**Memorial Services**

Nothing is more important to the life of our church family than a caring ministry to those who are passing through “the valley of the shadow” seeking God’s presence and comfort in times of grief and mourning. We believe that God holds our loved ones in strong and everlasting arms, and that we who live on can know the shelter and strength of the Good Shepherd. Our pastors, staff, and members stand ready to be there with and for you as you seek the assurance that in life or death, we belong to God. Such ministry is our highest calling and greatest privilege.

For information about planning or preplanning a memorial service, please contact the church office at (817) 573-2337.

If you are planning a memorial service, please use the forms below to guide you.

[**Memorial Service Policies**](https://f9f0981de02ecdc196fa-fcc5f25a0294bba5ec4f67d8a20d79db.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploaded/m/0e6555741_1505493765_memorial-service-policies.pdf)

**Funerals and Memorial Services at First Presbyterian Church of Granbury**

Our hope is that we may provide comfort in the face of grief and assurance in the face of doubt.

Jesus said to her: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." John 11: 25-26.

**Services of Worship**

Funeral, Memorial, and Inurnment Services at First Presbyterian Church of Granbury are Services of Witness to the Resurrection. In these worship services, the reality of death is confronted; our grief and sorrow are taken seriously; we are comforted by the Lord, who is maker of heaven and earth; and we celebrate the assurance of victory over death.

FPCG holds these services for members and their immediate families. 'Members' are defined as persons currently on the church rolls, and 'immediate family members' are defined as spouses, children, parents and grandparents. In special circumstances the pastor may determine the appropriateness of other memorial services.

To plan a service, contact a pastor or our office administrator, Gail, at (817) 573-2337. In this time of grief, the pastor will work with the family to set a date, discuss the worship service, and discuss family responsibilities.

**Times and Dates of Services**

While we are committed to responding to the wishes of our families, setting a date for the service requires the alignment of a number of factors. These factors include the availability ofthe officiating pastor, the organist, and volunteers who serve as ushers and provide support forthe family. The service may not conflict with other scheduled uses of the church facilities. Times and dates can be determined in conversation with the pastor.

**The Service**

Funeral and Memorial services are conducted in the Reformed tradition, and follow the pattern of liturgy of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Families should review the Memorial Service worksheet before meeting with the pastor who is responsible for the service.

**The Bulletin for the Service**

The church will prepare and print the Bulletin for the service; all information shall be provided at least 48 hours in advance.

Families may provide a photograph and/or an obituary to be included in the bulletin.

**Memorial Designations**

If the family wishes to designate an organization to which memorial donations may be made, that request will be included in the Bulletin.

**At the time of the Service**

The family should arrive at least 30 minutes before the time for the Service, and will wait in Memorial Hall. The officiating Pastor will lead them into the Sanctuary at the appropriate time.

Volunteers from the congregation will serve as ushers and a member of the Worship Committee will provide family support.

Memorial Services may be streamed via the internet and/or digitally recorded. A copy of that recording will be available for the family for an IT fee, provided technical support is available.

**Fees**

Organist $150

Pianist $150

IT for recording and/or live streaming, only if available $75

The family may arrange for Soloists and/or Instrumentalists with the Organist/Pianist who will provide information about availability and fees.

**Receptions**

A reception is provided by the church after the service for all family and friends in attendance.

Revised 08/14/22