



Planning Your Funeral or Memorial Service  
at  
James Island Presbyterian Church

*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38:39

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# James Island Presbyterian Church

## Policies for Memorial or Funeral Services

The James Island Presbyterian Church considers the memorial or funeral service as a witness to the resurrection. We gather as family and friends to mourn the loss of a loved one, to say a temporary good-bye, but to always remember that in the resurrection of Jesus Christ we have hope for our resurrection. As such the service should reflect both solemnity and joy and above all should be worship of our God who saves.

The Church offers a ministry of hope and love to all who grieve. Church members are encouraged to have their service at the Church. As Christians we gather in the Church to baptize, marry, and worship in the name of God who gives us life. These experiences help us to understand that death is a natural part of life and that for the Christian, death is not the end of life, but is truly the beginning of the richer fuller life of God's kingdom.

The minister will meet with you for about 1 hour to discuss special inclusions in homily, music, scriptures etc. a few days prior to the service. The following guidelines may assist you as you begin preparing for the service

1. Casket/Urn Placement
2. It is the desire of the ministers of James Island Presbyterian Church that funeral or memorial services are as meaningful and sacred as possible. Family requests for music are coordinated between the minister and the organist. Please call the Church Office, 795-3111, to speak with Jan Pesavento or a minister. Music should be sacred music, appropriate for a worship service. No prerecorded music should be used.
3. Military/fraternal and or civic rites are performed at the graveside
4. Reflections by family and friends are welcomed as long as they are kept brief.
5. Doug Oswald coordinates cemetery preparation/ burial lots/ or graveside flowers. He can be reached 843-795-8243.
6. Disposition of Ashes. A memorial garden is located on church grounds for the disposition of ashes.

7. Congregational Care would be happy to provide a reception for the family and friends after the service. Let the minister or church office know if the family would like a reception after the funeral, including the approximate number of people that are expected to attend. This enables Congregational Care in the preparation of refreshments. However, no receptions will be offered on Wednesday or other days that the kitchen is already in use for other church functions. There will be a \$50 janitorial fee charged for all receptions.
8. Picture Displays are allowed in the sanctuary. Please inform the minister the number of easels that will be needed, and if family would like pictures to be displayed at the reception after the service.
9. James Island Presbyterian Church does not charge for the use of its facilities for a memorial or funeral service for one of its members. An honorarium for the minister or anyone else is at the discretion of the family.

#### Planning Your Service/ Memorial Gifts/ Estate Planning

In preparing for your funeral or memorial service, you must make many decisions. Please express your wishes in the space provided. Return this form to the church office where it will be kept in a confidential file until needed. Keep one copy for your records or give a copy to a family member. To assist with guidance, please contact the pastor.

Please complete a separate form for each family member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to have a Funeral Service

I wish to have a Memorial Service

I wish to have a Memorial Service with private interment

I wish to have graveside only

(Location of the Service)

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home in charge of arrangements

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### Suggested Scripture

Scripture: Psalms: 90,139, 130,103,121, 23, Job 14, Luke 23.32-37, John 14.1-7, I Corinthians 15, Romans 8.31-39.

### Scripture Selections

Please use the following scriptures

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### Hymns:

Almost any hymn in our purple hymnal is appropriate for a funeral or Memorial Service. Some other suggested hymns:

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*Love Divine, All Love Excelling*

*The Church's One Foundation*

*The Strife Is Over*

*Amazing Grace*  
*In the Garden*

Hymn Selections

Please use the following hymns:

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Solo Selections

We have many fine soloists here at our Church who are willing to sing if available.

Suggested Soloists (If available)

Julie Frye (any Hymn)

Cheri McElwee (*In the Garden*)

Billy McCord, David Parler (*The Lord's Prayer*)

Elton Culpepper (Contemporary with guitar)

Wendy Boswell (with guitar)

I wish to have the following solo(s) at my service:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Soloist: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Participants:

Minister(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Pall Bearers \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Gifts/Estate Planning Options

1. List various ministries of the Church
2. Pastor to disburse according to his or her discretion
3. Family Member to decide
4. List of Trust Funds
5. Any other wishes, Universities, Hospice etc.

I would like for any memorial gifts to be designated to: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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