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Introduction

God is our creator. In creation humans were created above all other elements of creation. In a human being God breathed a breath. To God every life is precious. It is the faith of the church that every life is a gift to this earth from God. We also believe that at death it is God who takes us away (except for death caused by the actions of man); and we give thanks and praise to God. We thank and praise God because Christians live in faith and hope because Jesus who died on the cross arose from the dead. The resurrection of Jesus gives hope in new life, a life after death.

When death occurs to a loved one, the experience of bereavement in a family differs from person to person. All that remains after death is the memory of the person whom we see no more. In the Sri Lankan context families are closely knit, and death of a loved one does have an impact on the lives of those who remain. On some occasions there are many questions, as they grieve through denial (numbness), anger (irritable), bargaining (if), and depression, and finally coming to terms with the loss to go forward in life resolving the grief within six to twelve months.

In such a context every element of the funeral and remembrance services should primarily cater to those who continue to live here whilst we also give thanks to God and remember the one who is no more. Through these orders of service, we have to help the bereaved to say farewell, acknowledge their loss and sorrow and reflect our own mortality, because those who mourn need comfort, support and consolation and help to strengthen their faith. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life and that there is renewed life in Christ after death.

Whilst understanding the pain and sadness the bereaved experience through the period of a death, the services should not be too long. The services here include some cultural, traditional and historical elements, which are optional, and flexibility must be utilized according to

circumstances. Anthropologically, death is a Rite of Passage. Like Christ on Good Friday, there is chaos and separation from relations and friends. Then we pass through the doorway or liminality of Transition during the funeral rites like Christ did on Holy Saturday, and when the soul moves to the Sabbath rest of the Lord and the family gets through bereavement, and finally there is incorporation into eternal life as on Easter Day when Christ rose again as the first fruits of eternal life, and the family gets accustomed to a new life without the dead person.

Notes to the Funeral Service

Flexibility

These services need not be done exactly in the form given, and flexibility and extempore prayer is encouraged.

Entry

As the body is brought to the church the Presbyter receives the body at the entrance and the coffin may be sprinkled with baptismal water reminding us of our one baptism. As the body is being taken into the church a bible, a cross and other symbols from the life of the departed may be taken and placed on the coffin with the permission of the Presbyter. The coffin should remain closed throughout the service.

Sentences

Sentences of Scripture may be used at the entry, after the Introduction, or at other suitable points.

Psalms and Readings

Psalms and Readings should normally be drawn from those set out. A psalm should normally be used. It may be in a metrical or hymn version, or be replaced by a scriptural song. There must always be one reading from the Bible. Resources for Psalms and readings are found in the section for additional material.

The Panegyric

A panegyric is a formal public speech delivered in high praise of a person or sharing the memories of a person. Remembering and honouring the life of the person who has died, and the evidence of God's grace and work in them, should be done in the earlier part of the service, after the opening prayer, though if occasion demands it may be woven into the sermon. The symbols placed on a coffin helps the congregation in their personal reflection.

The Kaddish

The Kaddish is a hymn of praises to God found in the Jewish prayer service. The central theme of the Kaddish is the magnification and sanctification of God's name. The Kaddish is often used as part of the mourning rituals in Judaism in all prayer services, as well as at funerals other than at the grave site and memorials. Mourners say the Kaddish to show that despite the loss they still praise God.

Sermon

The purpose of the sermon is to proclaim the gospel in the context of death and the sermon should not be a tribute.

Commendation and Farewell

At the commendation of the body the coffin may be asperged by the Presbyter and incense / jossticks is burned. Optional forms of commendation are provided.

As an option the Pan Vadima which is a cultural element may be performed. Whilst the congregation recites the traditional stanzas adapted, the family members pour blessed water (Numbers 5:17, baptismal Service) into a cup until it overflows, signing the flow of prayers for and with the departed that fill to overflowing the Cup of suffering and consolation (2 Corinthians 1:5) of our Divine Elder Brother Jesus Christ. Meanwhile the Leader and helpers will burn jossticks or incense around the bier at the feet, middle, and

head on each side, and in the midst of the congregation. After the stanzas are said the water from the cup is used to asperge the bier and congregation in a similar manner, reminding all of our common ONE Baptism into the ONE Church (Militant, Expectant, and Triumphant) of the ONE Lord (Ephesians 4:4)

The Committal

The Committal is used at the burial of the body in a cemetery or churchyard, at the interment of ashes, at a crematorium when the interment of ashes is not to follow immediately.

At the Crematorium

The body is taken three times around the crematorium. This is a cultural element, reminding us of the Triune God and the resurrection of Jesus on the third day, which gives Christians the hope in a new life.

Commendation of the dying

Note

Where possible the minister prepares the dying person in private, using the Preparation and Reconciliation sections. The person should be helped to be aware that the time of death is approaching.

Family and friends should join the minister and the dying person at the Opening Prayer if they can be present, and it is appropriate that they should receive Holy Communion with the dying person. The different sections of the service may happen at different times, and the last communion may be received on another occasion, and more than once, as pastoral necessity dictates.

Preparation

The presbyter may say one or more of these texts with the dying person. These verses may have to be repeated to help the dying to repeat if he/she seems necessary. These words and the commendation should be done softly and calmly to prepare the individual for death.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Romans 8.35

Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
Romans 14.8

Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Romans 14.9

We know that we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Corinthians 5.1

We will be with the Lord forever. 1 Thessalonians 4.17

We will see God as he is. 1 John 3.2

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. Psalm 25.1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
Psalm 27.1

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord. Psalm 27.13,14

Into your hands I commend my spirit; for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. Psalm 31.5

My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God. Psalm 42.2

Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Matthew 25.34

The Lord Jesus says, 'Today you will be with me in Paradise.'
Luke 23.43

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 6.40

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. John 14.2

I go and prepare a place for you. And I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. John 14.3

'I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory,' says the Lord Jesus. John 17.24

Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Acts 7.59

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3.22,23

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence to our savior who taught us to pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

Reconciliation

The minister may encourage some expression of penitence, such as

Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of God,
have mercy on me,
a sinner.

(or)

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought and word and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.

For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
 forgive us all that is past;
 and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
 to the glory of your name.
 Amen.

(or)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
 Christ, have mercy upon us.
 Lord, have mercy upon us.

Or

O God the father of heaven
 All **Have mercy upon him**

O God the son redeemer of the world
 All **Have mercy upon him**

O God the holy spirit, proceeding from the father and the son
 All **Have mercy upon him**

By the mystery of the holy incarnation
 All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By the holy nativity and circumcision
 All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By the baptism, fasting and temptation
 All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By your agony and bloody sweat
 All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By your cross and passion
 All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By your precious death and burial
All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By the glorious resurrection and ascension
All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

By the wonderful coming of the Holy Spirit
All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

In the hour of death
All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

In the Day of Judgment
All **Good Lord, deliver him/her**

Lord have mercy
All **Lord have mercy**

Lord have mercy

The minister may lay hands on the dying person. If the minister is a priest, either of these absolutions may be used

God, the Father of mercies,
has reconciled the world to himself
through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ,
not counting our trespasses against us,
but sending his Holy Spirit to shed abroad his love among us.
By the ministry of reconciliation
entrusted by Christ to his Church,
receive his pardon and peace
to stand before him in his strength alone,
this day and evermore.
Amen.

If the minister is a deacon or lay person, these words are used

May almighty God have mercy on you,
 forgive you your sins,
 and bring you to everlasting life.
 Amen.

Ministry at the Time of Death.

At this point others may join the minister and the dying person.

Opening Prayer

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope
 through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.
 All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Let us pray for ...
 (Silence)

This prayer may be used

Eternal God,
 grant to your servant
 [and to us who surround him/her with our prayers]
 your peace beyond understanding.
 Give us faith, the comfort of your presence,
 and the words to say to one another and to you,
 as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
 All **Amen.**

The following may be used

Out of the depths I cry to you:
 Lord, hear my voice.
 Lord, have mercy.
 All **Lord, have mercy.**

If you should mark what is done amiss:
 who may abide it?
 Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Trust in the Lord, for with him there is mercy:
for with him is ample redemption.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Word of God

These or other suitable readings may be used

Romans 8.35,37-39

Psalms 23;139

John 6.35-40, [53-58]

*The minister may encourage an act of faith or commitment,
such as*

Holy God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

I trust you,

I believe in you,

I love you.

(or)

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

(or)

Lord, I believe: help my unbelief.

(or)

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

Prayers

This litany or some of the prayers with dying people may be used, or the minister may pray using his or her own words

God the Father,

All **have mercy upon us.**

God the Son,
All **have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit,
All **have mercy upon us.**

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,
All **have mercy upon us.**

By your holy incarnation, by your cross and passion,
by your precious death and burial,
All **have mercy upon us.**

By your glorious resurrection and ascension,
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit,
All **have mercy upon us.**

Graciously hear us, Lord Jesus Christ,
that it may please you to deliver your servant N from all evil
and from eternal death,
All **hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you mercifully to pardon all N's sins,
All **hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to give N peace, rest and gladness,
raising him/her to new life in your kingdom,
All **hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please you to bring us, with N and all your saints,
to a joyful resurrection,
All **hear us, good Lord.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
All **hear us, good Lord.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

All **hear us, good Lord.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
All **hear us, good Lord.**

All **In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, O God, to trust your love,
to seek your purpose
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Laying on of Hands and Anointing

The minister, together with others if that is appropriate, may lay hands on the dying person. This prayer may be used

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ
I/we lay my/our hands on you, N.
May the Lord in his mercy and love uphold you
by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit.
May he deliver you from all evil,
give you light and peace,
and bring you to everlasting life.
All Amen.

The minister may anoint the dying person, making the sign of the cross in oil on his or her forehead.

N, I anoint you with oil in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
May the Lord in his love and mercy uphold you
by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

When the anointing is completed, the minister may add
As you are outwardly anointed with this holy oil,
so may our heavenly Father grant you the inward anointing
of the Holy Spirit.
Of his great mercy

may he forgive you your sins
 and release you from suffering.
 May he deliver you from all evil,
 preserve you in all goodness
 and bring you to everlasting life;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 All **Amen**.

Holy Communion *may be administered*

If it is possible, the dying person may receive communion.

Unless the bread and wine have already been consecrated, an authorized Eucharistic Prayer is used.

The Agnus Dei may be used before the giving of communion

Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world,
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world,
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world,
 grant us peace.

(or)
 Jesus, Lamb of God,
 have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
 have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
 grant us peace.

*After the words of
be added*

distribution the following may

May the Lord Jesus protect you
and lead you to eternal life.

Commendation

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

*The minister speaks first to the dying person, using these or
other suitable words*

N, go forth from this world:
in the love of God the Father who created you,
in the mercy of Jesus Christ who redeemed you,
in the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you.
May the heavenly host sustain you
and the company of heaven enfold you.
In communion with all the faithful,
may you dwell this day in peace.
All **Amen**.

(or)

N, go forth upon your journey from this world,
 in the name of God the Father almighty who created you;
 in the name of Jesus Christ who suffered death for you;
 in the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you;
 in communion with the blessed saints,
 and aided by angels and archangels,
 and all the armies of the heavenly host.
 May your portion this day be in peace,
 and your dwelling the heavenly Jerusalem.
 All **Amen.**

(and/or)

Holy Lord, almighty and eternal God,
 hear our prayers as we entrust to you N,
 as you summon him/her out of this world.
 Forgive his/her sins and failings
 and grant him/her a haven of light, and peace.
 Let him/her pass unharmed through the gates of death
 to dwell with the blessed in light,
 as you promised to Abraham and his children for ever.
 Accept N into your safe keeping
 and on the great day of judgement
 raise him/her up with all the saints
 to inherit your eternal kingdom.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 All **Amen.**

The minister says the prayer of commendation

May the angels lead you into paradise;
 may the martyrs come to welcome you
 and take you into the holy city, the new and eternal
 Jerusalem.
 May choirs of angels welcome you
 and lead you to the bosom of Abraham;
 and where Lazarus is poor no longer may you find eternal rest.

May saints and angels lead you on,
 Escorting you where Christ has gone.
 Now he has called you, come to him who sits above the
 seraphim.
 All Amen

Come to the peace of Abraham
 And to the supper of the Lamb:
 Come to the glory of the blessed, And to perpetual light and
 rest.

Gracious God,
 nothing in death or life,
 nothing in the world as it is,
 nothing in the world as it shall be,
 nothing in all creation
 can separate us from your love.
 Jesus commended his spirit into your hands at his last hour.
 Into those same hands we now commend your servant N,
 that dying to the world and cleansed from sin,
 death may be for him/her the gate to life
 and to eternal fellowship with you;
 through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
 All Amen.

(and/or)
 Into your hands, O merciful Saviour,
 we commend your servant N.
 Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold,
 a lamb of your own flock,
 a sinner of your own redeeming.
 Enfold him/her in the arms of your mercy,
 in the blessed rest of everlasting peace
 and in the glorious company of the saints in light.
 All **Amen**.

One or more of the following may also be used
 1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: "

your word has been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation " which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

3 A light to reveal you to the nations " and the glory of your people Israel. Luke 2.29-32

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever.

All Amen.

(and/or)

**All Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with the saints:
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

**You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all:
and we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth,
and unto earth shall we return.**

**For so you ordained when you created me, saying:
'Dust you are and to dust you shall return.'**

**All of us go down to the dust,
yet weeping at the grave we make our song:**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**All Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with the saints:
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

(and/or)

At or just after death

1 Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; " you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

2 Often you weep over our sins and our pride, " tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.

3 You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, " in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.

4 Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life; " by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.

5 Despair turns to hope through your sweet
goodness; "

through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.

6 Your warmth gives life to the dead, "
your touch makes sinners righteous.

7 Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; "
in your love and tenderness remake us.

8 In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, "
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

A Song of Anselm

Blessing

The minister uses one of these blessings

May the eternal God

bless and keep us,

guard our bodies,

save our souls

and bring us safe to the heavenly country,

our eternal home,

where Father, Son, and Holy Spirit reign,

one God for ever and ever.

All **Amen**.

(or)

God grant you to share in the inheritance of his saints in glory;

and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you, and remain with you always.

All **Amen**.

Prayer when someone has just died

The minister, a family member or a friend may use some or all
of these words

In this moment of sorrow the Lord is in our midst

and consoles us with his word:

No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart
conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him.
Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted.
Into your hands, O Lord,
we humbly entrust our brother/sister N.
In this life you embraced him/her with your tender love,
and opened to him/her the gate of heaven.
The old order has passed away,
as you welcome him/her into paradise,
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain,
but the fullness of peace and joy
with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.
All **Amen**.

Heavenly Father,
into whose hands Jesus Christ
commended his spirit at the last hour:
into those same hands we now commend your servant N,
that death may be for him/her
the gate to life and to eternal fellowship with you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Remember, O Lord,
this your servant,
who has gone before us with the sign of faith
and now rests in the sleep of peace.
According to your promises,
grant to him/her and to all who rest in Christ,
refreshment, light and peace;
through the same Christ our Lord.
All **Amen**.

Most merciful God,
whose wisdom is beyond our understanding,
surround the family of N with your love,
that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss,
but have confidence in your goodness,

and strength to meet the days to come.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Service at the home

Preparation

At this time of sorrow
the Lord is in our midst
and consoles us with his word:
Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted.

Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation.
He comforts us in all our afflictions
and thus enables us to comfort those who grieve
with the same consolation we have received from him.

Or

The Word of God says
As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has fear on those who fear him;
for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.
Psalm 103:13,14

God is like a father to us,
tender and sympathetic
to those who reverence him.
For he knows that we but dust,
and that our days are few and brief

Prayer

God of all consolation,
your Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears
at the grave of Lazarus his friend.

Look with compassion on your children in their loss;
 give to troubled hearts the light of hope
 and strengthen in us the gift of faith,
 in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Hymn

We shall not all die

All but we shall be changed.

The trumpet shall sound and the dead will rise
 immortal

All and we shall be changed.

The perishable must be clothed with the imperishable

All and the mortal must be clothed with immortality.

We shall not all die

All but we shall be changed.

Psalm

THE SONG OF SIMEON (Luke 2:29 – 32) Nunc dimittis

**All: Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace
 your word has been fulfilled.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation

which you have prepared in the sight of every people

A light to reveal you to the nations

and the glory of your people Israel.

+ The Lord will give her/him everlasting rest, Hallelu

Yah!

**Because perpetual light will shine on her/him forever
 more Hallelu Yah!**

The Reading

1 Thessalonians 4.13-15

Psalm 121

John 11.21-24

Memories of the departed may be shared, ending with the following prayer

O God, who brought us to birth,
and in whose arms we die,
in our grief and shock
contain and comfort us;
embrace us with your love,
give us hope in our confusion
and grace to let go into new life;
through Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

Sermon (If there will be no service at the church)

Hymn

Prayers

These or other prayers may follow

Lord, we come into your presence to remember N
and to seek your comfort,
for we know that nothing can separate us from your love
and that you support us in our sorrow.
We are sure that the souls of the righteous are with you
and that nothing can harm them.
Although they have died they are in peace.
Give us your strength to rejoice
that you have taken N to be with yourself
where he/she shall no more be in need.
May we find life and peace and perfect joy with him/her
in your presence;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

God of all consolation,
in your unending love and mercy
you turn the darkness of death
into the dawn of new life.

Your Son, by dying for us, conquered death
and, by rising again, restored to us eternal life.

May we then go forward eagerly to meet our redeemer
and, after our life on earth,
be reunited with all our brothers and sisters
in that place where every tear is wiped away
and all things are made new;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All Amen.

Lord, be with us as we open the door.

Come in with us, go out with us.

Do not sleep when we sleep,
but watch over us, protect us and keep us safe,
our only helper and maker.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

The Commendation

Into your hands, Lord, our faithful creator and most loving redeemer, we commend your child **N** for *he/she* is yours in death as in life. In your great mercy gather *him/her* into your arms and fulfill in *him/her* the purpose of your love; that, rejoicing in the light and refreshment of your presence, *he/she may* enjoy that life which you have prepared for all those who love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Or God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises, we entrust N to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presbyter: Into Paradise may the Angels lead you, at your coming may the Martyrs receive you and lead you into the Holy City Jerusalem, and with Lazarus who was once poor, may you have eternal rest. **Amen.**

May their be rain in due season and the crops be plentiful; may the rulers be righteous and the country become just and prosperous; and may God be with the Church always and comfort us by the assurance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Conclusion

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, Hallelu Yah!
Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

And now to him who is able to keep us from falling,
and lift us from the dark valley of despair
to the bright mountain of hope,
from the midnight of desperation
to the daybreak of joy;
to him be power and authority, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

A hymn may be sung.

Family and friends can pay their last respects before the body is removed to the church or the cemetery

FUNERAL

AT THE ENTRANCE

*At the bringing in of the mortal remains at the **church** or **chapel** of a cemetery or **any place**, the coffin **may be** sprinkled with water (of baptism) or Flowers (of life) and taken from or to the entrance door led by a person carrying a lamp or the Pascal Candle, while the following is chanted/said:*

The minister meets the coffin at the door of the church and says

We receive the body of our brother/sister N with confidence in God, the giver of life, who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

At the asperging – We have been buried with Christ Jesus by baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, so we too might walk in newness of life. *Romans 6:4*

Others around too may be sprinkled.

The following sentences are read as the minister goes before the coffin. Additional sentences available in the Burial section.

Jesus said, 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.* Hallelu Yah!
John 11:25 – 26.

The wages of sin is death; the present given by God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 6:23* Hallelu Yah!

We brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away: blessed be the name of the Lord. *1 Timothy 6:7, Job 1:21*. Hallelu Yah!

If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. Christ both died and came to life, to be Lord both of the dead and of the living. *Romans 14:8 – 9* Hallelu Yah!

The eternal God is your refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms. *Deuteronomy 33:27*. Hallelu Yah!

The loving kindness of the Lord never ceases, the Lord's compassion never comes to an end. *Lamentations 3:22* Hallelu Yah!

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. *Matthew 5:4*. Hallelu Yah!

(Hallelu Yah means Praise Yahweh/the Lord – Psalms 116:1)

When the coffin is in place a pall, a bible, a cross and other symbols from the life of the departed maybe placed on the coffin with the permission of the Presbyter. The coffin will remain closed throughout the service.

INTRODUCTION

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.

The minister introduces the service in these or other suitable words

We have come here today
 to remember before God our brother/sister N;
 to give thanks for his/her life;
 to commend him/her to God our merciful redeemer and
 judge;
 to commit his/her body to be buried/cremated,
 and to comfort one another in our grief.

Hymn

THE GATHERING

Introductory Sentence

"I will comfort you, says the Lord, as a mother comforts her child, and you shall be comforted." *Isaiah 66.13*

Blessed be God

Blessed be God's reign forever Amen.

Panagyrical

Memories of the person who has died may be shared.

Silence for personal reflection

FROM THE SONG OF THE CHURCH, Te Deum

All : You, Christ, are the king of glory,
 the eternal Son of the Father
 + When you became human to set us free
 you did not shun the Virgin's womb
 You overcame the sting of death
 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all
 believers.
 You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
 We believe that you will come and be our
 judge.

+ Come then, Lord, and help your people,
brought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.
+ We adore and praise you Lord Jesus Christ,
Hallelu Yah
Because by your holy cross and resurrection
you give us life. Hallelu Yah!

Or

O God, who brought us to birth, and in whose arms we die, in our grief and shock, contain and comfort us; embrace us with your love, give us hope in our confusion and grace to let go into new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The minister may say:

In the presence of death,
Christ offers us sure ground
for hope and confidence and even for joy,
because he shared our human life and death,
was raised again triumphant
and lives for evermore.
In him his people find eternal life.

Let us then hear the words of Holy Scripture, that from them we may draw comfort and strength.

The first reading

The Kaddish

The Kaddish is an affirmation of faith in the face of death, said by the chief mourner, surrounded by the congregation, prayed following a Bible reading, as done in Judaism:

Mourner: Magnified and sanctified be the great name of God in the world which he created according to his will.

May he establish his Kingdom in your life and in your days, and in the lifetime of all his people; quickly and speedily may it come; and let us say Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Mourner: Blessed, praised and glorified, exalted, extolled and honoured, magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy One;

blessed be God! Though he be high above all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations, which are uttered in the world; and let us say

Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Mourner: May there be abundant peace from heaven and life for us and for all people; let us say

Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Second reading (Optional)

Hymn

Panagyrical *Memories of the person who has died may be shared here if not done earlier.*

Sermon

The prayers of the people

God of mercy, Lord of life,
 you have made us in your image
 to reflect your truth and light:
 we give you thanks for N,
 for the grace and mercy he/she received from you,
 for all that was good in his/her life,
 for the memories we treasure today.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer

You promised eternal life to those who believe.
 Remember for good this your servant N
 as we also remember him/her.
 Bring all who rest in Christ
 into the fullness of your kingdom
 where sins have been forgiven
 and death is no more.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer

Your mighty power brings joy out of grief
 and life out of death.
 Look in mercy on N and all who mourn.
 Give them patient faith in times of darkness.
 Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer

You are tender towards your children
 and your mercy is over all your works.
 Heal the memories of hurt and failure.
 Give us the wisdom and grace to use aright

the time that is left to us here on earth,
to turn to Christ and follow in his steps
in the way that leads to everlasting life.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer

**All God of mercy,
entrusting into your hands all that you have made
and rejoicing in our communion with all your
faithful people,
we make our prayers through Jesus Christ our
Saviour.
Amen.**

Or

Any other suitable form which will follow this sequence
Thanksgiving for the life of the departed
Prayer for those who mourn
Prayer for readiness to live in the light of eternity

*Other suitable prayers may be said here. Please refer
page.....*

The Lord's prayer

A Hymn may be sung

THE COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

*The minister stands by the coffin and may invite the family to
gather around it. The congregation stands.*

Presbyter Let us commend N to the mercy of God, our
maker and redeemer.

The presbyter may asperge the coffin and thereafter burn incense around the coffin here.

Presbyter The Lord will give you everlasting rest. Hallelu Yah!

All: **Because perpetual light will shine on you forevermore**
Hallelu Yah! (2 Esdras 2:34b, 35b)

Presbyter We shall not all die (1 Corinthians 15:51)

All: **We shall all be changed (1 Corinthians 15:51)**

Presbyter The last trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:52)

All **We shall all be changed (1 Corinthians 15:52)**

Presbyter This mortal body must be clothed with imperishability and immortality (1 Corinthians 15:53)

All **We shall all be changed**

Presbyter This is the Word of the Lord that will not pass away (Luke 21:33) – Jesus said : I am the resurrection and the life; whoever lives and believes in me will never die (John 11:25 –26) ... *Silence* May the Lord grant **N** to find mercy from the Lord on the Great Day (2 Timothy 1:18)

All **Amen. Today you will be in Paradise. (Luke 23:43)**

Whilst the congregation recites the following traditional stanzas adapted. 'the family members pour blessed water (Numbers 5:17, baptismal Service) into a cup until it overflows, signing the flow of prayers for and with the departed that fill

to overflowing the Cup of suffering and consolation (2 Corinthians 1:5) of our Divine Elder Brother Jesus Christ. Meanwhile the Leader and helpers will burn josticks or incense around the bier or the feet, middle, and head on each side, and in the midst of the congregation. After the stanzas are said the water from the cup is used to asperge the bier and congregation in a similar manner, reminding all of our common ONE Baptism into the ONE Church (Militant, Expectant, and Triumphant) of the ONE Lord (Ephesians 4:4)

Traditional Stanzas – Idthung Me Vo Knaathinung Hothu (*Pan Vadima*)

All : **By N.'s life and faith and being justified by your mediator the Lord Jesus Christ, S/he has attained peace. Amen.**

Just as the rivers filled with water by rain flow into the sea and fill it, so has N's life of faith through the merits of our Saviour The Lord Jesus Christ, filled his/her soul.

Amen.

Just as the rain water flows from a higher elevation to a lower elevation, and just as smoke rises to the sky, may our prayers with that of the faithful departed and the saints and angels, flow to the throne of heavenly grace and be accepted on high. Amen.

Or Into your hands, Lord, our faithful creator and most loving redeemer, we commend your child **N** for *he/she* is yours in death as in life. In your great mercy gather *him/her* into your arms and fulfill in *him/her* the purpose of your love; that, rejoicing in the light and refreshment of your presence, *he/she may*

enjoy that life which you have prepared for all those who love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Or God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises, we entrust *N* to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Or Into your keeping, O merciful God, we commend your servant *N*. Receive *her/him* into the arms of your mercy, into the joy of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Or Loving God, we commend *N* to your perfect mercy and wisdom, for in you alone we put our trust. Grant *N* to find your mercy on the Great Day (2 Timothy 1-18). **Amen.**

Presbyter: Into Paradise may the Angels lead you, at your coming may the Martyrs receive you and lead you into the Holy City Jerusalem, and with Lazarus who was once poor, may you have eternal rest. **Amen.**

May their be rain in due season and the crops be plentiful; may the rulers be righteous and the country become just and prosperous; and may God be with the Church always and comfort us by the assurance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Rendering of the Dead March

THE DISMISSAL

The Blessing

May Christ the good shepherd enfold you with love,
fill you with peace,
and lead you in hope,
to the end of your days;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen

*If the cemetery is within the same premises the dismissal may
be kept to the end.*

Hymn

FUNERAL WITH

EUCCHARIST

AT THE ENTRANCE

*At the bringing in of the mortal remains at the **church** or **chapel** of a cemetery or **any place**, the coffin **may be** sprinkled with water (of baptism) or Flowers (of life) and taken from or to the entrance door led by a person carrying a lamp or the Pascal Candle, while the following is chanted/said:*

The minister meets the coffin at the door of the church and says

We receive the body of our brother/sister N with confidence in God, the giver of life, who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

At the asperging – We have been buried with Christ Jesus by baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, so we too might walk in newness of life. *Romans 6:4*

Others around too may be sprinkled.

The following sentences are read as the minister goes before the body.

Jesus said, 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.* Hallelu Yah!
John 11:25 – 26.

The wages of sin is death; the present given by God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 6:23* Hallelu Yah!

We brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away: blessed be the name of the Lord. *1 Timothy 6:7, Job 1:21*. Hallelu Yah!

If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. Christ both died and came to life, to be Lord both of the dead and of the living. *Romans 14:8 – 9* Hallelu Yah!

The eternal God is your **refuge** and underneath are the everlasting arms. *Deuteronomy 33:27*.

The **loving kindness** of the Lord never ceases, the Lord's **compassion** never comes to an end. *Lamentations 3:22*

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. *Matthew 5:4*.

When the coffin is in place a pall, a bible, a cross and other symbols from the life of the departed maybe placed on the coffin with the permission of the Presbyter. The coffin will remain closed throughout the service.

INTRODUCTION

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.

The minister introduces the service in these or other suitable words

We have come here today
to remember before God our brother/sister N;
to give thanks for his/her life;
to commend him/her to God our merciful redeemer and
judge;
to commit his/her body to be buried/cremated,

and to comfort one another in our grief.

Hymn

*(Namo, namoa / Saranam, saranam / Christ our pasover lamb
can be sung)*

THE GATHERING

Introductory Sentence

"I will comfort you, says the Lord, as a mother comforts her child, and you shall be comforted." *Isaiah 66.13*

Blessed be God

Blessed be God's reign forever Amen.

Panagyric

Memories of the person who has died.

FROM THE SONG OF THE CHURCH, Te Deum

All : You, Christ, are the king of glory,
the eternal Son of the Father
+ When you became human to set us free
you did not shun the Virgin's womb
You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all
believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our
judge.

+ Come then, Lord, and help your people,
brought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.
+ We adore and praise you Lord Jesus Christ,

Hallelu Yah

Because by your holy cross and
resurrection you give us life.

Hallelu Yah!

Or

O God, who brought us to birth, and in whose arms we die, in
our grief and shock, contain and comfort us; embrace us with
your love, give us hope in our confusion and grace to let go
into new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Introduction to confession

As children of a loving heavenly Father, let us ask his
forgiveness, for he is gentle and full of compassion.

Silence

Confession

God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and
done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Absolution

May God our Father forgive us our sins
and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom,
where dust and ashes have no dominion.

Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Collect *to be said by all*

Merciful Father,
 hear our prayers and comfort us;
 renew our trust in your Son,
 whom you raised from the dead;
 strengthen our faith
 that all who have died in the love of Christ
 will share in his resurrection;
 who lives and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Or any other suitable collect

The 1st Reading – Jewish scriptures

Silence

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

The Kaddish

The Kaddish is an affirmation of faith in the face of death, said by the chief mourner, surrounded by the congregation, prayed following a Bible reading, as done in Judaism:

<i>Mourner:</i>	Magnified and sanctified be the great name of God
	in the world which he created according to his will.
in your days,	May he establish his Kingdom in your life and
	and in the lifetime of all his people;
	quickly and speedily may it come; and let us
say Amen!	

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Mourner: Blessed, praised and glorified,
exalted, extolled and honoured,
magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy

One;

blessed be God!

Though he be high above all the blessings and

hymns,

praises and consolations,

which are uttered in the world; and let us say

Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Mourner: May there be abundant peace from heaven
and life for us and for all people; let us say

Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Psalm

The 2nd reading – The Christian Scriptures

Silence

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

The Gospel

An acclamation may herald the Gospel reading.

Reader Hallelu Yah, Hallelu Yah
Sentence from scripture
Hallelu Yah, Hallelu Yah

Listen to the Good News proclaimed in the
gospel according tochapter....verses

All **Glory to Christ our Saviour**
Silence

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ
Praise to Christ our Lord

Panegyric

Memories of the person who has died may be shared here if not done earlier.

Sermon

Affirmation of faith (*Any authorized affirmation of faith can be used here*)

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he was buried;
 he was raised to life on the third day
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 afterwards he appeared to his followers,
 and to all the apostles:
 this we have received,
 and this we believe.**

cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7

The prayers of the people

The Lord Jesus is the lover of his people
 and our only sure hope.

Let us ask him to deepen our faith
 and sustain us in this dark hour.

You became one of us for our sake,
 sharing our human life.

To you we pray:

All **bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You grew in wisdom, age and grace
and learned obedience
through suffering.

To you we pray:

All **bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You welcomed all who came to you
especially the sick.

Grant to those who suffer
your tender loving care,
and the assurance of your healing presence.

To you we pray:

All **bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You comforted those who
mourned the loss of children and friends.

We commend to you those who will miss **N**
most in the days to come because
they loved him /her best, especially (*Names of the family
members may be mentioned here*)

and all the members of his / her family.

May they know the consolation of your love.

To you we pray:

All **bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You took upon yourself
the suffering and death of us all.

Give us the same courage that was in **N**
to never give up but to rely
on the strength that you give us.

To you we pray:

All **bless us and keep us, O Lord.**

You promised to raise up those
who believe in you,
just as you were raised up in glory by the Father.

Grant **N** a place in the
space that you have prepared for us all.
To you we pray:

All **bless us and keep us, O Lord**

Or

Any other suitable form which will follow this sequence
Thanksgiving for the life of the departed
Prayer for those who mourn
Prayer for readiness to live in the light of eternity

Other suitable prayers may be said here

The greeting of peace

A suitable sentence may be used from page.....

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not
as the world gives do I give you. Do not let your hearts be
troubled, neither let them be afraid. Hallelu Yah.

 The peace of the risen Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

Hymn

Page 33 in the Liturgy of Sri Lanka

Proper preface

And now we give you thanks
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
In him who rose from the dead
our hope of resurrection dawned.
The sting of death has been removed
by the glorious promise of his risen life.

The following acclamation can be used at the Eucharistic Prayer (Page 46 Liturgy of Sri Lanka)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**All dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

The Lord's prayer

Prayer after communion

**Gracious God,
we thank you that in your great love
you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ
and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet:
grant that this sacrament may be to us
a comfort in affliction
and a pledge of our inheritance
in that kingdom where there is no death,
neither sorrow nor crying,
but fullness of joy with all your saints;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

Or

**Heavenly Father,
in your Son Jesus Christ
you have given us a true faith and a sure hope.
Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days,
that we may live as those who believe in
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
and the resurrection to eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

The minister stands by the coffin and may invite the family to gather around it. The congregation stands.

Presbyter Let us commend N to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

The presbyter may asperge the coffin and thereafter burn incense around the coffin here.

Presbyter The Lord will give you everlasting rest. Hallelu Yah!

All: **Because perpetual light will shine on you forevermore**

Hallelu Yah! (2 Esdras 2:34b, 35b)

Presbyter We shall not all die (1 Corinthians 15:51)

All: **We shall all be changed (1 Corinthians 15:51)**

Presbyter The last trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:52)

All **We shall all be changed (1 Corinthians 15:52)**

Presbyter This mortal body must be clothed with imperishability and immortality (1 Corinthians 15:53)

All **We shall all be changed**

Presbyter This is the Word of the Lord that will not pass away (Luke 21:33) – Jesus said : I am the resurrection and the life; whoever lives and believes in me will never die (John 11:25 –26) ... *Silence* May the Lord grant **N** to find

mercy from the Lord on the Great Day (2 Timothy 1:18)

All : **Amen. Today you will be in Paradise.** (Luke 23:43)

Whilst the congregation recites the following traditional stanzas adapted. 'the family members pour blessed water (Numbers 5:17, baptismal Service) into a cup until it overflows, signing the flow of prayers for and with the departed that fill to overflowing the Cup of suffering and consolation (2 Corinthians 1:5) of our Divine Elder Brother Jesus Christ. Meanwhile the Leader and helpers will burn josticks or incense around the bier or the fee, middle, and head on each side, and in the midst of the congregation. After the stanzas are said the water from the cup is used to asperge the bier and congregation in a similar manner, reminding all of our common ONE Baptism into the ONE Church (Militant, Expectant, and Triumphant) of the ONE Lord (Ephesians 4:4)

Traditional Stanzas – Idthung Me Vo Knaathinung Hothu (*Pan Vadima*)

All : **By N.'s life and faith and being justified by your mediator the Lord Jesus Christ, S/he has attained peace. Amen.**

Just as the rivers filled with water by rain flow into the sea and fill it, so has N s life of faith through the merits of our Saviour The Lord Jesus Christ, filled his/her soul.

Amen.

Just as the rain water flows from a higher elevation to a lower elevation, and just as smoke rises to the sky, may our prayers with that of the faithful departed and the saints and angels, flow to the throne of heavenly

grace and be accepted on high. Amen.

- Or** Into your hands, Lord, our faithful creator and most loving redeemer, we commend your child **N** for *he/she* is yours in death as in life. In your great mercy gather *him/her* into your arms and fulfill in *him/her* the purpose of your love; that, rejoicing in the light and refreshment of your presence, *he/she* may enjoy that life which you have prepared for all those who love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**
- Or** God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises, we entrust **N** to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen.**
- Or** Into your keeping, O merciful God, we commend your servant *N*. Receive *her/him* into the arms of your mercy, into the joy of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
- Or** Loving God, we commend *N* to your perfect mercy and wisdom, for in you alone we put our trust. Grant *N* to find your mercy on the Great Day (2 Timothy 1-18). **Amen.**
- Presbyter: Into Paradise may the Angels lead you, at your coming may the Martyrs receive you and lead you into the Holy City Jerusalem, and with

Lazarus who was once poor, may you have eternal rest. **Amen.**

May there be rain in due season and the crops be plentiful; may the rulers be righteous and the country become just and prosperous; and may God be with the Church always and comfort us by the assurance of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Rendering of the Dead March

THE DISMISSAL

May Christ the good shepherd enfold you with love,
fill you with peace,
and lead you in hope,
to the end of your days;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen

If the cemetery is within the same premises the dismissal may be kept to the end.

Hymn

AT THE CEMETARY

A selection of the following sentences can be read as the body is being led for burial.

God will show us the path of life; in his presence is the fullness of joy: at his right hand there is pleasure for evermore. cf Psalm 16.10

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46.1

Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice; let your ears consider well the voice of my supplications. cf Psalm 130.1

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. Job 19.25-27

As they came from their mother's womb, so they shall go again, naked as they came; they shall take nothing for their toil, which they may carry away with their hands. This also is a grievous ill: just as they came, so shall they go; and what gain do they have from toiling for the wind? Ecclesiastes 5.15,16

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is his faithfulness. Lamentations 3.22,23

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5.4

The king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.' Matthew 25.34

Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.' Luke 23.43

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. John 3.16

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 6.40

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.' John 11.25,26

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. John 14.2,3

I am convinced that neither death, nor 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. Romans 8.38,39

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 2.9-10a

He must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 1 Corinthians 15.25,26

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 2 Corinthians 1.3,4

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. 2 Corinthians 5.1

We believe that Jesus died and rose again; and so it will be for those who died as Christians; God will bring them to life with Jesus. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Comfort one another with these words. cf 1 Thessalonians 4.14,17b,18

We brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. 1 Timothy 6.7; Job 1.21b

Or

'I am the resurrection and the life,' says the Lord. 'Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.' Hallelu Yah!

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Hallelu Yah!

In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. Hallelu Yah!

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Hallelu Yah!

THE COMMITAL

While the coffin is lowered into the grave the following is said.

I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write this: "Happy are the dead who die in the faith of Christ! Henceforth, "says the Spirit, "they may rest from their labours". Revelations 14:13
 silence

Blessed be the God and Parent of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Parent, and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in our sorrows, so that we can offer others, in their sorrows the consolation that we ourselves have received from God. 2 Corinthians 1:3- 4

.... silence

Or

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. Psalm 86:15silence.....

As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those that fear him. Psalm 103:13silence....

For he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him and his righteousness upon their children's children. Psalm 103:13-17silence....

Let us Pray

Hear us, O God of loving kindness, as we place in your hands the soul of our dearly loved **N**. Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold, the lamb of your own flock, and the sinner of your own redeeming. Enfold **N** in the arms of your loving kindness, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grant to all who are bereaved O Lord, the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with hope in the sure belief in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Since the earthly life of **N** has come to an end we now commit the body of **N** to be buried in the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died, was buried, and rose again for us. In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All: **+ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymns are sung while the grave is being closed.

CONCLUSION

The Scriptures say: Make sure that you do not grieve about those who have died, as others do who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with Christ .. Therefore comfort one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4:13b – 14, 18 silence ...*

Support us, O Lord, all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Lord grant **N** to find mercy from the Lord on the Great Day (1 Timothy 1:18) he rests in peace (from 2 Esdras 2:34b, Wisdom 3:3b)

Or

The Scriptures say: Make sure that you do not grieve about those who have died, as others do who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with Christ .. Therefore comfort one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4:13b – 14, 18 silence ...*

Now to the ONE who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without blemish in the presence of the glory of the Lord with rejoicing, to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. Jude 4:25

May the Lord grant **N** to find mercy from the Lord on the Great Day (1 Timothy 1:18) he rests in peace (from 2 Esdras 2:34b, Wisdom 3:3b)

Other prayers may be said here.

The Lord's prayer may be said here if not used earlier.

THE DISMISSAL

THE SONG OF SIMEON (Luke 2:29 – 32) Nunc dimittis

All Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace
 your word has been fulfilled.
 My own eyes have seen the salvation
 which you have prepared in the sight of every people
 A light to reveal you to the nations
 and the glory of your people Israel.
 + The Lord will give *her/him* everlasting rest, Hallelu
 Yah!

Because perpetual light will shine on *her/him*
forevermore

Hallelu Yah

May the infinite and glorious Trinity, The father, the Son, and the Holy spirit, direct our life in good works, and after our journey through this world Grant us eternal rest with all the saints. **Amen.**

AT THE CREMATORIUM

As the body is brought to the crematorium it is carried around the crematorium three times reminding us of God the Holy Trinity and the resurrection of Jesus on the third day.

The following sentences may be said while the body is being brought to the crematorium or while it is being taken around three times.

“I am the resurrection and the life,” says the Lord. “Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die”. Hallelu Yah

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Hallelu Yah

In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. Hallelu Yah

God is our refuge and strength, a very pleasant help in trouble. Hallelu Yah

The Committal

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those that fear him. for he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures forever and ever toward those that fear him and his righteousness upon their children’s children.

Prayer

Since the earthly life on *N* has come to an end

we now commit *his/her* body
 to be cremated in the sure and certain hope
 of the resurrection to eternal life,
 through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who died, was buried,
 and rose again for us.
 In the name of the Father and
 of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

All: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn

Conclusion

Support us, O Lord, all the daylong
 of this troubleous life,
 until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
 the busy world is hushed,
 the fever of life is over and our work is done.
 Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging,
 a holy rest, and peace at the last;
 through Christ our Lord Amen.

May the Lord grant *N* to find mercy from the Lord on the great day (*1 Timothy 1:18*). May *he/she* rest in peace (*2 Esdras 2:34b, Wisdom 3:3b*)

Blessing

THE BURIAL OF ASHES

At the grave

A hymn

Leader: We meet together to *bury/scatter* the ashes of *N*. As we gather in faith we remember that, although our bodies return to dust, we shall be raised with Christ in glory. Let us rejoice in this promise as we hear the words of the Holy Scriptures.

Or

Though we are dust and ashes, God has prepared for those who love him a heavenly dwelling place. At her funeral we commended **N** into the hands of almighty God. As we prepare to commit the remains of **N** to the earth, we entrust ourselves and all who love God to his loving care.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The following or other passage (s) of scripture:

1 Samuel 31:12b – 13 Or Wisdom 3:1-2, 3b

Psalm 130

1 Corinthians 15:51-53 Or Revelations 7:17 or Romans

6:4

John 6:54

The Jewish Kaddish

Mourner: Magnified and sanctified be the great name of God in the world which he created according to his will.

May he establish his Kingdom in your life and in your days, and in the lifetime of all his people; quickly and speedily may it come; and let us say Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Mourner: Blessed, praised and glorified, exalted, extolled and honoured, magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy One;

blessed be God! Though he be high above all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations, which are uttered in the world; and let us say

Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

Mourner: May there be abundant peace from heaven and life for us and for all people; let us say

Amen!

All : **Blessed be God for ever!**

A hymn may be sung

PRAYERS:

Let us pray (-free prayer or as follows)

The ashes and those around are sprinkled with water, saying:
 God of all consolation, you created us from dust to † return to the earth (Genesis 3:19), but as † we are buried and purified (*Numbers 19:18*) with Christ in the

waters of † baptism, we know that we shall rise again with Christ to a newness of life (*Romans 6:4*) Engulf us with your Holy Spirit and lift us from the darkness of death and grief into the light and refuge of your presence, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

As the ashes are lowered/scattered, the Presbyter says:

We have commended *N* to God's everlasting love and care. We now
return to the earth the ashes of *Ns* mortal body. *S/He* rest in peace and rises in glory. **Amen.**

Or

We have entrusted our brother/sister **N** to God's mercy, and we now commit his/her mortal remains to the ground: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our frail bodies that they may be conformed to his glorious body, who died, was buried, and rose again for us. To him be glory forever. **Amen.**

All **Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presbyter Heavenly Father, we thank you for all those whom we love but see no longer. As we remember **N** in this place, hold before us our beginning and our ending, the dust from which we come and the death to which we move, with a firm hope in your eternal love and purposes for us, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presbyter: May the Lord grant *N* to find mercy from the Lord on the Great Day. (*2 Timothy 1:18*). *S/He* is at peace (*Wisdom 3:3b*). Now as you return to your homes (*John 20:10*) to a fresh life, may the God of peace + sanctify you entirely and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ (*1 Thessalonians 5:23*). The Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all – Great each other with a holy *kiss* (*1 Thessalonians 3:12; 5:26*)

All: + **Amen** *All greet one another*

Hymn

FUNERAL OF A CHILD

AT THE ENTRANCE

*At the bringing in of the mortal remains at the **church** or **chapel** of a cemetery or **any place**, the coffin **may be** sprinkled with water (of baptism) or Flowers (of life) and taken from or to the entrance door led by a person carrying a lamp or the Pascal Candle, while the following is chanted/said:*

The minister meets the coffin at the door of the church and says

We receive the body of this our dear child **N** with confidence in God, the giver of life, who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead.

The asperging will be omitted the funeral is of an unbaptized child or a baby. However flowers may be sprinkled as the coffin is brought into the church.

At the asperging – We have been buried with Christ Jesus by baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, so we too might walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4

Others around too may be sprinkled.

The following sentences are read as the minister goes before the coffin. Additional sentences available in the Burial section.

The Sentences

I am convinced that neither death, nor 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. Romans 8.38,39 Hallelu Yah!

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd, and will lead them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes. Revelation 7.17 Hallelu Yah!

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. 1 John 3.2 Hallelu Yah!

Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Mark 10.14 Hallelu Yah!

The loving kindness of the Lord never ceases, the Lord's compassion never comes to an end. Lamentations 3:22 Hallelu Yah!

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Matthew 5:4. Hallelu Yah!

Introduction

We have come together to worship God, to thank him for his love, and to remember the short life on earth of **N**; to share our grief and to commend him to the eternal care of God. We meet in the faith that death is not the end, and may be faced without fear, bitterness or guilt.

Opening prayer

O God, who brought us to birth, and in whose arms we die, in our grief and shock, contain and comfort us; embrace us with your love, give us hope in our confusion and grace to let go into new life; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Or

God of all mercies, you make nothing in vain and love all that you have made. Comfort us in our grief, and console us by the knowledge of your unfailing love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn 01

Introductory sentence

I will comfort you, says the Lord, as a mother comforts her child, and you shall be comforted. *Isaiah 66.13*

Blessed be God

All Blessed be God's reign forever. Amen.

Panegyric

Memories of the person who has died may be shared.

Silence for personal reflection

Ministry of the Word

The minister may say:

In the presence of death,
 Christ offers us sure ground
 for hope and confidence and even for joy,
 because he shared our human life and death,
 was raised again triumphant
 and lives for evermore.
 In him his people find eternal life.

Let us then hear the words of Holy Scripture, that from them we may draw comfort and strength.

The first reading

Hymn 02

The second reading (Optional)

Sermon

Prayers of the people

The Lord Jesus is the lover of his people and our only sure hope.

Let us ask him to deepen our faith and sustain us in this dark hour.

You became a little child for our sake, sharing our human life.

To you we pray:

All bless us and keep us, O Lord.

You grew in wisdom, age and grace and learned obedience through suffering.

To you we pray:

All bless us and keep us, O Lord.

You welcomed children, promising them your kingdom.

To you we pray:

All bless us and keep us, O Lord.

You comforted those who mourned the loss of children and friends.

To you we pray:

All bless us and keep us, O Lord.

You took upon yourself the suffering and death of us all.

To you we pray:

All bless us and keep us, O Lord.

You promised to raise up those who believe in you, just as you were raised up in glory by the Father.

To you we pray:

All bless us and keep us, O Lord.

Prayer which may be said by the parents

God of love and life, you gave **N** to us as our son/daughter. Give us now the assurance that though he/she has passed from our sight, he/she has not passed from your care. Draw near to us in our sadness, bring blessing out of grief, and help us in our tears and pain to know you standing alongside us and to experience your love and healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer for parents

Heavenly Father, you alone can heal our broken hearts; you alone can wipe away the tears that well up inside us; you alone can give us the peace we need; you alone can strengthen us to carry on. We ask you to be near **N** and **N** whose time of joy has been turned into sadness. Assure them that with you nothing is wasted or incomplete, and uphold them with your tender love. Supported by your strength, may our love for one another be deepened by the knowledge of your love for us all. **Amen.**

Prayers for children in the family

Lord Jesus, we ask you to be close to **N**, whose life has been changed by sorrow. Give him courage to face this loss, and comfort him with your unchanging love. **Amen.**

A stillborn child

God our creator, from whom all life comes, comfort this family, grieving for the loss of their hoped-for child. Help them to find assurance that with you nothing is wasted or incomplete, and uphold them with your love, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

God of all mystery, whose ways are beyond understanding, lead us, who grieve at this untimely death, to a new and deeper faith in your love, which brought your only Son Jesus

through death into resurrection life. We make our prayer in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

The Lords prayer

Hymn 03

Farewell

Heavenly Father, **N** and **N** have named their child / baby **N** – a name to be treasured forever in their hearts. But it was you who formed him in the womb; you knew him by name before time began. Now we commit **N** into your ever-caring and gentle love; he brought the promise of joy to many lives for so short a time; enfold him now in eternal life, in the name of our risen Saviour who was born and died and lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit forever. **Amen.**

COMMENDATION

The minister stands by the coffin and may invite the family to gather around it. The congregation stands.

Presbyter Let us commend **N** to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

The presbyter may asperge the coffin and thereafter burn incense around the coffin here.

Presbyter The Lord will give you everlasting rest. Hallelu Yah!

All: **Because perpetual light will shine on you forevermore**

Hallelu Yah! (2 Esdras 2:34b, 35b)

Presbyter We shall not all die (1 Corinthians 15:51)

All: **We shall all be changed (1 Corinthians 15:51)**

Presbyter The last trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised

imperishable (*1 Corinthians 15:52*)

All **We shall all be changed** (*1 Corinthians 15:52*)

Presbyter This mortal body must be clothed with imperishability and

immortality (*1 Corinthians 15:53*)

All **We shall all be changed**

Presbyter This is the Word of the Lord that will not pass away (*Luke*

21:33) – Jesus said : I am the resurrection and the life; whoever lives and believes in me will never die (*John 11:25 –26*) ... *Silence* May the Lord grant **Anthony Ayaan** to find mercy from the Lord on the Great Day (*2 Timothy 1:18*)

All **Amen. Today you will be in Paradise.** (*Luke 23:43*)

To you, gentle Father, we humbly entrust this child so precious in your sight. Take him /her into your arms and welcome him / her into your presence where there is neither sorrow nor pain, but the fullness of peace and joy with you for ever and ever. Amen.

Presbyter: Into Paradise may the Angels lead you, at your coming may the Martyrs receive you and lead you into the Holy City Jerusalem, and with Lazarus who was once poor, may you have eternal rest. **Amen.**

May there be rain in due season and the crops be plentiful; may the rulers be righteous and

the country become just and prosperous;
and may God be with the Church always and
comfort us by the assurance of eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God our creator and redeemer,
by your power Christ conquered death
and returned to you in glory.
Confident of your victory
and claiming his promises,
we entrust N into your keeping
in the name of Jesus our Lord,
who, though he died, is now alive
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever.
All Amen.

For an older child

Into your hands, Lord,
our faithful creator and most loving redeemer,
we commend your child N,
for he/she is yours in death as in life.
In your great mercy
gather him/her into your arms
and fulfill in him/her the purpose of your love;
that, rejoicing in the light and refreshment of your presence,
he/she may enjoy that life which you have prepared
for all those who love you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

For a young child

Heavenly Father,
whose Son our Saviour
took little children into his arms and blessed them:
receive, we pray, your child N
in your never-failing care and love,

comfort all who have loved him/her on earth,
and bring us all to your everlasting kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A baby

To you, gentle Father,
we humbly entrust this child so precious in your sight.
Take *him/her* into your arms
and welcome *him/her* into your presence
where there is no sorrow nor pain,
but the fullness of peace and joy with you
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Stillbirth

God of compassion, you make nothing in vain
and love all you have created;
we commend to you *N* and *N's* child *N*,
for whom they poured out such great love,
for whom they cherished so many hopes and dreams.
We had longed to welcome *him/her* amongst us;
grant us the assurance that *he/she* is now encircled
in your arms of love,
and shares the resurrection life of your Son, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

Miscarriage

God of compassion, you make nothing in vain
and we love all that you have created;
we commend to you *N* and *N's* child (*name child if
appropriate*)
for whom they poured out such great love,
for whom they cherished many hopes and dreams.
Grant them the assurance that their child,
though not seen by us, is seen and known by you,
and will share the risen life of your Son, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The Rendering of the Dead March

THE DISMISSAL

The Blessing

*May Christ the good shepherd enfold you with love,
fill you with peace,
and lead you in hope,
to the end of your days;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen*

*If the cemetery is within the same premises the dismissal may
be kept to the end.*

Hymn 04

At the cemetery

The Committal

Hear us, O God of loving kindness, as we place in your hands the soul of our dearly loved **N**. Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold, the lamb of your own flock, and the sinner of your own redeeming. Enfold **N** in the arms of your loving kindness, in the blessed rest of everlasting peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We have entrusted **N** to God's mercy, and we now commit his / her body to the ground: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our frail bodies that they may be conformed to his glorious body, who died, was buried, and rose again for us. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Conclusion

Support us, O Lord, all the daylong of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
 God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
 God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
 God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
 God be at mine end, and at my departing. Amen.

May the Lord grant *N* to find mercy from the Lord on the Great Day (1 Timothy 1:18) he rests in peace (*from 2 Esdras 2:34b, Wisdom 3:3b*)

The Blessing

May Christ the good shepherd enfold *you* with love, fill *you* with peace, and lead *you* in hope, to the end of *your* days; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among *you* and remain with *you* always. **Amen**

A Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance (Service of the Word)

Preparation

A lamp or candle may be lit.

The Lord is my light and my salvation
my God shall make my darkness to be bright.

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you

All and also with you.

Hymn

*A Song of the Evening Sacrifice may be said and incense may
be burned*

**All Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to you.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips;

**All Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**
Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God;
in you I take refuge; do not leave me defenceless.

**All Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.** *Psalm*
141.1-4b,8

This opening prayer may be said

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and forever. **Amen.**

Or

If the service is in the morning the following may be used

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
Let us pray with one heart and mind

Silence is kept

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day
So may the light of your presence, O God,
Set our hearts on fire with love for you
Now and forever

Word of God

Hymn based Psalm (or a Psalm)

Old Testament

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A Song of the redeemer

**Refrain: O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,**

**The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!**

1 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me.

2 He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to announce release from darkness for the prisoners,

3 To proclaim the time of the Lord's favour,
and to comfort all who grieve,

4 To give them oil of gladness instead of mourners' tears,
a garment of splendour for the heavy heart.

5 They will be called trees of righteousness,
planted by the Lord for his praise.

6 For God shall make his righteousness and praise
blossom before all the nations.

7 Buildings long in ruins will be rebuilt
and the desolate cities restored.

8 And you shall be called the Redeemed of the Lord,
a city no longer forsaken. Isaiah 61.1-3,11b, 4;
62.12

Memories of the departed

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have conquered death
and removed its sting forever.
We thank you for every special memory
of our loved one and for all the
love that we shared during those
years we enjoyed together.
We thank you that now

all his/her trials and weaknesses
of this earthly life are ended.
May we have grace to say,
“the Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;
blessed be the name of the Lord.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
who died for us and rose again. Amen.

New Testament: Romans 8:31 – 39
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Magnificat (The Song of Mary)

**With Mary let my soul rejoice,
And praise God’s holy name –
His saving love from first to last,
From age to age the same!**

**How strong his arm, how great his power!
The proud he will disown;
The meek and humble he exalts
To share his glorious throne.**

**The rich our God will send away
And feed the hungry poor
The arms of love remain outstretched
At mercy’s open door.**

**So shall God’s promise be fulfilled,
To Israel firmly made:
A child is born, a Son is given
Whose crown will never fade.**

**All glory to the Father, Son
And Spirit now proclaim;
With Mary let the world rejoice
And praise God’s holy name!**

Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ:

All Christ died for our sins
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he was buried;
 he was raised to life on the third day
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 afterwards he appeared to his followers,
 and to all the apostles:
 this we have received,
 and this we believe. Amen.

cf 1

Corinthians 15.3-7

Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Hymn

A Service of thanksgiving and Remembrance (With Eucharist)

THE GATHERING

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
 who died and was raised
 to the glory of God the Father.
 Grace and mercy be with you.

All And also with you.

We look not to the things that are seen
 but to the things that are unseen;
 for the things that are seen are transient
 but the things that are unseen are eternal.
 Today we come together to remember before God
 our brother/sister **N**, to give thanks
 for *his/her* life and to comfort one another in our grief.

Opening prayer

Father in heaven, we praise your name
 for all who have finished this life
 loving and trusting you,
 for the example of their lives,
 the life and grace you gave them
 and the peace in which they rest.
 We praise you today for your servant **N**
 and for all that you did through him/her.
 Meet us in our sadness
 and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving,
 for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn

Call to confession As children of a loving heavenly
 Father, let us ask his forgiveness, for
 he is gentle and full of compassion.

Confession

**God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all
sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we
have thought and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have
failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for
us,
forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Absolution

May God our Father forgive us our
sins
and bring us to the eternal joy of his
kingdom,
where dust and ashes have no
dominion. **Amen.**

Collect**MINISTRY OF THE WORD****Reading from the Old Testament****Psalm / Psalm based hymn****Reading from the New Testament****Hymn****Gospel****Memories of the departed**

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
 you have conquered death
 and removed its sting forever.
 We thank you for every special memory
 of our loved one and for all the
 love that we shared during those
 years we enjoyed together.
 We thank you that now
 all his/her trials and weaknesses
 of this earthly life are ended.
 May we have grace to say,
 “the Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;
 blessed be the name of the Lord.
 We pray in the name of Jesus,
 who died for us and rose again. Amen.

Reflection**Affirmation of faith**

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**All Christ died for our sins
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 he was buried;
 he was raised to life on the third day
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
 afterwards he appeared to his followers,
 and to all the apostles:
 this we have received,
 and this we believe.**

Amen.

(cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7)

Greeting of Peace

Jesus said: Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives give I unto you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you
All and also with you.

Hymn

MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

Proper preface And now we give you thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. In him who rose from the dead our hope of resurrection dawned. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life.

Post communion Prayer Gracious God,
 we thank you that in your great love
 you have fed us with the spiritual food
 and drink
 of the body and blood of your Son
 Jesus Christ
 and have given us a foretaste of your
 heavenly banquet:
 grant that this sacrament may be to
 us
 a comfort in affliction
 and a pledge of our inheritance
 in that kingdom where there is no
 death,
 neither sorrow nor crying,
 but fullness of joy with all your saints;
 through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

Conclusion Neither death nor life can separate us from
 the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant to us, Lord God, to trust you not for ourselves alone, but also for those whom we love and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death; that, as we believe your power to have raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, so may we trust your love to give eternal life to all who believe in him; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn