Liturgical Resources   
for use   
upon the death of Queen Elizabeth II  
& The Accession of Charles III

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A Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving   
for the life of Queen Elizabeth II

Greeting

Sentences of Scripture

Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.’ John 11:25-26

‘I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.   
 Romans 8:38-39

Blessed are those who mourn,   
for they shall be comforted. *Matthew 5:4*

Bidding

We meet this day to remember before God   
Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth,  
to give thanks for her long and devoted life of service  
to God, to this nation, and to the members of the Commonwealth,   
to pray for His Majesty, King Charles,  
and the members of the royal family  
to renew our trust and confidence in Christ,   
and to pray that together we may be one in him,   
through whom we offer our prayers and praises to the Father.

Collects

Merciful Father,   
hear our prayers and comfort us,   
renew our trust in your Son, whom you raised from dead,  
strengthen our faith   
that all who have died in the love of Christ will share in his resurrection;  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

or

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer,   
grant us, with your servant Queen Elizabeth,   
and all the faithful departed,   
the sure benefits of your Son’s saving passion   
and glorious resurrection:   
that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ,   
we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises;   
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,   
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,   
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Penitence

Acknowledging our human frailty,  
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission,   
and confess them before God our Father.

Silence is kept.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to God’s truth,  
strengthen us to do God’s will  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Suggested Scripture Readings

A selection from these, or some other appropriate scripture readings,   
may be used.

First Reading

Job 19:23-27  
Isaiah 53.1-10  
Isaiah 61.1-3  
Lamentations 3.22-26,31-33  
Wisdom 2.22 – 3.5,9

Psalm

Psalm 23;  
Psalm 27;   
Psalm 42;   
Psalm 90;  
Psalm 121;  
Psalm 139

Second Reading

Romans 8:31-end  
2 Corinthians 4:16-5:4  
1 Corinthians 15:20-end  
Philippians 3:10-end  
Revelation 7:9-12, [13-end]  
Revelation 21:1-7  
Revelation 22:1-7

Gospel

Matthew 25:31-end  
Luke 24:1-9  
John 5:21-29  
John 11:17-27  
John 14:1-6, 27

Bible Responsory

(based on Revelation 7:11-end)

Before the throne of God they worship him day and night

the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

The lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd

the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

God will guide them and wipe every tear from their eyes.

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour  
and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.

Prayers

Thanksgiving for the Queen’s life

Father in heaven, we praise your name  
for all who have finished this life loving and trusting you,  
for the example of their lives,  
the life and grace you gave them,  
and the peace in which they rest.  
We praise you today for your servant Queen Elizabeth  
and for her life of devoted to service to you*,   
to this nation and to the nations of the Commonwealth.*Meet us in our sadness  
and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving,  
for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Merciful Father and Lord of all life,   
we praise you that we are made in your image   
and reflect your truth and light.   
We thank you for the life of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth,   
for the love she received from you and showed among us.   
Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed,   
that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ.   
We ask that in due time we may share with your servant Elizabeth   
that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord;   
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

For those who mourn

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort:   
deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn,  
King Charles and the members of the Royal Family,  
this Nation and all the Nations of the Commonwealth,  
that casting all our care on you,   
we may know the consolation of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Most merciful God,  
whose wisdom is beyond our understanding,  
surround the Royal Family with your love,  
that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss,  
but have confidence in your goodness  
and strength to meet the days to come.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Readiness to live in the light of eternity

Support us, O Lord,  
all the day long of this troublous life,  
until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes  
the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over  
and our work is done.  
Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging,  
a holy rest, and peace at the last;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God,  
you have surrounded us by a great cloud of witnesses.  
As you strengthened them,  
inspire us to throw off all that weighs us down  
and the sin that clings so closely.  
As you sustained them,  
keep us running in the race that lies ahead,  
fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.  
Hear us as we offer with them,  
in the power of the eternal Spirit,  
the unending song of praise,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Introduction to the Peace

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.   
Not as the world gives do I give you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled,  
neither let them be afraid. *John 14:27*

or

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,  
 Peace be with you. Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.   
 *John 20:19,20*

Blessing

May Christ the good shepherd enfold you with love,  
fill you with peace,  
and lead you in hope,  
and the blessing of God almighty,   
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

or

May God in his infinite love and mercy   
bring the whole Church, living and departed,   
to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom,   
and the blessing of God Almighty,   
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,   
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Dismissal Prayer

And now to him who is able to keep us from falling,  
and lift us from the dark valley of despair   
to the bright mountain of hope,  
from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy;  
to him be power and authority, for ever and ever. Amen.

or

God be in my head, and in my understanding;  
God be in my eyes, and in my looking;  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;  
God be at my end, and at my departing. Amen.

For a service of Holy Communion

Sentences of Scripture

Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.’ John 11:25-26

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for they shall be comforted. *Matthew 5:4*

Penitence

Acknowledging our human frailty,  
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission,   
and confess them before God our Father.

Silence is kept.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:

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Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to God’s truth,  
strengthen us to do God’s will  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ministry of the Word

A selection from these, or some other appropriate scripture readings,   
may be used.

First Reading

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Isaiah 53.1-10  
Isaiah 61.1-3  
Lamentations 3.22-26,31-33  
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Gospel

Matthew 25:31-end  
Luke 24:1-9  
John 5:21-29  
John 11:17-27  
John 14:1-6, 27

Preface for use during a service of Holy Communion

In the Communion of saints  
you have given us an example of godly living,  
that, rejoicing in their fellowship,  
we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us, and with them receive the unfading crown of glory:

or

And now we give you thanks  
because through him you have given us  
the hope of a glorious resurrection;  
so that, although death comes to us all,  
yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life;  
for to your faithful people life is changed,   
not taken away; and when our mortal flesh is laid aside  
an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in Heaven,   
whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace,   
an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem:   
grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that,   
fed with the living bread of heaven and united in the body of your Son,   
we may be the temple of your presence,  
 the place of your glory on earth,  
and a sign of your peace in the world;   
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May Christ the good shepherd enfold you with love,  
fill you with peace,  
and lead you in hope,  
and the blessing of God almighty,   
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

or

May God in his infinite love and mercy   
bring the whole Church, living and departed,   
to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom,   
and the blessing of God Almighty,   
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,   
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Prayers of thanksgiving   
for her majesty queen elizabeth ii

God of all consolation,  
as we give you thanks for the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth,   
and bring to you our sadness and sorrow;  
so too we lift before you all the members of the Royal Family.  
Be with them, O Lord, as they grieve not only for their Queen,  
but for their beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.  
May they find great comfort in the promise  
of the new heaven and the new earth,  
wherein pain and suffering,   
grieving and sorrow will be no more  
and you will wipe away every tear.  
Surround them with your love,   
remind them of your presence,  
and encourage them in the sure and certain hope  
that belongs to all who trust in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer,   
grant us, with your servant Queen Elizabeth,   
and all the faithful departed,   
the sure benefits of your Son’s saving passion   
and glorious resurrection:   
that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ,   
we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises;   
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Merciful Father and Lord of all life,   
we praise you that we are made in your image  
 and reflect your truth and light.   
We thank you for the life of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth,   
for the love she received from you and showed among us.   
Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants,   
living and departed,   
that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ.   
We ask that in due time we may share with your servant Elizabeth   
that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord;   
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Almighty God,   
whose son Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace;  
Grant that, as we give thanks for the life and witness  
of your servant Elizabeth our Queen,   
so through her example of faith and self-giving  
your people may come to know   
the fulness of your power and glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for the Accession of Charles III

After the Collect of the Day, the following Collect is said

O GOD,   
who provides for your people by your power,   
and rules over them in love;   
Bless your servant our King,   
that under him this nation may be wisely governed,   
and your Church may serve you in all godly quietness ;   
and grant that he, being devoted to you with his whole heart,   
and persevering in good works unto the end,   
may, by your guidance, come to your everlasting kingdom;   
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,   
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Additional Collects

O LORD   
our God who uphold and governs all things by the word of your power;  
Receive our humble prayers for our Sovereign Lord CHARLES,   
set over us by your grace and providence to be our King ;   
and, together with him, bless, we pray, our gracious Queen Camilla,   
the Princes William and Harry, and all the Royal Family ;   
that they ever trusting in your goodness,  
protected by your power,   
and crowned with your gracious and endless favour,   
may long continue before you in peace and safety joy and honour,   
and after death may obtain everlasting life and glory;   
by the merits and mediation of Christ Jesus our Saviour,   
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,   
ever one God, world without end. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God,   
who rules over all the nations of the world,   
and orders them according to your good pleasure;   
We give you unfeigned thanks,   
for that you were pleased [as on this day]   
to set your servant our Sovereign Lord, King CHARLES,   
upon the throne of this Realm.   
Let your wisdom be his guide,   
and let thine arm strengthen him;   
let truth and justice, holiness and righteousness,   
peace and charity, abound in his days.   
Direct all his counsels and endeavours to your glory,   
and the welfare of his subjects;   
give us grace to obey him cheerfully for conscience sake,   
and let him always possess the hearts of his people;   
let his Reign be long and prosperous,   
and crown him with everlasting life in the world to come;   
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD,   
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,   
our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace;   
Give us grace seriously to lay to heart   
the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions.   
Take away all hatred and prejudice,   
and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord:   
that, as there is but one Body, and one Spirit and one hope of our calling,  
one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism,   
one God and Father of us all,   
so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one soul,   
united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity,   
and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee;   
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God,   
the fountain of all wisdom,   
who knows our necessities before we ask,   
and our ignorance in asking;   
We call upon you to have compassion upon our infirmities;   
and those things, which for our unworthiness we dare not,   
and for our blindness we cannot, ask, for the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord God, the Ancient of Days,  
you are sovereign over all your people;  
Give to his Majesty, King Charles  
enduring wisdom and faith  
in the service of the people of this land  
and of you, his Lord and master.  
Grant that his reign may be one of faithful witness  
And prove to others a source of hope,  
that they may come to know more fully  
your Son Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Prayer for King Charles III

Almighty God,   
the fountain of all goodness,   
we humbly pray that you would look upon your servant, King Charles.  
Endue him with your Holy Spirit;   
enrich him with your heavenly grace;   
prosper him with all happiness;   
and bring him to your everlasting kingdom;   
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the King’s Majesty

O Lord,   
our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings,   
Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes,   
who from your throne behold all dwellers upon earth:   
Most heartily we pray with your favour   
to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lord, King Charles;  
and so replenish him with the grace of your Holy Spirit,  
that he may alway incline to your will, and walk in thy way:   
Bestow him plenteously with heavenly gifts;   
grant him in health and wealth long to live;   
strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies;  
and finally, after this life, he may attain everlasting joy and felicity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the Royal Family

Almighty God,   
the fountain of all goodness,   
we humbly beseech thee to bless His Majesty King Charles,   
Queen Camilla, the Princes William and Harry and all the Royal Family:Endow them with your Holy Spirit;   
enrich them with your heavenly grace;   
prosper them with all happiness;   
and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom;   
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty and everliving God,   
who by your holy Apostle has taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all people:    
We call upon you to save and defend all Christian Kings,   
Princes, and Governors; and especially your servant Charles our King;  
that under him we may be godly and quietly governed:   
And grant unto his whole Council,   
and to all that are put in authority under him,   
that they may truly and impartially minister justice,   
to the punishment of wickedness and vice,   
and to the maintenance of your true religion, and virtue.  
Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen

The Collect for the Feast of Christ the King

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.