



This home prayer service has been put together for those hearing the news of a death, and/or on the day of the funeral for those not able to be present. It's being written at the time of the Coronavirus 2020 outbreak when sadly, funerals may now only happen at the Crematorium or at the graveside. Only immediate family members can attend (if the crematorium allows).

We recognise how difficult this will be for many and adds to the pain of a loss, and encourage you to discuss with your Parish Church Pastoral Team and/or ministers the possibility of a memorial service at a date in the future where more people can be present.

This home prayer service is about continuing the journey of faith, either for the deceased, who we now hope stands in glory, or for those of us who are left, who can recommit ourselves to live God's way here on earth.

Pastoral Introduction

God's love and power extend over all creation. Every life, including our own, is precious to God. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is new life in Christ over death.

Home Service Introduction

We shall not all die

But we shall be changed.

The trumpet shall sound and the dead will rise immortal

And we shall be changed.

The perishable must be clothed with the imperishable

And the mortal must be clothed with immortality.

We shall not all die

But we shall be changed.

Prayers

Give rest, O Christ, to your servant, with your Saints:

where sorrow and pain are no more;

neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only art immortal, the Creator and Maker of all:

and we are mortal, formed of the earth,

and unto earth shall we return:

for so you did ordain, when thou created me, saying:

'Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.'

All we go down to the dust;

and, weeping o'er the grave, we make our song:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Give rest to your servant [Name] and life everlasting with you.

The Russian Kontakion of the Departed.

Readings

Psalm 121:

I look up to the mountains—

does my help come from there?

My help comes from the Lord,

who made heaven and earth!

He will not let you stumble;

the one who watches over you will not slumber.

Indeed, he who watches over Israel

never slumbers or sleeps.

The Lord himself watches over you!

The Lord stands beside you as your protective shade.

The sun will not harm you by day,

nor the moon at night.

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The Lord keeps you from all harm
and watches over your life.
The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go,
both now and forever.

New Living Translation (NLT)

John 14:1-3, 6-7

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 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.

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

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. **Amen.**

Reading

A Song of the Justified

God reckons as righteous those who believe,
who believe in him who raised Jesus from the dead;

For Christ was handed over to death for our sins,
and raised to life for our justification.

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through Christ we have gained access
to the grace in which we stand,
and rejoice in our hope of the glory of God.

We even exult in our sufferings,
for suffering produces endurance,

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And endurance brings hope,
and our hope is not in vain,

Because God's love has been poured into our hearts,
through the Holy Spirit, given to us.

God proves his love for us:
while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Since we have been justified by his death,
how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath.

Therefore, we exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom we have now received our reconciliation.

Romans 4.24,25; 5.1-5,8,9,11

**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. Amen.**

Intercession *may be offered*

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We commend [Name] to you, O God,
As *s/he* journeys beyond our sight.

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 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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Now pray this prayer, which is used to say goodbye.

Go forth upon your journey from this world, O Christian soul:
In the name of God the Father who created you. **Amen**
In the name of Jesus Christ who suffered for you. **Amen.**
In the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you. **Amen.**
In communion with all the saints; with the angels and archangels and all the heavenly host.
Amen.

May your portion this day be in peace
and your dwelling in the city of God. **Amen.**

Ending

We remember the living and the departed.
Now to the One who is able to keep us from falling
and set us in the presence of the divine glory,
to the only God our Saviour
be glory and majesty, dominion and praise,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

A time of silence may be kept.

Acknowledgments

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