*(Traditional Style Outline)*

***CELEBRATION OF LIFE*** *Mary A. Smith* *November 1, 2020* *Smith Funeral Home, London 2:00 pm*

***Call to Worship***

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die. Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

***[Music]***

***Prayer***

Lord, we know that You are the Father of mercies and God of all comfort. We ask for quietness and peace so that we can truly feel Your presence. We come to You today in sorrow and need. Help us to realize that You share our grief. We thank You that \_\_\_\_\_ can now claim the promises of Your great love. Lord, we ask that You hold our hearts as we sort out our emotions. Heal our hearts, Lord. Lord, strengthen our faith. Give us a renewed hope that we will see our loved one again when we arrive in heaven. Help us to trust in You, to hold securely to Your hand, and walk through this time with Your peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

***Scripture Reading(s)***

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. *(Ps. 34:18)*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul, He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You art with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever. *(Ps. 23)*

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And… I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am. And you know the way where I am going.... I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me..... I and the Father are One. *(Jn. 14: 1-4,6; 10:30)*

***Eulogies/Speakers***

***[Music]***

***Celebrant’s Eulogy***

***Prayer***

Our loving God, we thank You that You have destroyed the power of death and brought eternal life in its place. Thank You for the years You have given us with our loved one. Thank You for all Your love and kindness to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ throughout her life. We thank You for all the s/he was, by nature and by grace to those who loved her. Thank You for being our refuge and strength. We thank You that we don’t have to be afraid because You are with us. Be with this family, and be their God, now, and forever. We pray together now in the words You taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory. Forever and ever. Amen.

***Announcements***

***Benediction***

Now may the God of peace fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.

***[Music]***

***INTERMENT / INURNMENT***

*Before you begin: If a funeral director is present, confirm if they will sprinkle sand on casket/urn during words of committal. Also confirm whether or not you or they will say words/ do actions at the end to the following effect: place flowers on casket/ in ground; let people know this concludes the service; remind of any direction/ invitation for any reception; and thank people again for coming.]*

***Scripture Verse***

Jesus said, ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.’ *(Rev. 21:6)*

***Words of Committal***

In the hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we now commend to God the life of Mary Anne Smith, and to commit her body [if cremation has taken place…her body, “which is dissolved”] to the grave, [if body or ashes: in a ‘niche wall’ or ‘columbarium ‘… body to “its final resting place”…] and her soul to God who gave it. Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

***Prayer***

God of all consolation, our refuge and strength in sorrow, by dying, our Lord Jesus Christ conquered death; by rising from the grave He restored us to life. Help us today, not to give up hope, but to look to the day of resurrection, and help us to live in union with Him who is the Resurrection and the Life, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, every One God, world without end. Amen.

***Benediction***

The LORD bless you and keep you, the LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD lift up His countenance over you, and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.