

## **ORDER OF SERVICE FOR BURIAL**

### **AT THE HOME**

It is appropriate for family and friends to gather for prayer at the home on the day of the funeral.

Verses from the Scripture

Scriptures verses such as the following are said:

May the God of hope fill you all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

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

Psalm 46:1

The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I Take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalm 18:2

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by Go.

II Corinthians 1:3-4

A hymn or lyric may be sung

A psalm may be read:

Psalm 90: 1-6,10,12,14,16

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals"

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; In morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He make me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;

He restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff- they comfort me.

You prepare a table me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

## Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.  
Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?  
But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I Wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;  
My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.  
It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

## **PRAYER**

Holy God, Lord of life and death, you made us in your image and hold us in your care. O Lord, before whom generations rise and pass away, we praise you for all your servants who, having lived this life in faith, now live eternally with you. Especially we thank you for your servant N, for the gift of his/her life, and for the love and mercy he/she received from you and gave to us.

We praise you for all in him/her that was good, kind and faithful, for the grace you him/her, that kindled in him/her the love of your dear name, and enabled him/her to serve you faithfully (mention may be made here of the person's characteristics or service).

We thank you that for him/her death is past, and pain ended, that he/she has now entered the joy you have prepared, through Jesus Christ who died and rose from the grave to free us from evil, and give us life eternal. Grant that when our time on earth is ended, we may

be united with all the saints in the joys of your eternal home, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort: Deal graciously with those who those who mourn, that casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The minister may pronounce the blessing:

May God in endless mercy bring the whole church, the living and the departed to a joyful resurrection in the fulfillment of the eternal kingdom. Amen

A hymn or lyric may be sung as the funeral procession leaves to the church or chapel at the cemetery.

### **AT THE CHURCH**

A hymn or lyric is sung as the body is carried into the church.

The minister reads the following appropriate set of readings from the Scripture:

### **AT THE BURIAL OF AN ADULT**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

II Corinthians 1:3,4

You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Psalm 16:11

For his anger is but for a moment; his favour is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Psalm 30:5

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.

John 11:25,26

In a little while I will no longer see you, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.

John 14:19

Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of the God, and those who hear will live.

John 5:25

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and not let them be afraid.

John 14: 27

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labours, for their deeds follow them."

Revelation 14:13

The following prayers may be said:

O God, who gave us birth, you are evermore ready to hear than we are to pray. You know our ignorance in asking. Show us now your grace, that as we face the mystery of death we may see the light of eternity. Speak to us once more your solemn message of life and of death. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die. And when our days here are ended, enable us to die as those who go forth to live, so that living or dying, our life may be Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen

Eternal God, we bless you for the great company of all those who have kept the faith, finished their race, and who now rest from their labour. We praise you for those dear to us whom we name in our hearts before you. Especially we thank you for N whom you have now received into your presence. Help us to believe where we have not seen, trusting you to lead us through our years. Bring us at last with all your saints into the joys of your home, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **AT THE BURIAL OF A CHILD**

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the other sheep.

Isaiah 40: 11

As father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

Psalm 103:13

Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the Kingdom of heaven. Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones: for I tell you, in heaven their angles continually see the face of my Father in heaven.

Mathew 18:4,10

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

Job 1:21

For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Revelation 7:17

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters.

Psalm 23: 1-2

The following prayers may be said:

Loving God, you are nearest to us when we need you most. In this hour of grow we turn to you, trusting in your loving mercy. We bless you for the gift of this child, for his/her

baptism into your Church, for the joy he/ she gave all who knew him/her, for the precious memories that will abide with us, and for the assurance that he/she lives forever in the joy and peace of your presence.

O God, your love cares for us in life and watches over us in death. We bless you for our saviour's joy in little children and for the assurance that of such is the kingdom of heaven, In our sorrow, make us strong to commit ourselves, and those we love, to your unfailing care. In our perplexity, help us to trust where we cannot understand. In our loneliness, may we remember N in love, entrusting him/her to your keeping until the morning breaking; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **AT THE BURIAL OF A YOUNGSTER**

Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.

I Peter 1:3-4

Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades

Revelation 1:17-18

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."

John 11:25-26

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

Matthew 5:4

As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted.

Isaiah 66:13

For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust. As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of this field; for the wind passes over it, and its place knows it no more.

Psalm 103:14-16

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, 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

If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Romans 14:8-9

The following prayers may be said:

God of compassion, comfort us with the great power of your love as we mourn the sudden death of N. In our grief and confusion, help us find peace in the knowledge of your

loving mercy to all our children, and give us light to guide us into the assurance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

God, whose days are without end: Help us always to remember how brief life is, and that the hour of our death is know only to you. Lead us, by your Holy Spirit, to live in holiness and justice all our days. Then after serving you in the fellowship of your Church, in faith, hope, and love, may we enter with joy into the fullness of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **AT THE BURIAL OF A SUICIDE VICTIM**

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you be revered .

Psalm 130:1-4

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

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

Psalm 46: 1

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Psalm 103:8-10

Who considers the power of your anger? Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

Psalm 90:11-12

The following prayers may be said:

Holy God, you see us as we are, and know our inmost thoughts. We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care. We forget that all Life comes from you and that to you all life returns. We have not always sought or done your will. We have not lived as your grateful children, nor loved as Christ loved us. Apart from you, we are nothing. Only your grace can sustain us. Lord, in your mercy, forget us, heal us and make us whole. Set us free from our sin, and restore to us the joy of your salvation now and for ever. Amen

God of compassion, in sorrow, we receive from you the comfort you alone can give. Enable us to see that you are always working for our good. You are our dwelling place, O God. Assure us of love that e may be to accept what we cannot understand. Help us to be aware not only of the shadows of death, but also of the splendour of life eternal. Enable us even now to face life with courage; give us the grace and the strength to go on, and the peace of your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen