### Funeral

*At a person’s death, the church shares the grief of those who mourn and remembers the brevity of life on earth. At the funeral we give voice to sorrow, thank God for our loved one, and entrust this companion of ours into the hands of God. Trusting in God’s promise in baptism that we are claimed by Christ forever, we rest in the sure hope of the resurrection. When the church gathers to mark the end of life, Christ crucified and risen is the witness of worship, the strength of mutual consolation, and the hope of healing.*

*This service may be used when the body or ashes are present, or it may be adapted for use as a memorial service. A remembrance and expression of thanksgiving for the life of the deceased may take place after the prayer of the day or before the commendation.*

**Gathering**

*The ministers may meet the coffin and the bereaved at the entrance to the church. The assembly stands and faces them.*

*The presiding minister may address the assembly using one or both of these paragraphs, or in similar words.*

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister/brother  name , to give thanks for her/his life, to commend her/him to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

OR

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God.

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*A thanksgiving for baptism may follow. As a sign of being clothed with Christ in baptism, a pall may be placed on the coffin by family members, pallbearers, or other assisting ministers. The minister or a representative of the congregation may say:*

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

OR

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In her/his baptism,  name  was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ’s coming, she/he shall be clothed with glory.

*The presiding minister may lead this acclamation.*

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

**We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

**We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

**We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, be glory and honor, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*A procession may form and enter, the ministers leading. A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.*

**Greeting**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

*The presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory,

we remember before you today our sister/brother  name .

We thank you for giving her/him to us to know and to love

as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth.

In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn.

Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up

in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ,

so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call,

we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

OR

Almighty God, source of all mercy and giver of comfort,

graciously tend 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.**

OR

Holy God, your beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them.

Help us to entrust  name  to your never-failing care and love.

Comfort us as we bear the pain of her/his death,

and receive us all into your everlasting arms,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

**Readings**

*Two or three scripture readings are proclaimed. When the service includes communion, the last is a reading from the gospels. Responses may include a psalm in response to a reading from the Old Testament, a sung acclamation preceding the reading of the gospel, or other appropriate hymns, songs, and psalms.*

**Sermon**

*Silence for reflection follows.*

**Hymn of the Day**

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**Creed**

*The Apostles’ Creed may be spoken. The presiding minister may introduce the Creed.*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 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.**

\*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

**Prayers of Intercession**

*The prayers of intercession, prepared or adapted for the occasion, may include the following or similar petitions. An assisting minister may lead the prayers.*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in holy baptism you have knit your chosen people together

into one communion of saints in the body of Christ.

Give to your whole church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection

may die to sin and rise to share the new life in Christ.

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Give courage and faith to all who mourn,

and a sure and certain hope in your loving care,

that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may have strength for the days ahead.

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith,

that, where this world groans in grief and pain,

your Holy Spirit may lead us to bear witness to your light and life.

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Help us, 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.

God of mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers.*

God of all grace, we give you thanks because by his death our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection he opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come, will be able to separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*A service with communion continues with the peace. Following the prayer after communion, the service continues with the commendation.*

**OR**

*A service without communion continues as follows.*

**Lord’s Prayer**

*The Lord’s Prayer is prayed by all. The presiding minister may introduce the prayer with these or similar words.*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 forever. Amen.**

OR

**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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

**Sending**

*The ministers take their places at the coffin. The presiding minister leads the commendation.*

Let us commend  name  to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

*Silence is kept.*

*The presiding minister may place her/his hand on the coffin during this prayer.*

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant  name .

Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold,

a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.

Receive her/him into the arms of your mercy,

into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,

and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

**Amen.**

*Here or during the procession out, a farewell may be sung: “Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace,” an acclamation, or another hymn or song.*

*If the committal occurs at another time, a blessing may precede these words of sending.*

Let us go forth in peace,

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*A procession may form and leave the church, the ministers leading.*

**Committal**

*The ministers precede the coffin to the place of interment. During or at the conclusion of the procession, words of comfort may include any of the following or other appropriate readings. An assisting minister or cantor may sing psalms or hymns.*

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. (Job 19:25-27)

The Lord| is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

The Lord makes me lie down | in green pastures

and leads me be- | side still waters.

You restore my | soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways | for your name’s sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the |Lord forever. (Psalm 23)

As the deer longs | for the water-brooks,

so longs my soul for | you, O God.

I thirst for God, for the | living God;

when shall I come to appear before the pres- | ence of God?

My tears have been my food | day and night,

while all day long they say to me, “Where now | is your God?”

I pour out my soul when I think | on these things;

how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,

with shouts of thanksgiving, among those | keeping festival.

Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquiet- | ed within me?

Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help | and my God. (Psalm 42:1-5)

In distress I called | to the Lord,

who answered by set- | ting me free.

The Lord is with me; I | shall not fear;

what can anyone | do to me?

I was pressed and pressed to the | point of falling,

but the Lord came | to my help.

The Lord is my strength | and my song,

and has become | my salvation.

Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:

“The right hand of the |Lord acts valiantly!

The right hand of the Lord| is exalted!

The right hand of the |Lord acts valiantly!”

I shall not | die, but live,

and declare the works | of the Lord.

Open for me the | gates of righteousness;

I will enter them and give thanks | to the Lord.

“This is the gate | of the Lord;

here the righ- | teous may enter.”

Give thanks to the Lord, for the |Lord is good;

God’s mercy en- | dures forever. (Psalm 118:5, 13-17, 19-20, 29)

I lift up my eyes | to the hills;

from where is my | help to come?

My help comes | from the Lord,

the maker of heav- | en and earth.

The Lord will not let your | foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

Behold, the keep- | er of Israel

will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;

the Lord watches | over you;

the Lord is your shade at | your right hand;

the sun will not strike | you by day,

nor the | moon by night.

The Lord will preserve you | from all evil

and will | keep your life.

The Lord will watch over your going out and your | coming in,

from this time forth for- | evermore. (Psalm 121)

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 whether we die, we are the Lord’s. (Romans 14:7-8)

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. (Colossians 3:1-4)

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 labors, for their deeds follow them.” (Revelation 14:13)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” (Revelation 21:1-4)

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)

*Especially at the committal of a child*

The Lord God 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 mother sheep. (Isaiah 40:11)

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them. (Hosea 11:1, 3-4)

The Lamb at the center 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)

Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more. “Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.” (Revelation 21:4, 7)

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” (Matthew 19:14)

*The presiding minister greets the assembly.*

Grace and peace from our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

Let us pray.

Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our sister/brother  name , whose body we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise her/him up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*One of the following or another appropriate passage of scripture may be read.*

A reading from First Corinthians: Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

“Death has been 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. (1 Corinthians 15:51-57)

A reading from Philippians: Our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there tha t we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. (Philippians 3:20-21)

A reading from John: Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.” (John 12:23-26)

*Especially at the committal of a child*

A reading from Revelation: For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center 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 7:15-17)

*The coffin may be lowered into the grave or placed in its resting place.*

*Earth may be cast on the coffin as the presiding minister says:*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection

to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ,

we commend to almighty God our sister/brother  name , and we commit her/his body to the ground *or* the deep *or* the elements *or* its resting place;

earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

The Lord bless her/him and keep her/him.

The Lord’s face shine on her/him with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon her/him with favor

and ☩ give her/him peace.

**Amen.**

*The following response may be sung, or may be spoken by the minister.*

Rest eternal grant her/him, O Lord;

and let light perpetual shine upon her/him.

*One of the following prayers may be said.*

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

OR

Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart and bind up the wounds of the afflicted.

Strengthen us in our weakness, calm our troubled spirits,

and dispel our doubts and fears.

In Christ’s rising from the dead,

you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life.

Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love

we shall one day be brought together again with our sister/brother  name .

Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Lord’s Prayer may be prayed.*

**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 forever. Amen.**

OR

**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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

*The presiding minister proclaims God’s blessing.*

The God of peace,

who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep,

by the blood of the eternal covenant,

make you complete in everything good so that you may do God’s will,

working in you that which is well-pleasing in God’s sight;

through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

**Amen.**

OR

Almighty God,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The service concludes:*

Let us go in peace.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

From care for the dying person to care for the mourners at significant anniversaries of death, the church’s ministry at the time of death is a continuum that includes a number of occasions for pastoral care and worship by smaller groups as well as the larger Christian assembly. Although this service is intended primarily for use in a church setting, its inclusion in this volume may facilitate its use in other locations, such as a funeral establishment, cemetery chapel, or private house. In these locations, some of the ritual actions may not feasible, and the service may be modified accordingly.

Some possible adaptations for use as a memorial service or with an unbaptized person are suggested in the notes. Other adaptations for particular circumstances are a natural part of pastoral ministry at the time of death.

References to the coffin in this liturgy include also the possibility of a smaller container for the ashes of the deceased, when cremation has taken place. The urn or other container may be placed on a table and covered with a pall that is smaller than the one used for a larger coffin.

The paschal candle may be placed in its stand near the head of the coffin. The coffin remains closed throughout the service.

When the liturgy is a memorial service, some or all of the liturgical texts provided may be used without the accompanying actions. When the deceased was not baptized, the thanksgiving for baptism is omitted and the second prayer of the day may be used.

Gathering

The elements used in the gathering rite and their order depend a great deal on the space where the liturgy takes place and the particular circumstances. For example, the placement of the baptismal font may influence where the placing of the pall and the remembrance of baptism best take place. The bereaved (often the immediate family) may take part in the procession or may be seated in the assembly prior to the service.

Words of introduction such as those included in the rite offer the opportunity for a gracious welcome by the presiding minister. Either or both of the forms provided, or similar words, may be used.

In addition to placing the pall as a reminder of being clothed with Christ in baptism, other reminders of the gift of baptism may be used, such as sprinkling the coffin or urn with water from the font.

The gathering may conclude with a time when relatives or associates of the deceased comment briefly in thanksgiving for and remembrance of the one who has died. These comments ought not overshadow the proclamation of the word of God that follows.

Word

Readings appropriate to the occasion and to the church year may be chosen. Proclaiming a reading is another significant way to engage the participation of family members or friends. A sermon by the presiding minister will normally be a part of the service.

The hymn of the day is the principal opportunity for the assembly to express grief and proclaim hope in song.

The creed may be omitted in particular circumstances, such as when the deceased was unbaptized or the assembly is not predominantly Christian.

Meal

When communion is a part of the service, the sacrament is celebrated with the whole assembly, beginning with the greeting of peace.

A service without communion continues with the Lord’s Prayer.

Commendation

The commendation is led from the place of the coffin (or, at a memorial service, from the place where the prayers were led).

A procession may follow to the place of interment. During the procession out, a farewell may be sung, “Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace” or another appropriate hymn or song.

Committal

Committal may take place immediately at the conclusion of the funeral service or at a later time. It may also precede the funeral service; for example, when the deceased is interred in one location and the memorial service takes place at a later time in another location, or when the deceased is interred immediately following death.

Usually no printed materials will be needed for participants in the committal; the leader may prompt the responses of those gathered.

The prayers and readings in this section are also resources for family members and friends to use when ashes are scattered at a place where it is not possible for a larger assembly to be present.

Especially when those gathered are walking some distance to the place of burial, along the way scripture passages may be spoken by a leader; psalms may be sung by a cantor.

A greeting and prayer gather those who are present. When the committal immediately follows the funeral liturgy, a brief reading may suffice. When the committal takes place at another time, the liturgy of the word may be more extended, and may include a brief homily and remembrance of the deceased.

The words and actions accompanying the committal may be adapted to the circumstances. Especially when the coffin can be placed into the ground before the words of committal, the casting of earth is a fitting gesture. Other adaptations may be appropriate when a coffin is placed in a mausoleum, when ashes are interred in a columbarium, when ashes are placed in a memorial garden, or when ashes are scattered at land or sea.

The prayers may conclude with the Lord’s Prayer, especially when the committal is conducted at a separate time from the rest of the funeral service.

PROPERS

Readings and Psalms

*At the processions*

\*Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd

Psalm 90 Our dwelling place in all generations

Psalm 118 God’s steadfast love endures forever

Psalm 130 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord

Isaiah 41:9b-10 Do not be afraid, for I am with you

Matthew 11:28-29 I will give you rest

John 11:25-26 I am the resurrection and the life

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you

Romans 14:7-9 Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s

Revelation 1:17-18 Do not be afraid, I am the first and the last

Revelation 14:13 Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord

*In the service*

Job 19:23-27a I know that my Redeemer lives

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 For everything there is a season

Isaiah 25:6-9 God will swallow up death forever

\*Isaiah 40:1, 6-11 God will gather the lambs

Isaiah 40:1-11, 28-31 Comfort my people, says your God

\*Isaiah 43:1-3a, 5-7 I have called you by name

Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-19 I am about to do a new thing

Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-13 Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters

Isaiah 61:1-3 The spirit of the Lord God is upon me

\*Isaiah 65:17-20, 23-25 A new heaven and a new earth

\*Isaiah 66:10-14 As a mother comforts her child

Jeremiah 31:8-13 I will turn their mourning into joy

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 The steadfast love of the Lord

\*Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd

\*Psalm 42:1-5 As a deer longs for flowing streams

Psalm 46:1-7 God is our refuge and strength

\*Psalm 121 I lift up my eyes to the hills

\*Psalm 139:7-12 The gracious omnipresence of the Lord

\*Psalm 142:1-6 I cry to the Lord with my voice

Psalm 143 Lord, hear my prayer

Romans 5:1-11 Peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

\*Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

1 Corinthians 15:12-26 Christ, the first fruits, has been raised

2 Corinthians 4:6-12, 16-18 Treasure in clay jars

\*1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, 18 Teaching about those who have died

Hebrews 12:1-2 Surrounded by a cloud of witnesses

1 Peter 1:3-9 A living hope through Jesus’ resurrection

\*1 John 3:1-2 See what love the Father has given us

Revelation 7:9-17 God will wipe away every tear

Revelation 21:2-7 I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem

Revelation 22:1-5 The Lord God will be their light

\*Matthew 5:1-10 Blessed are those who mourn

Matthew 11:25-30 I will give you rest

\*Matthew 18:1-5, 10-14 A child is the greatest in the kingdom

\*Mark 10:13-16 Let the little children come

Mark 16:1-7 The resurrection of Christ

Luke 24:1-9 he resurrection of Christ

John 1:1-5, 9-14 The light shines in the darkness

John 6:37-40 I will raise them up on the last day

\*John 10:11-16 I am the good shepherd

John 11:21-27 I am the resurrection and the life

John 14:1-6 I prepare a place for you

John 14:25-27 Peace I leave with you

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Jesus Christ is the firstborn | from the dead; \*

to him be glory and dominion forev- | er and ever. Alleluia. (Rev. 1:5, 6)

OR

Alleluia. O God, you have | been our refuge \*

from one generation | to another. Alleluia. (Ps. 90:1)

Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, O Lord, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Continue with “Holy, holy, holy.”*

Color *of the season or of the day*

Hymns

308: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

313: O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

351, 352: O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

377: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

\*381: Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes

391: This Joyful Eastertide

409: Kyrie! God, Father

422: For All the Saints

423: Shall We Gather at the River

429: In Our Day of Thanksgiving

447: O Blessed Spring

483: Here Is Bread

500: Now We Remain

502: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

531: The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing

\*595: Jesus Loves Me!

\*613: Thy Holy Wings

621: Jesus Lives, My Sure Defense

622: Neither Death nor Life

629: Abide with Me

636: How Small Our Span of Life

637: Holy God, Holy and Glorious

639: When We Are Living

721: Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

730: Lord Our God, with Praise We Come

750: Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

759: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

760: O Christ the Same

770: Give Me Jesus

773: Precious Lord, Take My Hand

778: The Lord’s My Shepherd

786: O Holy Spirit, Enter In

787: On Eagle’s Wings

\*815 : I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

826: Thine the Amen

\*Although most of the suggested readings and hymns are suitable for a funeral involving a person of any age, these may be especially useful at the death of a child.

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