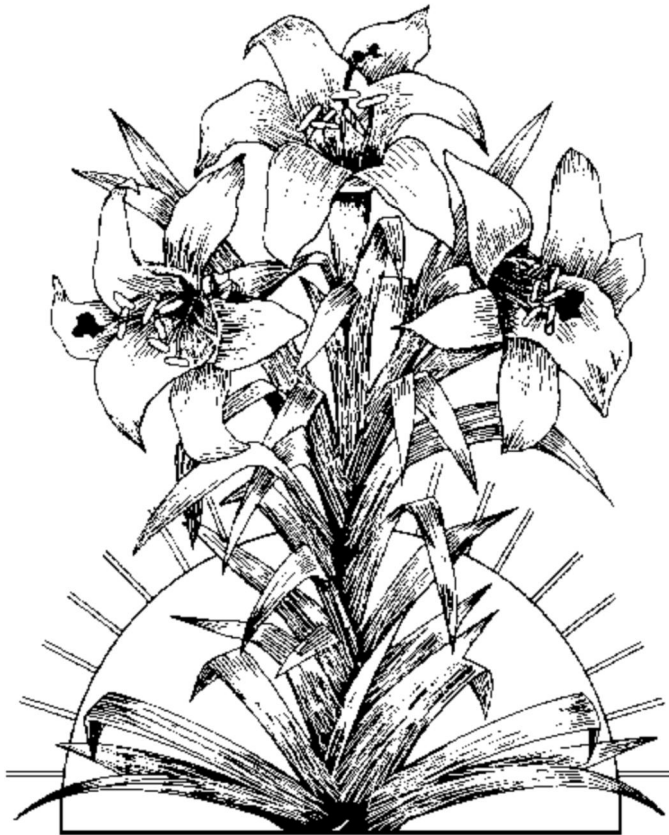


# Guidelines for Funeral or Memorial Services



*Cottage Grove  
United Church of Christ*

The staff and community of Cottage Grove United Church of Christ express our deepest sympathies to you during your time of loss. We hope that these guidelines will make a confusing and difficult time easier for you.

Your first step is to contact the church office at (651) 459-1501 or the pastor ([pastor@cgucc.org](mailto:pastor@cgucc.org)) to notify the pastor of the death. The pastor, working with the funeral home and/or yourself will help to arrange the date and time of the service.

## **Planning the Service**

The pastor will help you plan the service.

The funeral or memorial service, reflects the church's faith and hope in Christ's Resurrection.

The service typically includes prayers, Scripture readings, hymns, and a homily (brief sermon). Special music or other options for music/video can be discussed with the pastor. The services of the church organist may be utilized if available. A eulogy by one or more loved ones may be included, or the family may choose to invite members of the congregation to come forward during the service and share memories of the departed. These details are worked out with the pastor prior to the service.

## *Scriptures and Other Readings*

Suggestions for Scriptures are listed below. Other readings should be discussed with the pastor. You may have as many readings and readers as you desire. We prefer that you have at least one scripture reading.

### *Psalms*

Psalm 23

Psalm 27:7-14

Psalm 42:1-5

Psalm 46

Psalm 90:1-4, 12-17

Psalm 121

Psalm 130

Psalm 139:1-18, 23-24

### *Old Testament*

Job 19:25-27

Isaiah 25:6-9, 61:1-3

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

### *Epistles*

Acts 10:34-43	2 Corinthians 4:7-11, 16
Romans 8:9-11, 31-39	Ephesians 3:14-21
1 Corinthians 13	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
1 Corinthians 15:12-20	2 Timothy 1:8-13
1 Corinthians 15:35-50	Revelation 21:1-6

### *Gospels*

Matthew 5:3-10, 11:28-30  
 Luke 23:33, 39-43  
 John 6:37-40; 11:17-27; 12:24-26; 14:1-3, 18-19, 25-27

### *Bulletins/Programs for the Service*

Bulletins will be created and provided for the family upon request. The fee is listed on the fee chart at the end of this booklet. The pastor will provide the order of worship. Some things to think about and questions that will be asked of you: The pastor will discuss with you what you want in the bulletin.

### *Flowers*

Arrangements for times the church will be open for the delivery of flowers can be made with the church office.

### **Visitation/Viewing**

Some people are comforted by seeing the body of the one who has died, but this is a family decision. Often visitation/viewing takes place in the funeral home the day before the church service, or in the church immediately preceding the church service. If viewing/visitation is desired, these details will be worked out with the funeral home and the pastor.

### **Graveside Committal**

A graveside committal service may take place following the funeral or memorial service, either immediately after the service or at a later time or date. The committal service is to be conducted with simplicity, dignity, and brevity. It typically includes prayers, words of committal, and a blessing,

reflecting the reality of death, entrusting the one who has died to the care of God, and bearing witness to faith in the resurrection from the dead.

### **Luncheons or Other Food Arrangements**

A luncheon can be provided by the CGUCC Women's Fellowship if requested. The pastor will contact the Women's Fellowship (WF) upon the request of the family.

The large fellowship hall located downstairs is used for luncheons. Other spaces are available depending on your needs.

### ***Luncheon***

If you desire a luncheon after the service, you may either cater or provide the food (i.e. cold cut platters, buns, condiments) and all disposable dinnerware. Disposable dinnerware includes paper plates, cups, flatware and tablecloths. The WF will set up, serve, and clean-up. If the service is short or in the evening, you may choose to serve light refreshments only.

For members and regular attendees, the WF will provide salads, desserts, coffee and lemonade if desired. You can make a cash donation of your choice to the WF.

For non-members, the WF will provide coffee and lemonade if desired. The WF will set up, serve, and clean up the luncheon at a cost of \$2.50 per plate. For light refreshments, the cost is \$.75 per plate.

### **Memorial Gifts**

Memorial gifts will be gratefully received by the church. Memorial gifts can be sent to Cottage Grove United Church of Christ, 7008 Lamar Avenue South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016.

**Cottage Grove United Church of Christ  
Fees for Funerals**

<b>Facility Charges</b>	<b>Members &amp; Regular Attendees</b>	<b>Non-Members</b>
Church	no charge	\$300
<b>Professional Services</b>		
Pastor	to be determined by pastor	\$150
Audio Visual Technician <i>(video taping available upon request)</i>	\$50	\$50
Custodian	\$100	\$150
Bulletins (optional)	\$25 per 50	\$25 per 50
Organist (optional)	\$125	\$125
<b>Women's Fellowship</b>		
Luncheon (optional)	free will offering	\$2.50 per plate (\$100 minimum)

1. Member status based on membership of deceased.
2. All facility and service fees are payable to the church office by the day of the funeral. All luncheon fees are payable to Women's Fellowship on or before the day of the funeral.

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