

A Vigil Service

THE GATHERING

(The People say the words in bold type.)

In the Name of God; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **AMEN**

The Gathering Prayer

God is with us; God's love unites us, God's purpose steadies us, God's Spirit comforts us.

Blessed be God forever .

Merciful and compassionate God, we bring you our grief in the loss of N. and ask for courage to bear it. We bring you our thanks for all you give us in those we love; and we bring you our prayers for peace of heart in the knowledge of your mercy and love, in Christ Jesus. **AMEN.**

The Gathering Hymns

Lord, you now have set your servant free ***to go in peace as you have promised;**

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, ***whom you have prepared for all the world to see:**

A Light to enlighten the nations, ***and the glory of your people Israel.**

The Song of Simeon Nunc dimittis.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; ***I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; ***have mercy on me and answer me.**

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." ***Your face, LORD, will I seek.**

Hide not your face from me, ***nor turn away your servant in displeasure.**

You have been my helper; cast me not away; ***do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.**

Though my father and my mother forsake me, ***the LORD will sustain me.**

Show me your way, O LORD; ***lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.**

Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, ***for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.**

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the LORD ***in the land of the living!**

O tarry and await the LORD'S pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; ***wait patiently for the LORD.**

Psalm 27:9-18

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: ***as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL

The following and/or other appropriate Scripture Reading(s) may be used

^{11:25} Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live ²⁶, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." John 11:25-26a

A DISCIPLE'S PRAYER BOOK - WHITE

^{14:1} "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going" ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." John 14:1-6a

THE RESPONSE

Reflect upon and Respond to the Gospel

THE PRAYERS

These and/or other prayers are said or sung

God of all, we pray to you for those we love but see no longer. We thank you for the peace and light you bestow upon them; in your loving wisdom and almighty power continue to work in them the good purpose of your perfect will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

Glorious God, with your whole Church we offer you our thanks and praise for all you have done for humanity through Jesus Christ. By giving him to live and die for us you have disclosed your gracious plan for the whole world, and shown that your love has no limit. By raising Jesus from the dead you have promised that those who trust in him will share his resurrection life. For the assurance and hope of our faith, and for the saints you received into eternal joy, we thank you all holy and gracious God. And especially now we lift up our hearts in thanksgiving for the life of N, now gone from us; for all your goodness to her/him through many days, for all that she/he was to those who loved her/him and for everything in her/his life that reflected your goodness and love, blessed be your name, O God. **AMEN.**

We commend N to God, as she/he journeys beyond our sight O God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, by dying for us, conquered death, and by rising again, restored life. May we not be afraid of death but desire to be with Christ, to be with the those we love, where every tear is wiped away and all things made new. We ask this through Jesus Christ. **AMEN.**

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

Text on p.39

Blessing

Officiant: Let us pray.

Now to the One who can keep us from falling and set us in the presence of the divine glory, jubilant and above reproach, to the only God our Savior, be glory and majesty, might and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all time, now and for evermore. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 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,
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.