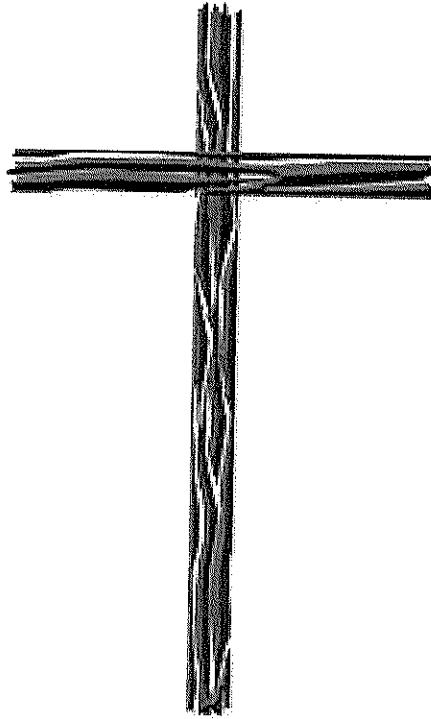


The Burial of the Dead:
Rite Two



Concerning the Service

Local customs are to be honored regarding the placement of the casket in the church or worship space. However, it is the Episcopal Church's tradition that the coffin is closed before the service, and it remains closed thereafter.

When the services of a priest or deacon cannot be obtained, a Worship Leader may preside at the service.

The Worship Leader may wear a black cassock (long black robe) with a white surplice (white top that goes over the cassock), or a simple white robe (alb), or other ceremonial dress as local tradition dictates.

Prior to the beginning of the service, the Worship Leader should arrange for Readers for the scriptures. If there are no Readers, the Worship Leader reads the scriptures.

The Burial of the Dead:

Rite Two

The service may begin with a hymn or song.

Book of Common Prayer: page 491

All stand. The Worship Leader says:

I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he die.

And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever.

As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.

After my awaking he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

For none of us has life in himself, and none becomes his own master when he dies. For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord, and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's possession. Happy from now on are those who die in the Lord! So it is, says the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Book Of Common Prayer: Page 493

The Worship Leader then says:

The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Worship Leader Let us pray.

The Worship Leaders says the following Collect, using the person's name where N appears.

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.*

The people sit.

First Lesson

Read by an assigned Reader or by the Worship Leader.

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the LORD
for the display of his splendor.

The Worship Leader or family may choose a different Old Testament lesson or you may pick one of these;

Isaiah 25:6-9

Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

Wisdom 3:1-5, 9

*After the reading the congregation joins in saying Psalm 23. The people will find the words printed In **Book of Common Prayer: page 476**, or a hymn or song may be sung instead.*

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

From the New Testament

Read by an assigned Reader or by the Worship Leader.

Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

At the end of the lesson the Reader says:

The Word of the Lord

The Worship Leader or the family may choose a different New Testament lesson, or use one of these;

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:9

1 John 3:1-2

Revelation 7:9-17

Revelation 21:2-7

After the reading of the New Testament lesson, sing a hymn or song; or if Psalm 23 was not said after the 1st Lesson, you may do so here.

The Gospel Lesson

All remain seated.

The Gospel Lesson is read by an assigned Reader or the Worship Leader.

John 11:21-27

“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

At the end of the lesson the Reader says:

The Word of the Lord

The Worship Leader or the family may choose a different Gospel lesson, or use one of these;

John 5:24-27

John 6:37-40

John 10:11-16

John 14:1-6

After the Gospel Lesson the Worship Leader, or a member of the family, or a friend may say a few words. The words should express the hope of the Resurrection of Jesus.

A hymn or song is sung here.

The Prayers

All stand for the prayers.

The Worship Leader says:

Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples saying;

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.*

*The Worship Leader continues with these petitions, inviting the people to follow along with the form **the Book of Common Prayer on page 497***

For our brother (sister) *N.*, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for *N.*, and dry the tears of those who weep.

Hear us, Lord.

You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow.

Hear us, Lord.

You raised the dead to life; give to our brother (sister) eternal life.

Hear us, Lord.

You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our brother (sister) to the joys of heaven.

Hear us, Lord.

Our brother (sister) was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give *him* fellowship with all your saints.

Hear us, Lord.

He was nourished with your Body and Blood; grant *him* a place at the table in your heavenly kingdom.

Hear us, Lord.

Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our brother (sister); let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Silence may be kept.

The Worship Leader concludes with this prayer:

Father of all, we pray to you for *N*, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May *his* soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

Book of Common Prayer: page 499-501

The Worship Leader now stands at the casket and says:

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant *N*. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive *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.**

The Pall Bearers now carry the body out of the church and to the grave.

A hymn or song may be sung

At the Grave before the casket is lowered into the ground, the Worship Leader says:

Everyone the Father gives to me will come to me; I will never turn away anyone who believes in me.

He who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will also give new life to our mortal bodies through his indwelling Spirit.

My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

The casket is now lowered into the ground.

The Worship Leader or a family member assigned by the Worship Leader, throws a handful of dirt into the grave as the Worship Leader says these words:

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

Then the Worship Leader says:

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you

Book of Common Prayer: page 502

Worship Leader Let us pray.

Everyone together:

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.*

The Worship Leader then says:

Rest eternal grant to *him*, O Lord; And let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Then the Worship Leader says:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ

People Thanks be to God

The burial service is now ended and the grave is filled in.

