



Funerals or Memorial Services - Frequently Asked Questions

What is required to hold a funeral or memorial service at Calvary?

Calvary offers funeral or memorial services to all attendees and their family members. While providing help and support to all experiencing a loss, the ability to hold a service at Calvary may depend upon the church's calendar of previously scheduled events as well as the availability of a pastor to preside. Calvary pastors often officiate at services held in an alternative location, such as a funeral home or graveside, whether the person had been attending Calvary or not - please ask!

When are funerals or memorial services held at Calvary?

Funerals or memorial services are held at Calvary on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays*, typically at 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. * No Thursday funerals at Calvary Golden Valley Campus - Worship Center

Where are funerals or memorial services held?

Worship spaces include:

- Calvary Golden Valley Campus
 - Chapel - 100 person seating (meets 50% capacity COVID guidelines)
 - Worship Center - 500 person seating (meets 50% capacity COVID guidelines)
- Calvary Minnetonka Campus - Opening Sunday, Oct. 3
 - Worship Center - 150 person seating (meets 50% capacity COVID guidelines)

How do I go about scheduling a funeral or memorial service?

Call Calvary at 763.545.5659. During business hours, a receptionist will forward your call to the appropriate party. If calling after business hours, you'll follow the directions provided on how to leave a message. Please specify the pastor you'd prefer to officiate at the funeral or memorial service, if known.

What can I expect once a date has been set?

Calvary's Funeral Administrator will walk you through certain details surrounding a funeral or memorial service, whether by phone or by email. Considerations include:

- Worship songs, solos or instrumental selections and the musicians able to perform these. Calvary has a contingent of musicians familiar in worship service participation. Based on your music selections, connections may be made on your behalf. Compensation for a musician's participation would be made directly by you at their quoted fee.
- Whether to live-stream the service for viewing online by those unable to attend. Live-streaming is available at the Golden Valley Campus; the Minnetonka Campus will begin live-streaming services beginning Jan 2022. The fee for live-streaming is \$50.
- Whether to share pictures of your loved one on Calvary worship screens. A popular alternative to picture boards, Calvary offers the sharing of up to 50 digital pictures (.jpgs) as a slideshow just prior to the start of the worship service (15 minutes). If live-streaming, the looping pictures would also be shared to those invited to view the service online.
- Whether to hold a visitation an hour preceding the worship service (or "reviewal" if a casket is present). While commonplace prior to COVID, the visitation as a gathering has lessened in popularity - allowing guests to bypass courtesies such as hand-shaking and hugging upon entering an unfamiliar setting. Instead, an emphasis has been placed more on the reception or

gathering following the service - allowing guests the opportunity to come & go as their comfort levels dictate.

- Whether to hold a reception immediately following the funeral or memorial service. Just like a visitation, holding a reception is optional but, of the two, is more commonly held. It's a time to remember, support, catch-up and meet over a cup of coffee and dessert or light lunch. Calvary's Golden Valley Campus' Gathering Room will accommodate up to 150 sit-down guests, with overflow capability into our Atrium. Calvary's Minnetonka Campus' Gathering Room accommodates up to 125. Caterers familiar to Calvary and our facilities are available for referral upon request.
- The officiating pastor will make arrangements to meet with you in crafting the service order. In addition to the music selections and slideshow decision previously mentioned, details to be considered before meeting with the pastor include:
 - Scripture readings and optional readers. A list of suggested readings is available upon request.
 - Eulogists - If unable to attend the funeral, memories prepared by an eulogist may be written out for the pastor to share.

Are there handouts or bulletins provided by Calvary?

As an outcome of COVID, when handouts were discouraged, Calvary has come to find that the printing of most paper handouts is no longer expected and, for those ecologically-minded, a welcomed change. So, the production and distribution of these will be at the discretion and expense of the funeral family.

As a help to those desiring a handout similar to the memory cards produced and distributed by funeral homes or mortuaries, a memory card template is available for your use. This Word .docx with fillable fields is an easy way to create a handout containing vital statistics, a favorite verse or poem, an obituary and/or worship order, and even a picture. Just ask the Funeral Administrator to share the document with you.

What are the fees associated with a Calvary funeral or memorial service?

- Facilities and media fees are based on the location of the worship service (payable to Calvary).
 - Calvary Golden Valley - Worship Center \$300
 - Calvary Golden Valley - Chapel \$200
 - Calvary Minnetonka - Worship Center \$200
- Officiating pastor honorarium \$250 + (payable to the pastor)
- Musician(s) Fee set by the musician (payable to the musician)
- Live-streaming (optional) \$50 (payable to Calvary)
- Reception room No charge - coffee and ice water provided
- Reception food Fee set by caterer (payable to catering firm)

How should memorial gifts to Calvary be handled?

Gifts to Calvary in memory of loved ones should be made payable to Calvary. For checks intended for Calvary but made payable to family members, please cash and reissue these to Calvary. For Endowment Fund donations, visit calvary.org/endowment.

Are there other details I should be aware of?

If the number of guests anticipated to attend a service is 60 guests or more, assistance by funeral home/mortuary personnel or family volunteers is requested to help with the placement of flowers, distribution of honorariums, to welcome guests, attend to the guest book and card collection. Then after the event, to remove flowers and return all items to their original locations.