

# The Blessings of a Christian Funeral

An afternoon workshop hosted by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

**Sunday, February 2, 2020**

**2:00–3:30 p.m. in Luther Hall**

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege

*You may not grieve as others do who have no hope.*

(1 Thessalonians 4:13)

## Workshop Description

While it may be painful and difficult to think about death and to plan ahead for a funeral, it is a blessing both for those who are dying and for their family and friends. The Church's funeral service delivers God's comfort for us in our Lord Jesus Christ. This workshop will help explain and unpack the significance of the church's funeral liturgy and ceremonies.

## Topics covered

- The connection between Holy Baptism and a Christian's death.
- How the Church and her pastors care for those who are dying and those who are grieving.
- The significance of certain Bible passages at funerals.
- The importance of particular ceremonies and practices such as a funeral pall on a casket, a Paschal candle, graveside committal, etc. In other words, "Why do we do what we do at funerals?"

## Who should attend?

Those whose own death or a relative or friend's death is near, those who are mourning the recent loss of a loved one, those who wonder about the significance of the Church's funeral service, or who rejoice in the gifts that Christ loves to give in worship. Church senior groups, men's or women's organizations, and even youth and young adult groups are all encouraged to attend.



## Presenter

Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege is President of the Indiana District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. He served as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Decatur, Indiana, from 1982 until 2018, when he was

elected district president.

## For More Information

Please contact us at (260) 452-2224 or visit [www.ctsfw.edu/FuneralWorkshop](http://www.ctsfw.edu/FuneralWorkshop).

## Evening Prayer with Bach Cantata 82

**4:00 p.m. in Kramer Chapel**

Continue the afternoon with a special Evening Prayer service. February 2 is the observance of the Presentation of Our Lord, with the Gospel account of 40-day-old Jesus being brought to the temple, where aged Simeon sings the Nunc Dimittis ("Lord, now you let your servant go in peace"). Bach Cantata 82, a reflection on the text of the Nunc Dimittis and of the Christian's death, will be presented by bass soloist and orchestra. The Seminary Schola Cantorum will also sing a musical version of the Nunc Dimittis.