

## Some Standards Regarding Funeral Services at Hickory Neck Episcopal Church

1. **Purpose of the Burial Office:** The purposes of the worship service are: 1) to give thanks to God for the presence and gift of one who has died, and 2) to give support and encouragement to those who are bereaved. In a Christian funeral, we are not “doing something for” the one who has died nor are we simply celebrating the personality and successes of the deceased. Our worship is “God-centered” more than it is centered on the one who has died.
2. **Rite I or Rite II:** The Episcopal Church uses the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*. Contemporary (Rite II) or Elizabethan (Rite I) can be used for the service.
3. **Scripture:** The Office of the Burial of the Dead (*Prayer Book*, pages 469 and 491) offers a number of appropriate readings for the service. Other passages may be used, as approved by the clergy.
4. **The Eucharist:** It is appropriate and strongly suggested to use the Eucharist for the Burial of one who is a communicant. Remember that all are welcome to receive communion in this church.
5. **Participation of family or friends in the service:** We encourage the family to work with the clergy in planning the worship so that the standards and faith of our Tradition are honored as reflected in the Episcopal *Book of Common Prayer*. One faithful way for family and/or friends to participate directly in our worship is by reading one of the scripture readings chosen. The Gospel lesson is normally read by one of the clergy. The Prayers of the People, as found in the Burial Offices of *The Book of Common Prayer*, are another part of the service where a family member or friend can provide leadership. Please work out the details concerning such participation with the priest planning the service. A personal eulogy may be provided should the family so choose. This celebration of the person’s life should last about three to four minutes. Questions concerning a eulogy should be directed to the clergy person assisting with the planning of the service.
6. **Hymns:** All Saints’ Day or Easter hymns are most appropriate. The officiating clergy has the final say as to the appropriateness of any hymn or piece of music. The singing of hymns by the congregation is encouraged. Some recommended hymns are:

180	He is risen, he is risen	362	Holy, holy, holy
182	Christ is alive! let Christians sing	397	Now thank we all our God
199	Come ye faithful, raise the strain	461	Alleluia! sing to Jesus
207	Jesus Christ is risen today	482	Lord of all hopefulness
208	The strife is o’er	625	Ye holy angels bright
210	The day of our resurrection	662	Abide with me
286	Who are these like stars appearing	680	O God our help in ages past
287	For all the saints	688	A mighty fortress is our God
7. **Flowers:** The family is to provide flowers for the church. The Altar Guild requests limiting flowers to two matching arrangements that can be placed on the flower stands. Local florist suggestions are available upon request. The family is encouraged to designate a charity as a recipient of gifts “in lieu of flowers.”
8. **Fees:** There are no fees for the burial of active members of HNC. For non-members, the fees are \$150 for the Organist (paid directly to Organist), \$250 for clergy (payable to HNC and deposited to discretionary fund). Members are welcome to make similar gifts.

***Burial Office***  
***In Thanksgiving for the Life of*** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hickory Neck Episcopal Church**

**Date**

**Time**

Prelude	
Opening Anthems	BCP 469
Hymn _____	_____
Collect	BCP 470
The Old Testament Reading	_____
Psalm _____	_____
The New Testament Reading	_____
Hymn _____	_____
The Gospel	_____
The Homily	
The Apostles' Creed	BCP 53
The Lord's Prayer	336
Prayers of the People	480
The Commendation	482
The Blessing	
Hymn _____	_____
Dismissal	
Postlude	

*The congregation is invited to a reception at* \_\_\_\_\_  
*immediately following the service.*

The Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, *Clergy*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Organist*

Family Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_

Bulletins: \_\_\_\_\_ Pews Reserved: \_\_\_\_\_

Florist: \_\_\_\_\_ Caterer: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

***Requiem Eucharist***  
***In Thanksgiving for the Life of*** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hickory Neck Episcopal Church**

**Date**

**Time**

Prelude	
Opening Anthems	BCP 469
Hymn _____	_____
Collect	BCP 470
The Old Testament Reading	_____
Psalm _____	_____
The New Testament Reading	_____
Hymn _____	_____
The Gospel	_____
The Homily	
The Apostles' Creed	BCP 53
Prayers of the People	480
The Peace	
Hymn _____	_____
The Great Thanksgiving	BCP 333
The Lord's Prayer	336
Communion of the People	
<i>All persons are welcome to receive communion.</i>	
Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 482
The Commendation	
The Blessing	
Hymn _____	_____
Dismissal	
Postlude	

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*immediately following the service.*

The Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, *Clergy*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Organist*

Family Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_

Bulletins: \_\_\_\_\_ Pews Reserved: \_\_\_\_\_

Florist: \_\_\_\_\_ Caterer: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

***Burial Office***  
***In Thanksgiving for the Life of*** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hickory Neck Episcopal Church**

**Date**

**Time**

Prelude	
Opening Anthems	BCP 491
Hymn _____	_____
Collect	BCP 493
The Old Testament Reading	_____
Psalm _____	_____
The New Testament Reading	_____
Hymn _____	_____
The Gospel	_____
The Homily	
The Apostles' Creed	BCP 496
The Lord's Prayer	364
Prayers of the People	497
The Commendation	499
The Blessing	
Hymn _____	_____
Dismissal	
Postlude	

*The congregation is invited to a reception at \_\_\_\_\_  
immediately following the service.*

The Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, *Clergy*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Organist*

Family Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_

Bulletins: \_\_\_\_\_ Pews Reserved: \_\_\_\_\_

Florist: \_\_\_\_\_ Caterer: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

***Requiem Eucharist***  
***In Thanksgiving for the Life of*** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hickory Neck Episcopal Church**

**Date**

**Time**

Prelude	
Opening Anthems	BCP 491
Hymn _____	_____
Collect	BCP 493
The Old Testament Reading	_____
Psalm _____	_____
The New Testament Reading	_____
Hymn _____	_____
The Gospel	_____
The Homily	
The Apostles' Creed	BCP 496
Prayers of the People	497
The Peace	
Hymn _____	_____
The Great Thanksgiving	BCP 361
The Lord's Prayer	364
Communion of the People	
<i>All persons are welcome to receive communion.</i>	
Post-Communion Prayer	BCP 498
The Commendation	499
The Blessing	
Hymn _____	_____
Dismissal	
Postlude	

*The congregation is invited to a reception at* \_\_\_\_\_  
*immediately following the service.*

The Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, *Clergy*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Organist*

Family Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_

Bulletins: \_\_\_\_\_ Pews Reserved: \_\_\_\_\_

Florist: \_\_\_\_\_ Caterer: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Needed: \_\_\_\_\_

## OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

### *“A reading from Isaiah”*

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Isaiah 25:6-9)

### *“A reading from Isaiah”*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Isaiah 61:1-3)

### *“A reading from Lamentations”*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33)

### *“A reading from Wisdom”*

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Wisdom 3:1-5, 9)

### *“A reading from Job”*

“Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh? O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Job 19:21-27a—Rite II)

## NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

### *“A reading from Romans”*

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, no 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.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39)

### *“A reading from I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58”*

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: “Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58)

### *“A reading from II Corinthians”*

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling—if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for

this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(II Corinthians 4:16—5:9)

*“ A reading from I John ”*

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(I John 3:1-2)

*“A reading from Revelation”*

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Revelation 7:9-17)

*“A reading from Revelation”*

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

*“The Word of the Lord”*

(Revelation 21:2-7)



## THE GOSPEL READINGS

### *John 5:24-27*

Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgment, but has passed from death to life. “Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.

### *John 6:37-40*

“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.”

### *John 10:11-16*

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

### *John 11:21-27*

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” 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. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

### *John 14:1-6*

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”