beginning of the service. You will need to know about how many family members will be attending, so that the appropriate number of pews may be reserved.

# OPTIONS FOR A FUNERAL OR A MEMORIAL SERVICE

The death of a loved one is a life-changing experience for those left behind. Life is never quite the same after the death of someone you love. A meaningful, well-planned funeral or memorial service is essential to the healing of broken hearts.

The use of the word “funeral” is appropriate for a service with the body of the deceased present. The use of the word “memorial” is appropriate when the body of the deceased is not present.

Meaningful funerals and memorial services celebrate our loved one’s life, and the hope of the promise of eternal life through faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The “Service of Death and Resurrection” is appropriate to a wide variety of situations. It expresses clearly the twofold nature of what is done: the facts of death and bereavement are honestly faced, and the gospel of resurrection is celebrated. Those services could include:

- a burial (private or public) before the service
- a burial (private or public) after the service
- a cremation and inurnment of ashes
- a cremation and no inurnment of ashes
- a cremation only, with no service
- a funeral or memorial service without graveside service
- a burial only, with no funeral, memorial or graveside service
- a graveside service (private or public) with burial
- a graveside service (private or public) with inurnment of ashes
- a visitation at the funeral home before the service
- no visitation at the funeral home before the service



# MEMORIAL GIFTS

If you decide that instead of flowers you would like gifts made in memory of your loved one, consider designating University Park United Methodist Church or its Foundation for those gifts. Gift acknowledgments will be sent to your family and to the donors.

## MEMORIALS MAY BE MADE TO:

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# THE SERVICE

\_\_\_Funeral Service with body

\_\_\_Memorial Service without body

\_\_\_Graveside Service

\_\_\_No service

Service starting time: \_\_\_\_\_

Service to be held at: \_\_\_\_\_

Service will be officiated by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Words of Remembrance given by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Scriptures to be used \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Scriptures to be read by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Poems, prayers, creeds to be used \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Music/hymns to be sung or performed by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DVD furnished upon request \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Soloist \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Organist/pianist or other instrumentalists \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Florist \_\_\_\_\_

Pallbearers \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## FLOWERS

Flower orders may be delivered directly to the church. They will be stored or placed in the proper location the day of the service.

# TRADITIONAL ORDER OF SERVICE

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

Selection of favorite hymns

## WORD OF GRACE AND GREETING

Words delivered by a pastor

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Congregation will be led by a pastor

## GLORIA PATRI

Sung in unison

## SCRIPTURES

Read by a pastor, family or friends

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Prayer by a pastor

## LORD'S PRAYER

## SOLO

## WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Family or friends share memories of the deceased

## MESSAGE

Delivered by a pastor

## HYMN

A congregational hymn

## BENEDICTION

Blessing offered by a pastor

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Selection of hymns played

# WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER DEATH

1. Contact the Social Security Administration.  
([www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or 1-800-772-1213)
  - Report the death.
  - Request the necessary changes for survivor benefit payments to spouse or children.
  - Spouse may apply for the one-time death benefit of \$255.
2. Contact your accountant and attorney for filing of:
  - Estate Tax Return, due nine months after date of death.
  - Federal and State Tax Returns.
3. Contact banks and credit unions.
  - Report the death.
  - Check for life insurance coverage on savings accounts, checking accounts and loans.
  - Remember that accounts held in the sole name of the deceased are frozen at the time of death.
4. Contact the Veterans' Administration in the case of military service ([www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or 1-800-827-1000).
5. Review the status of credit cards.
  - Cancel all credit cards held in the name of the deceased unless there is a surviving spouse on the account.
  - If there is a surviving spouse, change the name of the cardholder on the credit card account to the name of the survivor as the primary and sole cardholder.

# UNDERSTANDING GRIEF

The death of a loved one changes our lives forever. Each person may experience some or all of the clinical stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, depression, acceptance). Grief understanding allows us – in our own way and in our own time – to examine the experience of death and decide how we incorporate it into our lives.

There is no timeline for grief. There is no time limit for grief. Each person grieves differently. The length of time that we grieve is often more important to those who are perhaps uncomfortable with our grief and want us to “get over it” or “get on with our lives.” Grief has a life of its own. The head must follow the heart. Grief will not be rushed.

Grief is shock at the suddenness with which life’s plans have been changed. Grief is anger at the untimely death of a loved one. Grief is sadness. Grief is the pain of starting to speak to someone who is no longer here. Grief is loneliness. Grief is wishing that things were as they used to be and knowing that they never will be again. Grief is contemplation, as we meditate on the finality of our own earthly life.

Working through our thoughts and feelings (anger, guilt, abandonment, fear) about what has happened is an important part of grief. As we better understand grief, we gradually transition from victim to survivor. We are survivors when we are empowered by the experiences of life and death and live beyond death to claim new strength and new life for ourselves.

Many grieving Christians feel guilty for crying or being sad, thinking that a person with a strong faith should feel happy if the loved one has died and gone to heaven. We can believe beyond doubt that our loved one is with God, but we are human, and we hurt. We are in pain. This does not mean that we are bad Christians or that we have weak faith. Grieving is really a show of faith. We trust God to hold us at our most vulnerable time, when our life is in pieces and our strength is gone. This is faith.

Grief is not a crisis of faith; it is a crisis of the heart. God lifts us up when we have fallen, strengthens us when we are weak, encourages us when we are in despair, and wipes away our tears of sorrow. We know that our lives are in the hands of a loving, caring, merciful God. God cares about us in death. God cares about us in grief. God is faithful. We are not alone.

Grief is hard work. Grief feels like a full-time job, an emotional and physical preoccupation that is relentless and demanding. Grief exacts a toll on the body, mind, spirit and soul. Healthy grief reconciliation will allow the mourner to adjust to the new reality of moving forward in life without the loved one. We gradually incorporate loss into our lives and conform our grief to life in the mainstream as we begin to accept that our lives have changed.

When our hearts are burdened and heavy-laden with grief, we need to be conscious of seeking rest: rest for our bodies, rest for our minds, rest for our hearts, rest for our souls. Find rest for your grieving soul.

## SUPPORT

University Park UMC provides support to you after the death of your loved one through Pastoral Care. Our ministry staff is always available to serve you. During non-business hours, please call the church at 214-368-1435, and a recorded message will give you an emergency number to call.





A SERVICE OF DEATH AND RESURRECTION  
FOR

*John Doe Smith*



July 13, 1948 - November 12, 2026

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Saturday, January 14, 2026 | 2:00 p.m.

University Park United Methodist Church  
4024 Caruth Blvd.  
Dallas, TX 75025

## THE APOSTLES' CREED 882

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was  
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under  
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to  
the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is  
seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the  
living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the  
body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## GLORIA PATRI 71

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER 895

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, forever.  
Amen.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Joe Stobaugh  
Dr. Elise Choi, Organist  
Tiffany Silva, soloist

**UNIVERSITY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Dallas, Texas**

Saturday, January 14, 2026

2 p.m., Sanctuary

**Opening Voluntary**

**Words of Grace & Greeting**

**Hymn 89**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

**Affirmation of Faith 882**

**Gloria Patri 71**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 40:1-5

Page 667 in the Old Testament in the pew Bible

**Psalms 23**

**Hymn 60**

I'll Praise My Maker

verses 1, 2, 4

**New Testament Reading**

Romans 8

Page 157 in the New Testament in the pew Bible

**Sermon**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Hymn 102**

Now Thank We All Our God

**Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**

Toccata from Symphony for Organ No. 5

Obituary placed here

In lieu of flowers the family asks you to  
consider a gift in John's memory to:

University Park United Methodist Church  
[www.upumc.org/memorials](http://www.upumc.org/memorials)



4024 Caruth Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75225  
214-368-1435 | [www.upumc.org](http://www.upumc.org)

## SUGGESTED READINGS

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The Elephant in the Room . . . . .	24
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Miss Me. . . . .	26
Life is a Journey . . . . .	27
To Those I Loved and to Those Who Love Me . . . . .	28
Death is Nothing at All . . . . .	29
I am Free . . . . .	30
Do Not Stand By My Grave and Weep. . . . .	31
What Cancer Cannot Do. . . . .	32

# GONE FROM MY SIGHT

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength. I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!"

"Gone where?"

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side and she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her. And just at the moment when someone at my side says: "There, she is gone!" there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout:

"Here she comes!"

BY HENRY VAN DYKE

# HYMN OF PROMISE

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree  
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

NATALIE SLEETH

# THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

There's an elephant in the room.  
It is large and squatting, so it is hard to get around it.  
Yet we squeeze by with, "How are you?" and, "I'm fine"  
And a thousand other forms of trivial chatter.  
We talk about the weather;  
We talk about work.  
We talk about everything else--  
Except the elephant in the room.

There's an elephant in the room.  
We all know it is there.  
We are thinking about the elephant as we talk together.  
It is constantly on our minds.  
For, you see, it is a very big elephant.  
It has hurt us all.  
But we do not talk about the elephant in the room.  
Oh, please, say her name.  
Oh, please, say "Barbara" again.

Oh, please, let's talk about the elephant in the room.  
For if we talk about her death  
Perhaps we can talk about her life?  
Can I say "Barbara" to you and not have you look away?  
For if I cannot, then you are leaving me  
Alone. . .  
In a room. . .  
With an elephant.

TERRY KETTERING



# I'M FREE

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took His hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found that place at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me.  
God wanted me now, He set me free.

LINDA JO JACKSON

# MISS ME

Miss me, but let me go  
When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little – but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that we once shared  
Miss me – but let me go

For this is a journey that we must all take  
And each must go alone  
It's all a part of the Master's plan  
A step on the road to home

When you are lonely, and sick of heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds  
Miss me – but let me go.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

# LIFE IS A JOURNEY

Birth is a beginning and death a destination  
But life is a journey, a going—a growing  
From stage to stage, from childhood to maturity and youth to age.  
From innocence to awareness and ignorance to knowing;  
From foolishness to discretion and then perhaps, to wisdom.  
From weakness to strength or strength to weakness and, often, back  
again.  
From health to sickness and back we pray, to health again.  
From offense to forgiveness, from loneliness to love,  
From joy to gratitude, from pain to compassion,  
And grief to understanding, from fear to faith.  
From defeat to defeat to defeat, until looking backward or ahead,  
We see that victory lies not as some high place along the way,  
But in having made the journey, stage by stage.  
A sacred pilgrimage.  
Birth is a beginning and death a destination.  
But life is a journey, a sacred pilgrimage  
Made stage by stage to life everlasting.

RABBI ALVIN FINE

# TO THOSE I LOVED AND TO THOSE WHO LOVE ME

When I am gone, set me free  
For I have many things to see.  
Don't tie yourself to me with tears,  
We were blessed to share so many years.

I gave you my love, and you can guess  
How much you gave me in happiness.  
I thank you for the love you've shown,  
But now it is time I travel alone.  
So grieve a while, if grieve you must,  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.

Bless our memories with your heart,  
It is only for a while that we must part.  
And though you can't see me,  
I pledge to be near.  
Listen with your heart, and you will hear  
My love all around you, soft and dear.

Then when you come this way alone,  
I'll greet you with a smile and welcome you home.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

# DEATH IS NOTHING AT ALL

Death is nothing at all.

I have only slipped away into the next room,

I am I and you are you.

Whatever we were to each other, that we still are.

Call me by my old familiar name,

Speak to me in the easy way which you always used,

Put no difference in your tone,

Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow,

Laugh as we always laughed,

At the little jokes we enjoyed together.

Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.

Let it be spoken without effect,

Without the trace of a shadow on it.

Life means all that it ever meant,

It is the same that it ever was.

There is unbroken continuity.

Why should I be out of mind,

Because I am out of sight?

I am waiting for you, for an interval,

Somewhere very near,

Just around the corner, all is well.

HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND

# I AM FREE

Do not weep, for I am free.  
I lived my life as was meant to be.  
I loved and laughed, lived so care-free.  
My family and friends were such a big part of me.

But now I am part of something more.  
My spirit is free; free to soar.  
And as I completed my earthly plan.  
I left a gift for my fellow man.  
A gift so wondrous, so filled with love.  
A second chance; the gift of life.

I gave others more time...  
To feel the hugs of ones they love.  
To hear the laughter of their friends.  
To see the sun rise on the horizon.  
To walk, to dance, to smile again.

So don't be sad I ask again.  
My time on earth was not in vain.  
Please do not mourn about my fate.  
Just remember my life and celebrate.  
For all the great times we had together.  
Live on in our hearts and souls forever.

So if you wish to honor me.  
Live your life in gratitude.  
Be kind to others, help those in need.  
It's up to you to sow the seed.  
Above all remember this.  
Do not mourn, for I am free.

# DO NOT STAND BY MY GRAVE AND WEEP

Do not stand at my grave and weep:  
I am not there. I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the softly falling snow,  
I am the gentle showers of rain,  
I am the field of ripening grain.

I am in the morning hush,  
I am in the grateful rush  
Of beautiful birds in circling flight.  
I am the starshine of the night.

I am in the flowers that bloom.  
I am in a quiet room.  
I am the birds that sing.  
I am in each lovely thing.

So do not stand by my grave and cry.  
I am not there.  
I did not die.

MARY E. FRYE

# WHAT CANCER CANNOT DO

Cancer is so limited.

It cannot cripple love.

It cannot shatter hope.

It cannot corrode faith.

It cannot kill friendship.

It cannot suppress memories.

It cannot silence courage.

It cannot invade the soul.

It cannot steal eternal life.

It cannot conquer the Spirit.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN



# HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Amazing Grace . . . . .	No. 378
Be Thou My Vision . . . . .	No. 451
Blessed Assurance. . . . .	No. 369
Great is Thy Faithfulness . . . . .	No. 140
He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought. . . . .	No. 128
How Great Thou Art . . . . .	No. 77
Hymn of Promise . . . . .	No. 707
In the Garden . . . . .	No. 314
It is Well with My Soul . . . . .	No. 377
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee . . . . .	No. 89
My Hope is Built . . . . .	No. 368
Nearer, My God, to Thee . . . . .	No. 528
Old Rugged Cross. . . . .	No. 504
On Eagle's Wings . . . . .	No. 143
Precious Lord, Take My Hand . . . . .	No. 474
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me . . . . .	No. 361
Shall We Gather at the River . . . . .	No. 723
Surely the Presence of the Lord . . . . .	No. 328
What a Friend We Have in Jesus. . . . .	No. 526
What Wondrous Love is This. . . . .	No. 292

# SCRIPTURE SUGGESTIONS

## PSALM 16:9-11

No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice.

My body rests in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead

or allow Your Holy One to rot in the grave.

You will show me the way of life,

granting me the joy of Your presence

and the pleasures of living with You forever.

## PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

he leads me beside still waters,

he restores my soul.

He guides me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

Yea though I walk

through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me.

in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me

all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord

forever.

## PSALM 27:1, 4-9A, 13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life—  
of whom shall I be afraid?  
One thing I ask of the Lord,  
this is what I seek:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the day of my life,  
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord  
and to seek him in his temple.  
For in the day of trouble  
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;  
he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle  
and set me high upon a rock.  
Then my head will be exalted  
above the enemies who surround me;  
at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make music to the Lord.  
Hear my voice when I call, O Lord;  
be merciful to me and answer me.  
My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"  
Your face, Lord, I will seek.  
Do not hide your face from me,  
do not turn your servant away in anger;  
you have been my helper.  
I am still confident of this:  
I will see the goodness of the Lord  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the Lord;  
be strong and take heart  
and wait for the Lord.

## PSALM 91 (VERSES 1-6, 14, 15)

Those who live in the shelter of the Most High  
will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

This I declare about the Lord:

He alone is my refuge, my place of safety;

He is my God, and I trust Him.

For He will rescue you from every trap  
and protect you from deadly disease.

He will cover you with His feathers.

He will shelter you with His wings.

His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies in the day.

Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness,  
nor the disaster that strikes at midday.

The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love Me.

I will protect those who trust in My name.

When they call on Me, I will answer;

I will be with them in trouble.

I will rescue and honor them.

I will give them My salvation."

## PSALM 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
    where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
    the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip—  
    he who watches over you will not slumber;  
Indeed, he who watches over Israel  
    will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you—  
    the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
the sun will not harm you by day,  
    nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm—  
    he will watch over your life;  
The Lord will watch over your coming and going  
    both now and forevermore.

## JOB 19:25-27

I know that my Redeemer lives,  
    and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.  
And after my skin has been destroyed,  
    yet in my flesh I will see God.  
I myself will see him  
    with my own eyes—I, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!

## ISAIAH 65:17-19

Behold, I will create  
new heavens and a new earth.  
The former things will not be remembered,  
nor will they come to mind.  
But be glad and rejoice forever  
in what I will create,  
for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight  
and its people a joy.  
I will rejoice over Jerusalem  
and take delight in my people;  
the sound of weeping and of crying  
will be heard in it no more.

## ECCLESIASTES 3

There is a time for everything,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain,  
a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

## JOHN 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

## JOHN 14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms, if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me, that you also may be where I am. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.



## ROMANS 8

"If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us – will he not also graciously give us all things? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is speaking to God for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Can trouble do it, or hardship, or persecution, or hunger, or poverty, or danger, or death? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loves us. For I am convinced that nothing can separate us from his love: neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, neither the world above nor the world below, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## ROMANS 10:9-13

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Paul then quotes from the Book of Isaiah, saying) "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, (He then quotes from the Book of Joel, saying) "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved

# 1 CORINTHIANS 15

A seed must die before it can sprout from the ground. Wheat seeds and all other seeds look different from the sprouts that come up. This is because God gives everything the kind of body he wants it to have. Everything in heaven has a body, and so does everything on earth. But each one is very different from all the others. That's how it will be when our bodies are raised to life. Our bodies will die, but the bodies that are raised will live forever. Our weak bodies will become beautiful and strong. As surely as there are physical bodies, there are spiritual bodies. And our physical bodies will be changed into spiritual bodies.

## I CORINTHIANS 15:51-55, 57

"Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory."

"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

## 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

## 2 CORINTHIANS & REVELATION

Our bodies are like tents that we live in here on earth. But when these tents are destroyed, we know that God will give each of us a place to live. These homes will not be buildings that someone has made, but they are in heaven and will last forever.

In that new home, "Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For Christ, who will be at the center of the throne, will be their shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

## PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## 1 PETER 1: 3-5A, 8-9

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by His great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. And through your faith, God is protecting you by His power until you receive this salvation.

You love Him even though you have never seen Him. Though you do not see Him now, you trust Him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. The reward for trusting Him will be the salvation of your soul.

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

We are not alone; we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth;  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from  
the dead; He ascended into Heaven and sitteth at the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the  
quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic  
(universal) church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

# PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to  
eternal life. Amen

## SOLO SUGGESTIONS

Abide with Me

Amazing Grace

Ave Maria (Schubert)

Blessed Assurance

Hymn of Promise

It Is Well with My Soul

On Eagle's Wings

Pie Jesu (Fauré)

The Lord's Prayer (Malotte)



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