OLD TESTAMENT SELECTIONS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES

(select one for first reading)

1. A reading from the book of Job (19:1, 23-27)

This I know: that my redeemer lives

Job said:

"Oh, would that my words were written down!

Would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever!

I know that my redeemer lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see: my own eyes shall behold him, and in my flesh I shall see God; my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord

2. A reading from the book of Proverbs (31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31)

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands.

She puts her hands to the distaff and her fingers ply the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

2a. A reading from the book of Proverbs (31: 25-31)

Who can find a woman of worth? Far beyond jewels is her value.

Her husband trusts her judgment; he does not lack income.

She brings him profit, not loss, all the days of her life.

She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy.

She is clothed with strength and dignity and laughs at the days to come.

She opens her mouth in wisdom; kindly instruction is on her tongue.

She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children rise up and call her blessed;

Her husband, too, praises her: "Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all."

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Acclaim her for the work of her hands, and let her deeds praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

3. A reading from the book of Wisdom (3:1-9)

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them.

In the view of the foolish they seemed to be dead; their passing away was thought an affliction and there going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if before humanity, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality;

Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them, as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;

They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

4. A reading from the book of Wisdom (4:7-15)

Those who are just, though they may die early, shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable does not come with the passing of time;

It cannot be measured in terms of years.

Rather, *understanding* is the glorious crown for men and women...... and an *unsullied life* is the attainment of old age.

Those who pleased God were loved; Having become perfect in a short while, they reached the fullness of a long career; for their souls were pleasing to the Lord. The Word of the Lord.

5. A reading from the Song of Songs (2: 8-14)

Hark! my lover--here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills. My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks; he says to me: "Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!

For see, the winter is past, and the rains are over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the dove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance.

Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one, and come!"

"O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff,

Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and you are lovely." The Word of the Lord.

6. A reading from the Wisdom of Sirach (44: 1, 10-15)

Now will I praise those godly men and women, our ancestors, each in their own time.

These also were godly people whose virtues have not been forgotten;

Their wealth remains in their families, their heritage with their descendants.

Through God's covenant with them their family endures, their posterity for their sake.

And for all time their offspring will endure, their glory will never be blotted out;

Their bodies are peacefully laid away, but their name lives on and on.

At gatherings their wisdom is retold, and the assembly proclaims their praise.

The Word of the Lord.

7. A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (9:1-6)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.

You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing,

As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils.

For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder,

and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.

For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood,

will be burned as fuel for flames.

For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests.

They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.

His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

8. A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (25: 6a, 7-9)

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples,

The web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces;

He will remove the reproach of his people from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said: "Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!

This is the Lord for whom we looked. Let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The Word of the Lord.

9. A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (35:1-6, 10)

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom.

They will bloom with abundant flowers and rejoice with joyful song.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon.

They will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak,

Say to those whose hearts are frightened:

"Be strong, fear not! Here is your God. He comes with vindication;

With divine recompense God comes to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared;

Then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing.

Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy;

They will meet with joy and gladness; sorrow and mourning will flee.

The Word of the Lord.

10. A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (61:1-3)

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;

He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners,

to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God,

to comfort all who mourn; to place on those who mourn in Zion a crown instead of ashes,

to give them oil of gladness in place of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.

They will be called oaks of justice, planted by the Lord to show his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

11. A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (65:17-21)

Behold! I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.

The things of the past shall not be remembered or come to mind.

Instead, there shall always be rejoicing and happiness in what I create;

For I create Jerusalem to be a joy and its people to be a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem and exult in my people.

No longer shall the sound of weeping be heard there, or the sound of crying;

No longer shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days,

or an old man who does not round out his full lifetime.

They die a mere youth who reaches but a hundred years.

They and their offspring are blessed by the LORD.

Before they call, I will answer; while they are yet speaking, I will hearken to them.

12. A reading from the book of Lamentations (3:17-26)

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the Lord. The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall; Remembering it over and overleaves my soul downcast within me.

But I will call this to mind--as my reason to have hope: the favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent; **They are renewed each morning, so great is his faithfulness.** My portion is the Lord, says my soul; therefore, will I hope in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

13. A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-12)

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak.

What advantages have workers from their toil?

I have considered the task which God has appointed us to be busied about.

God has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the *timeless* into their hearts, without people ever discovering the work which God has done.

I recognize that there is *nothing better* than to be glad and to do well in life.

For every man and woman to eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of all their labor is a gift of God.

I recognized that whatever God does will *endure* forever; there is no adding to it or taking from it.

Thus has God done that he may be revered.

What now <u>is</u>, has <u>already been</u>; what <u>is to be</u>, already <u>is</u>; and God restores what would otherwise be displaced.

NEW TESTAMENT SELECTIONS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES

(select one for SECOND reading)

20. Romans 5:5-11

Brothers and Sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. While we were still helpless, Christ died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

21. Romans 5:17-21 (short version)

If, by the transgression of one--(Adam), death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all.

For just as through the disobedience of one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

21 a. Romans 5:17-21 (longer version)

If, by the transgression of one--(Adam), death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one the many will be made righteous.

The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

22. Romans 6:3-9 (Long version)

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

22 a. Romans 6:3-4, 8-9 (Short version)

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

The Word of the Lord.

23. Romans 8:14-23

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption---the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord.

24. Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

25. Romans 14:7-9, 10-12

Brothers and sisters:

No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother or sister? Or you, why do you look down on them? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written: "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.

26. 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 (Short version)

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through a man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

26 a. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (Long version)

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through a man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for "he subjected everything under his feet."

But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

27. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Brothers and sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality.

And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: "Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

28. 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

Brothers and sisters:

Knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal. For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

The Word of the Lord.

29. 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-9

Brothers and sisters:

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven. We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for *we walk by faith, not by sight*. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away.

30. Philippians **3:20-21**

Brothers and sisters:

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The Word of the Lord.

31. Philippians **4:4–9**

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

32. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Brothers and sisters:

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.

Thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

33. 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory. This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we persevere, we shall also reign with him. But if we deny him, he will deny us. If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

The Word of the Lord.

34. 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Brothers and sisters,

I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord.

35. 1 John 3:1-2

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children *now*; what we *shall be* has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

36. 1 John 3: 14-16

Beloved:

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers. Whoever does not love remains in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.

The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

37. Revelation 14:13

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The Word of the Lord.

38. Revelation 20:11-21:1 (long version)

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened.

Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.)

Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the hu-man race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victors will inherit these gifts, and I shall be their God, and they will be my children."

The Word of the Lord.

38 a. Revelation 20:11-21:1 (short version)

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the hu-man race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victors will inherit these gifts, and I shall be their God, and they will be my children."

GOSPEL SELECTIONS FOR FUNERAL LITURGIES

(will be chosen by presider)

SELECTIONS PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

(select one)

A

In Baptism, N received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lead (him/her) over the waters of death. We pray to the Lord.

Our *(brother/sister N)* was nourished at the table of the Savior. Welcome (him/her) into the halls of the heavenly banquet. We pray to the Lord.

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. We pray to the Lord.

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. We pray to the Lord.

Our family and friends seek comfort and consolation. Heal our pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. We pray to the Lord.

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our (brother/sister), N; Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming. We pray to the Lord.

В

For **N**, who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that *(he/she)* may now be admitted to the company of the saints. We pray to the Lord.

For our (brother/sister), N... who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that *(he/she)* may be raised up on the last day. We pray to the Lord.

For our deceased relatives and friends, and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord.

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. We pray to the Lord.

For our families and friends, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. We pray to the Lord.

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord.

\mathbf{C}

For our *(brother/sister)* N, who ate the bread of life, that (he/she) may be raised up on the last day. We pray to the Lord.

For the family and friends of our *(brother/sister)*, N, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. We pray to the Lord.

For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. We pray to the Lord.

For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face. We pray to the Lord.

For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom. We pray to the Lord.

D

In Baptism N... received the light of Christ. Scatter the darkness now and lend him/her over the waters of death. We pray to the Lord.

Many friends and members of our families have gone before us and await the kingdom.

Grant them an everlasting home with your Son. We pray to the Lord.

Many people die by violence, war and famine each day. Show your mercy to those who suffer so unjustly these sins against your love and gather them to the eternal kingdom of peace. We pray to the Lord.

Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give refreshment, rest and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone. We pray to the Lord.

The family and friends of **N**. seek comfort and consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that come from grief. We pray to the Lord.

We are assembled here in faith and confidence to pray for our (brother/sister) N...

Strengthen our hope so that we may live in the expectation of your Son's coming. We pray to the Lord.

\mathbf{E}

That God will receive our praise and thanksgiving for N's life.... We pray to the Lord.

That God will bring to completion **N's** baptism into Christ. We pray to the Lord.

That God will lead **N.**.. from death to life. We pray to the Lord.

That all of us, N's family and friends, may be comforted in our grief. We pray to the Lord.

That God will grant release to those who suffer. We pray to the Lord.

That God will grant peace to all who have died in the faith of Christ. We pray to the Lord.

That one day we may all share in the banquet of the Lord, praising God for victory over death. We pray to the Lord.

F.

That the Church, it's faithful members along with our leaders, may work tirelessly with the Holy Spirit to shed the Light of Christ's resurrection upon all people. We pray to the Lord.

That our government leaders, and the leaders throughout the whole world, may continually seek to shape the world in keeping with human dignity, and to work together to build a world of true justice and peace. We pray to the Lord.

That all those who share in the Cross of Our Lord, especially the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the oppressed may be freed from their sorrows this day to reveal the victory of the Lord's resurrection. We pray to the Lord.

That the God of the living and the dead, who raised Jesus from the dead, may raise up to new life those who have died, especially **N** and all of our family members who have gone on before (him/her) and grant that we may share eternal glory with them. We pray to the Lord.

That our Father, who sent an angel to comfort his Son in his agony, may console those who mourn the absence of **N** in this earthly life. We pray to the Lord.

That Christ, who revealed himself to the blind man who begged for the light of his eyes, may grant sight to those who do not know him, and faith in the resurrection and the life of the world to come. We pray to the Lord.

That our Father, who has given us the Living Bread which comes down from heaven, may grant that we eat this bread worthily and be raised up to eternal life on the last day. We pray to the Lord.

G. At the death of a child

For N..., a child of God, that he/she be held securely in God's loving embrace now and for all eternity. We pray to the Lord.

For N's family, especially (his/her) mother and father, [his/her) brother (s) and sister(s)], that they feel the healing power of Christ in the midst of their pain and grief. We pray to the Lord.

For N's friends those who played with him/her and those who cared for him/her, that they may be consoled in their loss and strengthened in their love for one another. We pray to the Lord.

For all parents who grieve the death of a child, that they may be comforted in the knowledge that their children dwell with God. We pray to the Lord.

For children who have died of hunger and disease, that these little ones be seated close to the Lord at his heavenly table. We pray to the Lord.

For the whole Church, that we prepare worthily for the hour of our death, when God will call us by name to pass from this world to the next. We pray to the Lord.

H. At the death of someone who suffered a lengthy illness

We pray for N's family, that the Lord will fill the present emptiness in our hearts with the love and prayerful support of many friends. We pray to the Lord.

For all those people who ministered to N during his/her illness, that they may be blessed in abundance with God's love for them. We pray to the Lord.

For each of us with whom N so generously shared his/her many gifts, may we, too, grow in the ability to share our gifts and lighten the burden of others. We pray to the Lord.

For all those who loved and were loved by N, that we may find comfort in our belief in the Lord's promise to us of eternal life. We pray to the Lord.

For each of us here present, that God will bless us richly with the gifts we need to fully celebrate life and recognize the new beginning which is offered us each day. We pray to the Lord.