

## ¶ *The Conclusion*

### **The Blessing**

The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you  
and give you peace.

And the blessing of the God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

*(or)*

According to the riches of God's glory,  
may we be strengthened with might  
through the Spirit in our inner being,  
and may Christ dwell in our hearts through faith,  
that being rooted and grounded in love,  
we may have power to comprehend with all the saints  
what is the breadth and length and height and depth,  
and to know the love of Christ  
which surpasses knowledge,  
that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.

*All* **Amen.**

*Ephesians 3. 16-19*

### **The Ending**

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

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

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## **A Service of Prayers and Readings in Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**

## ¶ *The Gathering*

### **Hymn**

### **The Greeting**

In the name of Christ, who died and was raised by the glory of the Father, we welcome you: grace, mercy and peace be with you all.

*The minister may introduce the service with these or other words.*

We meet this day to remember our loved ones, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our praises to the Father.

As a father cares for his children:

*All* **so does the Lord care for those who fear him.**

For he himself knows whereof we are made:

*All* **he remembers that we are but dust.**

Our days are like the grass:

*All* **we flourish like a flower of the field.**

When the wind goes over it, it is gone:

*All* **and its place shall know it no more.**

But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures  
for ever on those who fear him:

*All* **and his righteousness on children's children.**

*Psalm 103.13-17*

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Grant us grace to entrust those whom we remember to your never-failing love which sustained them in this life. Enfold them in the arms of your mercy, and remember them according to the favour you bear for your people. Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

*(or)*

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived, God has prepared for those who love him.

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

Show compassion to your people in their sorrow.  
Be our refuge and our strength  
to lift us from the darkness of grief  
to the peace and light of your presence.

Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ  
by dying for us, conquered death,  
and by rising again, restored life.

May we then go forward eagerly to meet him,  
and after our life on earth  
be reunited with our brothers and sisters  
where every tear will be wiped away.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*At the end the reader says*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*An address may follow and/or a hymn or anthem may be sung.*

## **Hymn**

## **¶ The Commemoration**

You, Christ, are the King of Glory.

*All* **the eternal Son of the Father.**

You overcame the sting of death

*All* **and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.**

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

*All* **We believe that you will come to be our judge.**

**Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood;  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.**

*Candles may be lit in memory of loved ones, and music played or a chant sung, such as the following*

## **Chant**

The Lord is my light,  
my light and salvation:  
in God I trust,  
in God I trust.

*(or)*

Jesus, remember me, when I come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me, when I come into your kingdom.

## Prayer of Commemoration

Hear us, O merciful Father,  
as we remember in love those  
whom we have placed in your hands.  
Acknowledge, we pray, sheep of your own fold,  
lambs of your own flock,  
sinners of your own redeeming.  
Enfold them 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.**

The eternal God is your dwelling place,  
and underneath are the everlasting arms.

*All* **Blessed is the Lord,  
our strength and our salvation.**

## Hymn

## ¶ The Prayers

### Acclamation

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:

*All* **He has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:

*All* **born of the house of his servant David.**

In the tender compassion of our God:

*All* **the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

To shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death:

*All* **and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

## Intercession

Let us pray.

*Either*

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in  
one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on  
earth your light and your peace.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and  
resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and  
that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with  
him to our joyful resurrection.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as  
yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and  
righteousness all our days.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may  
be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care,  
that casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the  
consolation of your love.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

May we have strength to meet the days ahead in the joyful  
expectation of eternal life with those we love.

Lord, hear us.

*All* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

## Opening Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls:  
you uphold us in life and sustain us in death:  
to you be glory and praise for ever!  
For the darkness of this age is passing away  
as Christ the bright and morning star  
brings to his saints the light of life.  
As you give light to those in darkness  
who walk in the shadow of death,  
so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants,  
that death may be for them the gate to life  
and to unending fellowship with you;  
where with your saints you live and reign  
one in the perfect union of love  
now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## Hymn

## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

### Reading

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm or Hymn

### Gospel Reading

*When the Gospel is announced, the reader says*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

## The Collect

Lord Christ our Redeemer,  
in the day of your coming raise us up,  
and set us at your right hand  
in the day when your greatness shall appear.  
Keep the living by your grace,  
and give resurrection to the dead.  
We ask this in your name,  
O Lord our resurrection and our life.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

*All* **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.**

## Hymn