

## **Liturgy for a Short Committal Service**

*The death of someone we love is hard to bear. In these difficult and uncertain days, the additional pain of not being able to be together to mark their passing adds its own layer of pain. This short service of commendation and committal was said today on your behalf. I hope the words are of comfort and help.*

*None of us know the whole truth about what lies beyond death. Christians believe that as we journey between life and death, we are safe in the hands of an infinitely gracious God. This God who strands with us at that moment is the same God who was prepared to die in love for all humankind, a God who has entered every struggle of our life with us and who deeply understands the choices we have made.*

*With love,  
Rev. Shuna Dicks*

### **Opening words:**

*Come among us Jesus;  
You whom the angels worship,  
And children welcome.  
Come Jesus, and meet us here.*

*Come among us Jesus;  
You who hurled the stars into space,  
And shaped the spider's weaving.  
Come Jesus, and meet us here.*

*Come among us Jesus;  
You who walked the long road to Jerusalem,  
And lit a flame that dances forever.  
Come Jesus, and meet us here.*

### **Scripture sentence:**

*Jesus said, I will be with you always, to the end of time. (Matthew 28:20)*

### **Prayer**

*Lord God,  
In these imperfect days, as things have to be done differently,  
I bring to you the life of \*\*\*\*\*  
As \*\*\*\*\* is prepared for cremation I pray that you hold **him/her** in your hand,  
That they travel safely into your kingdom and care.*

*In these imperfect days, as things have to be done differently,  
That you are the one constant on which we can all lean.  
Praying that all regrets about words said or unsaid,  
All deeds done or left undone*

*Are now forgotten – laid aside, your forgiveness given.*

*In these imperfect days, as things have to be done differently,  
That your comfort sustains the loved ones of \*\*\*\*\*  
That they know your love for them come with no strings,  
And is there for them in their pain and in that days ahead.*

*In these imperfect days, as things have to be done differently  
Lord be in this moment.*

*Amen*

## **Reading**

### **Psalm 23**

*A psalm of David.*

*<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.*

*<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,*

*<sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.*

*He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.*

*<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,<sup>[a]</sup>*

*I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.*

*<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.*

*You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.*

*<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever.*

## **Words of commendation**

*It is time to say*

*Goodbye \*\*\*\*\**

*Goodbye and God bless you.*

*Safe journey home.*

*\*\*\*\*\**

*You shared your life with us: God give eternal life to you*

*You gave your love to us: God give His deep love to you*

*You gave your time to us: God give His eternity to you*

*You gave your light to us: God give everlasting light to you*

*Go upon your journey dear soul to love, light and life eternal*

### **Committal**

*We have entrusted \*\*\*\*\*  
into your hands God,  
we therefore commit **his/her** body to be buried,  
Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,  
in the sure and certain hope  
of the resurrection to eternal life,  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Go forth upon your journey from the world  
in the name of God the Father who created you;  
In the name of Jesus Christ who died for you;  
In the name of the Holy Spirit who shines through you  
May you rest this day  
In the peace and love of your eternal home  
Amen*

### **Prayer**

*Lord*

*For the wonder of life we bless you. For the touch of love, family and friendship we thank you.*

*We can give thanks that you created us with hearts to feel and hands to touch, and we come thankful for the way \*\*\*\*\* has touched the lives of those who love them. And for the place \*\*\*\*\* held in their lives.*

*Knowing the loss that is felt keenly and the days of sorrow that lie ahead, I pray for \*\*\*\*\*'s family and that they continue to know your strength, O God, and the support of those who love and care for them in these different of days. May tears give way to smiles, not because \*\*\*\*\*'s loss is any less felt but because in remembering happy days and shared will bring moments of light.*

*I offer this prayer, in the name of the one who brought light out of darkness, now and forever.  
Amen*

### **Blessing**

*And now we go out into the world  
glad that we have loved,  
free to weep for the one we have lost  
free to hold each other in our human frailty  
empowered to live life to the full  
and to affirm the home of life beyond this life.*

*And may God be our company  
Christ walk before us  
and the Spirit surround us with a cloud of grace. Amen*