

Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance



10 November 2024

4.00pm

Order of Service

Welcome

Hymn The King Of Love My Shepherd Is

Opening Response

We meet in the presence of God who knows our needs, hears our cries, feels our pain, and heals our wounds for he is our Good Shepherd.

We give you thanks and praise

Even though we walk through the darkest valley, we will fear no evil, for you are with us; your rod and your staff, they comfort us.

We give you thanks and praise

Surely your goodness and love will follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

We give you thanks and praise

Hymn 10,000 Reasons

Reading Verses from John 10

Message

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Dear Heavenly Father, in this moment of thanksgiving, we come before You with hearts filled with both gratitude and sorrow as we remember those who have died. We are grateful for the gift of their lives, for the love and memories they have left behind. We thank You for the impact they had on our lives, the joy they brought, and all they showed us of Your love and wisdom.

Grant to us, who are left behind, the grace to trust in your eternal promises that as we trust in your Son Jesus Christ, Our Good Shepherd we might receive the gift of eternal life and join your eternal family in the kingdom of your son.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our lord, who died and rose again and opened the gate of glory.

Amen

Let us say together

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, in the security of quiet prayer we confess to you that we have not lived up to the reasonable expectations of others; we have fallen short of our own standards and we are far from being all that You would have us to be. In the name of Jesus Christ who welcomed sinners and lifted up the downcast, we ask you to forgive us for what we have done and refresh our faith in your willingness to accept us, help us enjoy our standing as your much loved children, and enable us to live lives in which you can take delight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God has assured us that if we confess our sins he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

The Act of Remembrance

Therefore, in a state of grace, we come before Almighty God and remember those we love but see no longer.

We remember them by name...

[Names are either spoken by the Minister or called out from the congregation]

Let us say together

Grant to them Lord your eternal rest and let your perpetual light shine upon them.

The lighting of a candle is a token of the love which has shone from our loved ones into our lives; we light a candle to their memory.

We remain in silence for a few moments.

An opportunity is given for brief memories of our loved ones to be shared.

Even though they have gone before us

All - They will always be part of us

Despite the pain and grief of losing them

All - We will strive to live in hope

Though we come alone to honour their life
All - Together we stand and say goodbye

From our time of meeting until the end of time
All - We will always love them

Father, we come before you today having walked through the valley of suffering. We are comforted by the fact that you personally know the pain of loss, as your Son also died, so we can be real about our pain. Help us come to terms with our loss, and accept that so many things are unexplainable. We pray that you will now transform our grief into Joy.

Amen

Hymn Jerusalem The Golden

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

The Blessing

May the Peace of the Lord Christ go with you
Wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness
May He keep you through the storm
May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing once again into His doors.