

# GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE BODY

## SIGN OF THE CROSS

*The minister and all those present sign themselves with the sign of the cross as the minister says:*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE VERSE

*One of the following or another brief Scripture verse is read.*

A *Matthew 11:28-30*

My brothers and sisters, Jesus says: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and lean from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

B *John 14:1-3*

My brothers and sisters, Jesus says: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me, so that where I am you may be too.'

*Pause for silent prayer.*

## SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

*Using one of the following formularies, the minister may sprinkle the body with holy water.*

A The Lord is our shepherd  
and leads us to streams of living water.

- B Let this water call to mind our baptism into Christ,  
who by his death and resurrection has redeemed us.
- C The Lord God lives in his holy temple yet abides in our midst.  
Since in baptism **N.** became God's temple and the Spirit of God  
lived in him/her, with reverence we bless his/her mortal body.

## **PSALM**

*One of the following psalms is sung or said or another psalm.*

A *Psalm 130*

R. I hope in the Lord, I trust in his word

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,  
Lord hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading. R.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness:  
for this we revere you. R.

My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than watchman for daybreak. R.

Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption,  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all of its iniquity. R.

B. *Psalm 115 and 116*

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me. R.

I trusted, even when I said:  
'I am sorely afflicted,'  
and when I said in my alarm:  
'No one can be trusted.' R.

O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.  
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I:  
you have loosened my bonds.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Using one of the following invitations, or in similar words, the minister invites those present to pray the Lord's Prayer.*

A With God there is mercy and fullness of redemption; let us pray  
as Jesus taught us:

B Let us pray for the coming of the Kingdom as Jesus 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. Amen.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

*The minister says one of the following prayers  
or one from the Additional Texts:Prayers for the Dead (Pg 57-68)  
or one from the Additional Texts:Prayers for the Mourners (Pg 69-72)*

A God of faithfulness,  
in your wisdom you have called your servant **N.**  
out of this world;  
release him/her from the bonds of sin,  
and welcome him/her into your presence,  
so that he/she may enjoy eternal light and peace  
and be raised up in glory with all our saints.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.  
R. Amen

B Into your hands, O Lord,  
we humbly entrust our brother/sister **N.**  
In this life you embraced him/her with your tender love;  
deliver him/her now from every evil  
and bid him/her eternal rest.  
The old order has passed away:  
Welcome him/her then into paradise,  
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain,  
but the fullness of peace and joy  
with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.  
R. Amen

## **BLESSING**

*The minister says:*

Blessed are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them.

*A gesture, for example, signing the forehead of the deceased with the sign of the cross, may accompany the following words.*

Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

R. and let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

May he/she rest in peace.

R. Amen.

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

R. Amen

*A lay minister invokes God's blessing and signs themselves with the sign of the cross, saying:*

May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ

bless and console us

and gently wipe every tear from our eyes:

in the name of the Father,

and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen