

Saints James and Andrew Service Samples & Information



Saints James & Andrew

This document is meant to be a resource to support planning making advanced arrangements for your funeral or to plan a service following the death of a loved one. Please be sure to consult the church's [Funeral Policy](#) and [Funeral Instructions and Other Final Matters](#). Our Rector is available to help you plan and answer questions you may have. See table of contents for specific samples and suggestions.

[Saints James and Andrew](#)

[Sample 1. Burial Rite I](#)

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Sample 1. Burial Rite I

uses traditional language from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer (p.469).

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

Welcome to Saints James and Andrew. We are blessed by your presence with us today. Please take this time of quiet and peace to prepare your hearts and minds for worship. Everything you need for today's worship is in this service booklet, but if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask our ushers or your fellow worshippers.

Optional: Musical Prelude

Word of Welcome

Celebrant

Opening

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself,
and no man dieth to himself.
For if we live, we live unto the Lord.
and if we die, we die unto the Lord.
Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Optional: Hymn

The Collect

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant N., and grant *her* an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading

Book, Chapter, Verses

Reader

A reading from *Book*.

Each service has at least one reading from scripture, or as many as four – traditionally, this would have included a reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), Psalms, Christian Scriptures (New Testament), and Gospels. If there is to be a Eucharist, one of those readings needs to be from a Gospel. See *Suggested Readings*. Other poems and readings may be used with the permission of the Rector.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: *Chapter, Verses*

Reader

A reading from the Book of Psalms.

See above comment under Reading.

Here ends the reading.

The Gospel

Book, Chapter, Verses

Clergy or Reader

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ____.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

See above comment under Reading.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Optional: Homily

Optional: Reflections from the loved ones

Optional: Hymn

Optional: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(if not celebrating Eucharist)*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Reader

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

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

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. **Amen.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. **Amen.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Grant us grace to entrust *N.* to thy never-failing love; receive *her* into the arms of thy mercy, and remember *her* according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. **Amen.**

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, *sbe* may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with [blessed N. and] all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Optional: Holy Eucharist

The Commendation

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant(s) with thy saints,
**where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant(s) with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant *N.* Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Optional: Hymn

Optional:

Service concludes with the above dismissal or continue on to graveside with the committal on next page at graveside.

The Committal

Option 1

In the midst of life we are in death;
of whom may we seek for succor,
but of thee, O Lord,

Option 2

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me;
and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast
out.

who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty,
O holy and most merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not thy merciful ears to our prayer;
but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty,
O holy and merciful Savior,
thou most worthy Judge eternal.
Suffer us not, at our last hour,
through any pains of death, to fall from thee.

He that raised up Jesus from the dead
will also give life to our mortal bodies,
by his Spirit that dwelleth in us.

Wherefore my heart is glad, and my spirit rejoiceth;
my flesh also shall rest in hope.

Thou shalt show me the path of life;
in thy presence is the fullness of joy,
and at thy right hand there is pleasure for
evermore.

Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin or urn, the Celebrant says these words

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior, we commend N. to *her* loving God, and we commit *her* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless *her* and keep *her*, the Lord make his face to shine upon *her* and be gracious to *her*, the Lord lift up his countenance upon *her* and give *her* peace. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

O Almighty God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, who by a voice from heaven didst proclaim, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord: Multiply, we beseech thee, to those who rest in Jesus the manifold blessings of thy love, that the good work which thou didst begin in them may be made perfect unto the day of Jesus Christ. And of thy mercy, O heavenly Father, grant that we, who now serve thee on earth, may at last, together with them, be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant to *her*, O Lord:

And let light perpetual shine upon *her*.

May *her* soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Sample 2. Burial Rite II

uses contemporary language from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

Welcome to Saints James and Andrew. We are blessed by your presence with us today. Please take this time of quiet and peace to prepare your hearts and minds for worship. Everything you need for today's worship is in this service booklet, but if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask our ushers or your fellow worshippers.

Optional: Musical Prelude

Welcome

Celebrant

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

Optional: Hymn

Opening: Option 1

I am resurrection and I am 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.

For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last will stand upon the earth;
and though worms destroy this body,
yet in my flesh shall I see God,
whom I shall see and my eyes behold,
who is my friend and not a stranger.

We do not live to ourselves,
and we do not die to ourselves.
If we live, we live to the Lord,
and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die,
we belong to the Lord.

Happy from now on
are those who die in the Lord!
So it is, says the Spirit,
for they rest from their labor.

Opening: Option 2

In the midst of life we are in death;
from whom can we seek help?
From you alone, O Lord,
who by our sins are justly angered.
**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy and merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal
death.**

Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts;
shut not your ears to our prayers,
but spare us, O Lord.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy and merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal
death.**

O worthy and eternal Judge,
do not let the pains of death
turn us away from you at our last hour.
**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy and merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal
death.**

The Collect

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Option 1

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant *N.*, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Option 2

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of your servant *N.*, and grant *her* an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Option 3

O God of grace and glory, we remember *N.* before you and thank you for giving *her* to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your compassion, console those who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of Christ so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered into the company of all your saints; by the power of your Holy Spirit we pray. **Amen.**

[Additional option: a prayer for the bereaved]

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, deal graciously with *N.*'s family in their grief. Surround them 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

Book, Chapter, Verses

Reader

A reading from *Book*.

Each service has at least one reading from scripture, or as many as four – traditionally, this would have included a reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), Psalms, Christian Scriptures (New Testament), and Gospels. If there is to be a Eucharist, one of those readings needs to be from a Gospel. See *Suggested Readings*. Other poems and readings may be used with the permission of the Rector.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: *Chapter, Verses*

Reader

A reading from the Book of Psalms.

See above comment under Reading.

Here ends the reading.

The Gospel

Book, Chapter, Verses

Clergy or Reader

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ____.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

See above comment under Reading.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Optional: Homily

Optional: Reflections from the loved ones

Optional: Hymn

Optional: The Apostles' Creed

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *(if not celebrating Eucharist)*

Please pray the version of the Lord's Prayer you hold dear, whether that be one of these versions or another language, etc.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray in the language of our hearts:

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Reader

For our *sister* ____, let us pray to our Saviour Jesus Christ who said,

“I am Resurrection and I am Life.”

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; be with us and all who mourn for *N.* and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us, O Christ

Jesus, you wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend. Comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you raised the dead to life. Give to our *sister N.* eternal life.

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you promised paradise to the thief who repented. Bring our *sister N.* to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, O Christ.

N. was washed in the waters of Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give *her* a place in the company of your saints.

Hear us, O Christ.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood in the Eucharist; grant *her* a place at the table at the banquet you have promised to your people at the close of the age.

Hear us, O Christ.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death *N.*; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Silence may be kept.

Creator of all, we pray for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and gracious power, work in them the divine purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead that we might share your life. **Amen.**

Optional: Holy Eucharist

The Commendation

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants, with your 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 of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so you ordained when you created us, saying, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Merciful Savior, we commend *N.* to you.. Receive *her* as a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Accept *her* into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of your saints. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Alleluia. Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Optional: Hymn

Optional:

Service concludes with the above dismissal or continue on to graveside with the committal on next page at graveside.

The Committal

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.
The One who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
will also give life to our mortal bodies
through the indwelling Spirit.
Our hearts, therefore, are glad, and are spirits rejoice;
our bodies also shall rest in hope.
You will show us the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are the pleasures for evermore.

Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin or urn, the Celebrant says these words

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior, we commend *N.* to *her* loving God, and we commit *her* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless *her* and keep *her*, the Lord make his face to shine upon *her* and be gracious to *her*, the Lord lift up his countenance upon *her* and give *her* peace. **Amen.**

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray the words Christ taught us, in the language of our hearts:

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Rest eternal grant to *her*, O Lord;

And let light perpetual shine upon *her*.

May *his* soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Sample 3. Burial Rite II with EOW

uses inclusive and expansive language for God as found in Enriching Our Worship 1 & 2

Welcome and Preparation for Worship

Welcome to Saints James and Andrew. We are blessed by your presence with us today. Please take this time of quiet and peace to prepare your hearts and minds for worship. Everything you need for today's worship is in this service booklet, but if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask our ushers or your fellow worshippers.

Optional: Musical Prelude

Welcome

Celebrant

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

Optional: Hymn

Opening: Option 1

I am resurrection and I am 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.

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last will stand upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see and my eyes behold, who is my friend and not a stranger. *Job 19:25-27*

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labor.

Opening: Option 2

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

Matthew 5:4, John 6:40

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*

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. *1 Thessalonians 4:14, 17b, 18 (Common Worship, pp. 275-293)*

Opening: Option 3

In the midst of life we are in death;
from whom can we seek help?
From you alone, O Lord,
who by our sins are justly angered.
Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts;
shut not your ears to our prayers,
but spare us, O Lord.
O worthy and eternal Judge,
do not let the pains of death
turn us away from you at our last hour.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
have mercy upon us.

The Collect

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Option 1

Eternal God, your mercy is without end, and your steadfast love never ceases: Accept our prayers for *N.* and receive *her* into the land of light and joy, into the company of your saints; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Option 2

God our Creator
your grace gives life to all;
receive *N.* into your keeping
and give *her* the new life
promised through Jesus Christ
our Savior,
who once was dead and now
lives
with you and the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Option 3

God the maker and Redeemer of all,
grant us with *N.* and all the faithful departed,
the sure benefits of Jesus' saving passion and glorious resurrection,
that in the last day, when you gather all into Christ,
we may enjoy the fullness of your promises;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Option 4

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

Option 5

Hear us, Creator of all the living; as *N.* is buried with Jesus the new Adam,
raise *her* from the dead in his resurrection
to dwell with you in eternity.
We grieve for *N.* with whom we shared our lives.
Reunite us with *her* on that day when we too shall pass from death into the radiance of your eternal Easter,
and all stand rejoicing in your everlasting love. **Amen.**

Option 6

O God of grace and glory,
we remember *N.* before you and thank you for giving *her* to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.
In your compassion, console those who mourn.
Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of Christ so that we may live in confidence and hope
until, by your call, we are gathered into the company of all your saints;
by the power of your Holy Spirit we pray. **Amen.**

[Additional option: a prayer for the bereaved]

Gracious God, you alone are the source of all life. May your life-giving Spirit flow through us, so that we may be ministers of your compassion to one another; in our sorrow give us the calm of your peace, and kindle our hope, and in your good time, let our grief give way to joy, through Jesus Christ our Deliverer. **Amen.**

Reading

Book, Chapter, Verses

Reader

A reading from *Book*.

Each service has at least one reading from scripture, or as many as four – traditionally, this would have included a reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), Psalms, Christian Scriptures (New Testament), and Gospels. If there is to be a Eucharist, one of those readings needs to be from a Gospel. See *Suggested Readings*. Other poems and readings may be used with the permission of the Rector.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: *Chapter, Verses*

Reader

A reading from the Book of Psalms.

See above comment under Reading.

Here ends the reading.

The Gospel

Book, Chapter, Verses

Clergy or Reader

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to ____.

Glory to you, Jesus Christ.

See above comment under Reading.

The Holy Gospel of our Redeemer.

Praise to you, Jesus Christ.

Optional: Homily

Optional: Reflections from the loved ones

Optional: Hymn

Optional: The Apostles' Creed

In the assurance of eternal life given at Baptism, let us proclaim our faith and say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(if not celebrating Eucharist)*

Please pray the version of the Lord's Prayer you hold dear, whether that be one of these versions or another language, etc.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray in the language of our hearts:

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Reader

Option 1

Let us pray to God our Creator saying, Holy One, hear us.

Loving God, you have called your people together in the mystical body of Jesus Christ our Savior. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

Holy One, hear us.

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

Option 2

For our *sister* ____, let us pray to our Saviour Jesus Christ who said,

"I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; be with us and all who mourn for *N.* and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us, O Christ

Jesus, you wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend. Comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, O Christ.

Option 3

God, your will for us is abundant life; receive *N.* now into the fullness of life in your presence.

Hear our prayer.

You know the thoughts of our hearts and our search for faith; shed the brightness of your light on *N.*, who also sought understanding.

Hear our prayer.

You are greater than all our ideas and images of you; draw *N.* into the mystery of your being.

Hear our prayer.

Holy One, hear us.

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

Holy One, hear us.

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

Holy One, hear us.

Grant that *N.*, increasing in the knowledge and love of you, may go from strength to strength in a new life of perfect service.

Holy One, hear us.

Grant to [*N., N., and*] all who mourn, a sure confidence in your tender mercy, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

Holy One, hear us.

Give courage to all who are bereaved, that in the days ahead they may hold fast to the comfort of a holy hope, and joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

Holy One, hear us.

Silence may be kept.

Creator of all, we pray for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and gracious power, work in them the divine purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead that we might share your life. **Amen.**

Jesus, you raised the dead to life. Give to our *sister N.* eternal life.

Hear us, O Christ.

Jesus, you promised paradise to the thief who repented. Bring our *sister N.* to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, O Christ.

N. was washed in the waters of Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give *her* a place in the company of your saints.

Hear us, O Christ.

She was nourished with your Body and Blood in the Eucharist; grant *her* a place at the table at the banquet you have promised to your people at the close of the age.

Hear us, O Christ.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death *N.*; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Silence may be kept.

Creator of all, we pray for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and gracious power, work in them the divine purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead that we might share your life. **Amen.**

We know you as perfect Mercy and Love; welcome *N.* in the grace of that love and mercy.

Hear our prayer.

We praise you as the giver of life; gather all who mourn into the hope of renewed life.

Hear our prayer.

The Church commends all who die to the care of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit; and so we commend *N.* to you, giving thanks for the gift of *her* life.

Hear our prayer.

Silence may be kept.

May the Holy One, to whom all the desires of our hearts are known before we ask, hear our prayers for *N.*, and for all who mourn, and grant us newness of life, and peace. **Amen.**

Optional: Holy Eucharist

The Commendation

Option 1

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants, with your 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 of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so you ordained when you created us, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Silence may be kept.

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, who died and is alive
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen**

Facing the body, the Officiant says

Merciful Savior, we commend *N.* to you. Receive *her* as a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Accept *her* into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of your saints. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Optional: Hymn

Optional:

The Committal

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me;
I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.
The One who raised Jesus Christ from the dead
will also give new life to our mortal bodies
through the indwelling Spirit.
Our hearts, therefore, are glad, and our spirits rejoice;
our bodies also shall rest in hope.
You will show us the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Then, while earth is cast upon the coffin or urn, the Celebrant says these words

Option 1

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior, we commend *N.* to *her* loving God, and we commit *her* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless *her* and keep *her*, the Lord make his face to shine upon *her* and be gracious to *her*, the Lord lift up his countenance upon *her* and give *her* peace.

Amen.

Option 2

We have entrusted *N.* to God's mercy, and we commit *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 Savior Jesus Christ, who will transform our bodies so that they may be conformed to his glorious body. To Christ be glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Option 3

Holy God, Holy and Powerful, Holy Immortal One, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed you have destroyed the power of death and awakened the dead into your true and eternal life. Keep *N.* whose body we now lay to rest in the company of your saints. And at the last raise her up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the victory of Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray the words Christ taught us, in the language of our hearts:

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Rest eternal grant to *her*, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon *her*.

May *her* soul, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Go in peace.

The souls of all the faithful departed are in the hands of God. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Suggested Readings for Funerals

View readings here: biblegateway.org. There is flexibility in quantity of readings and non-scripture based readings.

Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)

- Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death for ever)
- Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort those who mourn)
- Lamentations 3:22-26,31-33 (The Lord is good to those who wait for him)
- Wisdom 3:1-5,9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God)
- Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)
- Daniel 12:1-3 (Those who sleep in the dust shall awake)
- Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15 (God did not make death)
- Job 14:7-9 (10-12) (Mortals die, and are laid low)

Psalms

- Psalm 23 NRSV or KJV (The Lord is my shepherd)
- Psalm 27
- Psalm 42:1-7 (As the deer longs for the water-brooks)
- Psalm 46 (God is our hope and our strength)
- Psalm 90:1-12
- Psalm 106:1-5 (Hallelujah! Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good)
- Psalm 116
- Psalm 118:14-29
- Psalm 121 (I will lift up my eyes to the hills)
- Psalm 130
- Psalm 139:1-11 (Lord, you have searched me out and know me)

Christian Scriptures (New Testament)

- Gospel of Matthew 11:25-30 (Come to me, all you that are weary)
- Gospel of Luke 24:13-16 (17-35) (The road to Emmaus)
- Gospel of John 20:11-18 (Mary encounters the risen Christ)
- Gospel of John 5:24-27 (He who believes has everlasting life)
- Gospel of John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me will come to you)
- Gospel of John 10:11-16 (I am the good shepherd)
- Gospel of John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)
- Gospel of John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many rooms)
- Romans 6:3-9 (10-11) (So we too might walk in newness of life)
- Romans 8:14-19 (34-35, 37-39) (All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God)
- Romans 14:7-9 (And if we die, we die to the Lord)
- 1 Corinthians 15:20-26 (The last enemy ... is death)
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 (Death has been swallowed up in victory)
- 2 Corinthians 5:1-9 (We walk by faith, not by sight)
- 1 Peter 1:3-9 (He has given us a new birth into a living hope)
- Revelation 7:9-17 (God will wipe away every tear)
- Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

Suggested Hymns for Funerals

The following list suggests hymns that seem especially suitable, but other hymns may be suitable as well. If “favorite” hymns are chosen, care should be taken that their themes are appropriate for a funeral. In 1982 Hymnal, the following hymns are especially appropriate for burials and communion: 174-213, 287, 300-347, 354-358, 376, 390, 410, 429, 482, 487-488, 490, 517, 522, 526, 556, 557, 593, 613-625, 636, 637, 645, 646, 658, 664, 680, 686-688, 690, 692. Listen or view hymns here: www.ritesong.org

The following are some of the more popular hymns to use at services:

- 178 Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord
- 180 He is risen, he is risen
- 208 Alleluia! The strife is O'er
- 287 For all the saints, who from their labors rest
- 304 I come with joy to meet my Lord
- 335 I am the bread of life
- 339 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness
- 390 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
- 429 I'll praise my Maker while I've breath
- 482 Lord of all hopefulness
- 487 Come my way, my truth, my life
- 488 Be thou my vision
- 490 I want to walk as a child of the light
- 593 Lord, make us servants of your peace
- 618 Ye watchers and ye holy ones
- 620 Jerusalem, my happy home
- 623 O what their joy and their glory must be
- 625 Ye holy angels bright
- 636/637 How firm a foundation
- 645/646 The King of love my shepherd is;
- 658 As longs the deer for cooling streams
- 664 My Shepherd will supply my need
- 680 O God our help in ages past
- 686 Come, thou fount of every blessing
- 687/688 A mighty fortress is our God
- 690 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah