Welcome and Introduction

We meet together today to remember with thanksgiving those of our loved ones who have died. We come to this place of worship to receive comfort and reassurance from our heavenly Father and to renew our trust in his promises.

Be with us, Spirit of God; Nothing can separate us from your love. Breathe on us, breath of God; Fill us with your saving power. Speak in us, wisdom of God; Bring strength, healing and peace. Silence is kept The Lord is here; His Spirit is with us.

Jesus said, "I am the Resurrection and the Life ... Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

We listen to music, a hymn or the words of a hymn.

Opening prayer

Heavenly Father, you have not made us for darkness and death, but for life with you for ever. Without you we have nothing to hope for; with you we have nothing to fear. Speak to us now words of eternal life; lift us from anxiety or guilt; bring us to the light and peace of your presence, and set the glory of your love before us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayers of penitence

Let us call to mind our human frailty, as we confess our sins in penitence and faith:

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

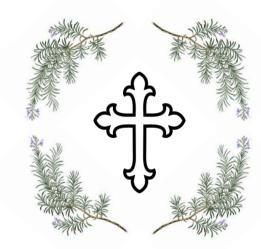
We listen to music, a hymn or the words of a hymn.

The names of those whom we remember today may be read.

Reading

Address

An act of remembrance may take place.



'Peace I leave with you: my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.' John 14:27

Prayers

Father in heaven, we give you thanks for those we remember today. We praise you as we recollect their lives and cherish their memory. We bless you that in bearing your image they have brought light to our lives; for we have seen in their friendship, reflections of your compassion; in their integrity, demonstrations of your goodness; and in their faithfulness and their love for us, glimpses of your eternal love.

Grant to each of us, beloved and bereft, the grace to follow their good examples, so that we with them may come to your everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who died and rose again and opened the gate of glory, to whom be praise for all eternity. **Amen.**

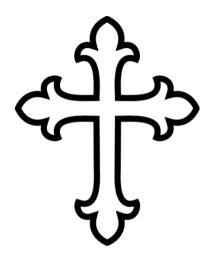
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

We listen to music or a hymn or the words of a hymn.

Blessing

May God give you his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

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Welcome to this service. There is a particular poignancy, this year, as we gather to remember loved ones. For many months, we may have been unable to be with loved ones at the time of their death or to be present at their funerals. We pray that this opportunity to gather, remember and give thanks for them will be a blessing to you.

Please follow the directions of those welcoming you and the ministers, so we may keep everyone as safe as we possibly can.

If you would like to talk or pray with someone, please ask the minister(s) as you leave the service to arrange this, or contact us in the coming days.

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