

Guide for Memorials and Funerals at Cypress Church

Introduction

We are honored when our members consider Cypress Church as the place to celebrate and remember the life of their loved ones.

We also understand that families walking through the loss of a loved one may have many unexpected, even difficult, decisions to make. Throughout this process, it is part of our calling to come alongside and to help guide you during this difficult time.

When we have a Cypress Church member pass (and/or an immediate family member), Cypress Church would like to extend an offer for the use of our campus facilities as a host venue for the funeral or memorial service at no cost to the member.

Inside this guide you will find some answers to many of your questions regarding funerals and memorial services. This guide also serves as our policies and procedures that, if adhered to, will allow us to best serve you and your family in your time of grief.

Included at a Cypress on-site Funeral or Memorial Service

When we offer a family the use of a Cypress Church venue for a funeral or memorial service, we are generally able to include the following elements:

- A Cypress pastor to officiate the service.
- Music/Hymns/Christian Songs – pre-recorded music is typical for smaller services. Live music may be included for larger services.
- A 5-to-10-minute photo slideshow created by the funeral home or family, submitted to Cypress 24 hours in advance of the service. All photos and music will be admitted at Cypress' discretion.
- A still slide that will serve as the backdrop graphic for the duration of the service.
- Tables and bistro for framed pictures and memorabilia.
- A small number of support personnel to assist with setup, serving during the service, and tear down afterward.
- A floral arrangement for either the lobby or stage.
- If desired, we can generally also offer the use of a room at any of our permanent campuses to host a reception for the family (if date, time, and room are available). Food is not provided by Cypress Church. However, food can be arranged to be brought in by a caterer, or by family and friends.
- We welcome a visitation pre or post-service – recommended to be no longer than one hour.

At the Alton Darby campus, we can accommodate funerals or memorial services on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays up until 2 p.m. The other days of the week we are unable to host on-site funerals or memorials since we either have weekend church services happening, or our church facilities are closed with no pastors or support staff available.

Our other campuses can generally accommodate Mondays through Thursdays.

Alton Darby Campus venue(s) offered based on anticipated attendance

- If estimated attendance is less than 150 people, the venue will be the student center.
- If estimated attendance is more than 150 people, the venue will be the worship center.

Music

For smaller gatherings, we welcome pre-recorded music to be played and included in the service.

For larger services at one of our worship centers, Cypress can usually accommodate a family's request for a live musical element performed by a member of the Cypress Worship Team.

We ask that you choose 2 worship songs or hymns from the provided recommended list on the next page.

You can request up to 1 additional special song (either a worship song, a current Christian song, or a hymn) that is not on the recommended list, and we will do our best to accommodate the request, but we cannot guarantee it. Each on-site funeral or memorial service at Cypress will include a maximum of 3 songs.

Order of Service

The Cypress pastor officiating your service will guide you in the creation of the Order of Service. We have learned many best practices to help make the service smooth and memorable for you and your loved ones.

The Next Step

After reading this guide, please complete the funeral/memorial request form found on our website, and then one of our pastors will be in touch with you.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted – Psalm 34:18

Worship Songs and Hymns Recommended List

Amazing Grace (standard) and Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

It Is Well with My Soul

How Great Thou Art

Goodness of God (Bethel)

Tis So Sweet / Turn Your Eyes (Gateway)

I Can Only Imagine (MercyMe)

Untitled Hymn (Chris Rice)

Holy Forever (Bethel)

Jesus is My Healer (Gateway)

Love of God (Phil Wickham)

Jesus Be the Name (Elevation)

Give Me Jesus (Vince Gill)

I'll Fly Away

Living Hope (Phil Wickham)

What a Beautiful Name (Hillsong)

Hope Has a Name (River Valley Worship)

Cornerstone (Hillsong)