

PRAYER SERVICE

In Memory of

INTRODUCTION: Good Evening Brothers and Sisters in Christ. God has drawn us all together tonight to mourn and pray for our beloved brother/sister _____. We are confident that with all of us here present, united in spirit and heart we can thank God for brother/sister _____, whose life touched each one of us.

LEADER: We will pray the rosary first and then we will proceed to the prayer service.

PART – I

ROSARY



PART – II

PRAYER SERVICE

LEADER: A time of grief is a time of love, a time of faith and a time of hope. Our faith in God, Our Father supports us as we suffer loss of a loved one. Our hope is strengthened by trust in God who assures us that He can, and does sustain us. Love for each other reaches a new high as we come together to mourn, to bring someone we love to final rest, and to thank God for sharing His life with us through our brother/sister _____.

Tonight, as we gathered here for our beloved brother/sister _____, and as we console his/her loved ones – his/her family, whom he/she left behind, let us commend all our prayers to God that they may find peace and may receive the healing love of our Lord.

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

ALL: Amen....

SONG

I LOVE YOU LORD

I love you Lord, and I lift my voice
To worship you, oh my soul rejoice
Take joy my King, in what you hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

(REPEAT)

PSALM 116 **(A MAN SAVED FROM DEATH PRAISES GOD)**

LEADER: I love the Lord, because He hears me; He listens to my prayers.

All: He listens to me every time I call to Him.

LEADER: The danger of death was all around me; the horrors of the grave closed in on me; I was filled with fear and anxiety.

All: Then I called to the Lord... "I beg you, Lord, save me."

LEADER: The Lord is merciful and good; our God is compassionate.

All: The Lord protects the helpless; when I was in danger he saved me.

LEADER: Be confident my heart, because the Lord has been good to me.

All: The Lord saved me from death; He stopped my tears and kept me from defeat.

LEADER: And so I walked in the presence of the Lord in the world of the living.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be world without end... Amen.

LEADER: LET US PRAY...

God, our Father, in these moments of grief, we turn to you for the truth which comes from faith alone, for the courage which comes from hope alone, and for the generosity which comes from love alone. The wisdom for our confusion, the strength for our struggles, and the devotion for our sacrifices lies in You and You alone. We ask You now to deepen in us the faith, hope and love, even in the midst of sorrow. Purify us with truth, courage and generosity, so that our prayer for our brother /sister _____ may come to You more pleasing and more powerful. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LEADER: SCRIPTURAL READING: (JOHN 14:1 – 6)

A reading from the Holy Gospel of St. John.....

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me. In my father’s house there are many dwelling places. Otherwise, how could I have told you that I was going to prepare a place for you? I am indeed going to prepare a place for you. And then I shall come back to take you with me, that where I am you also may be. You know the way that leads where I go.” “Lord”, said Thomas, “we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way”? Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through me.”

... The Gospel of the Lord....

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

SHORT SHARING/EULOGY FROM: FRIENDS AND RELATIVES



LEADER: Lord, help us to see death for what it really is – the end of poverty and the beginning of riches; the end of frustration and the beginning of fulfillment; the end of fear and the beginning of tranquility; the end of pain and the beginning of joy; the end of weakness and the beginning of strength.

All: Let not grief overwhelm us, or a sense of loss embitter us. But out of our sadness let there arise a new joy for so much was given to us. Cast out our fears and let not our hearts be troubled. Let your spirit of peace come alive within our experiences and hurts, our sorrows and isolations, our sadness of today and the loneliness of tomorrow.

LEADER: We humbly commend to you our brother/sister _____, whom you called out of this mortal life. You loved him/her always with great love. Now that you have called him/her into your paradise where there is no more grief or mourning or sadness, but peace and joy with your son and the Holy Spirit forever.

All: We thank you for all the blessings you have given to our brother/sister _____, in his/her mortal life. We pray that he/she may be able to glorify you with the life that he/she lived and the way he/she made use of all his/her blessings.

LEADER: Lord God, grant that we will never forget that life is short and uncertain. Let your spirit guide us to holiness, justice and service to our brothers and sisters.

All: Your loving presence here in our midst is a sign of our constant goodness and mercy. Be with us Lord, during our moment of sorrows and loneliness. You are our rock, our fortress and our strength. We lift up to you our grief and sorrow, confident that you will change our mourning to rejoicing that our beloved brother/sister _____, now rest in peace in paradise, singing praises forever to you, our God.

LEADER: Father, we thank you for all the blessings you gave him/her in this life. In your mercy and love, forgive whatever sins he/she may have committed through human weakness. Now that he/she has passed from this life; may he/she live in your presence forever, praising you with all the Angels and Saints in heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LET US PRAY.....

LEADER: O God our Father, help us to see that it is only the body which dies and corrupts which is the sign of death; but the more important, half of the person is his spirit and his soul, by which he thinks and loves – which is not touched by death; but transfer to a new and endless life beyond the grave. So now Lord, help us to believe that our brother/sister _____ is indeed just “departed” to a better world... where at this moment he/she is alive, he/she is conscious, and full of love for each one of us and awaits our coming home.

All: Amen.

LEADER: All you angels and saints of God, come to his/her aid. Accompany him/her and present him to God most High, through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LEADER: Eternal rest grant unto brother/sister _____, O Lord.

All: And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

LEADER: From the gates of hell.

All: Deliver his/her soul Oh Lord.

LEADER: May he/she rest in peace.

All: Amen.

LEADER: May his/her soul and the souls of our faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

All: Amen.

EVERYBODY: (Community singing to be led by the Sunshine Committee Volunteer Choir)

HYMN: AMAZING GRACE

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.**

**T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.**

**Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil, a life joy and peace.**

IN HIS TIME

VERSE 1:

**IN HIS TIME, IN HIS TIME
HE MAKES ALL THINGS BEAUTIFUL, IN HIS TIME
LORD, PLEASE SHOW ME EVERY DAY
AS YOU'RE TEACHING ME YOUR WAY
THAT YOU DO JUST WHAT YOU SAY, IN YOUR TIME.**

VERSE 2:

**IN YOUR TIME, IN YOUR TIME
YOU MAKE ALL THINGS BEAUTIFUL, IN YOUR TIME
LORD, MY LIFE TO YOU I BRING
MAY EACH SONG I HAVE TO SING
BE TO YOU A LOVELY THING, IN YOUR TIME.**

REPEAT VERSE 2:

**IN YOUR TIME, IN YOUR TIME
YOU MAKE ALL THINGS BEAUTIFUL, IN YOUR TIME
LORD, MY LIFE TO YOU I BRING
MAY EACH SONG I HAVE TO SING
BE TO YOU A LOVELY THING, IN YOUR TIME.**

BE TO YOU A LOVELY THING, IN YOUR TIME.

MODERATOR: (SHARING OF MEMORIES WITH THE DECEASED OR EULOGY CONTINUED)

CLOSING REMARKS: ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS *
"GOOD EVENING"**