

Policy for Funerals/Memorial Services Peace Lutheran Church
(approved at the December 18, 2018 meeting of the Church Council)

1. All funeral/memorial services held in the Peace Lutheran sanctuary shall be officiated or hosted by an actively serving pastor of Peace Lutheran Church.
 - **As Officiant:** The Peace pastor shall officiate and conduct the funeral/memorial service including preaching the sermon/meditation. Clergy from another denomination may participate as guest clergy in prayers, reading scripture, and speaking for the family.
 - **As Host:** Pastors from other ELCA congregations may be invited to participate in the service with the Peace pastor acting as host/lead pastor for the funeral/memorial service. Clergy from another ELCA congregation may act as officiant and be responsible for the scripture, prayers, music, and sermon.
2. The ELCA Liturgy from the ELW hymnal shall be used for all funeral/memorial and burial services.
3. Eulogies are permitted and encouraged. However, there can be no more than 3 eulogies of no more than 5-minutes each in length.
4. All funeral/memorials services in the sanctuary, chapel, shall be scheduled according to the availability of a Peace pastor, the space, and the day. There shall be no funerals during the holidays of Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve Day, New Year's Day, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday. Pastors must be contacted directly to schedule a funeral/memorial.
5. There will be no charge for use of the building for funerals/memorials of members. For non-members, other fees may apply and should be discussed with the pastor and/or church administrator.
6. Music during the funeral/memorial will be of a nature that lifts up the grace of Christ either from our ELW hymnal or another source hymnal. Popular, secular, patriotic, or military music, other than what is in the ELW Hymnal, can be used at the visitation but not during the service itself. The Peace accompanist has the right of first refusal regarding music leadership in the service.
7. Pastors are available for funerals/memorial services held in a funeral home chapel.
8. Any exemptions to these policies may be granted by the pastor. The Church Council may grant exemptions without fear of setting any precedent.
9. Only Peace pastors may request exemptions from the Church Council.
10. Computers, projectors, screen, or other such technology require approval of the actively serving pastor of Peace Lutheran Church.