

AN ORDER FOR
THE BURIAL OF CHILDREN

SENTENCES

which may be used at the entrance to the churchyard, as the coffin is taken either into the church, or towards the grave.

The minister says

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. *John 11: 25,26*

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: I myself shall see him with my own eyes. *Job 19: 25,27a*

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. *1 Timothy 6: 7; Job 1: 21*

Other sentences from page 490 may be used as required.

THE PSALM

Psalm 23 Dominus regit me

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; ■
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He shall feed me in a green pasture ■
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
- 3 He shall convert my soul ■
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,
for his Name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; ■
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
- 5 Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me; ■
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
- 6 But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, ■
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

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.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

or

Revelation 21: 3-7

I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Other readings from the list on page 506 may be preferred.

If there is a Sermon it is preached here.

PRAYERS

Grant, O Lord, to all who are bereaved, the spirit of faith and courage, that they may have strength to meet the days to come with steadfastness and patience, not sorrowing as those without hope, but in thankful remembrance of thy great goodness in past years, and in the sure expectation of a joyful reunion in the heavenly places; and this we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Appropriate prayers adapted from those on pages 510-513 may be added.

The minister goes before the coffin as it is carried to the grave.

THE COMMITTAL

Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down, like a flower; he fleeth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succour, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers; but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not, at our last hour, for any pains of death, to fall from thee.

While the earth is cast upon the body by some standing by, the minister says

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God to take unto himself the soul of this dear child . . . here departed: we therefore commit his body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall change our mortal body, that it may be like unto his glorious body, according to the mighty working, whereby he is able to subdue all things to himself.

Then shall be said or sung

Scripture says: 'These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. *Revelation 14: 4,5*

PRAYERS AFTER THE COMMITTAL

The minister says

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon 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.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst take little children into thine arms and bless them; Open thou our eyes, we beseech thee, that we may perceive that thou hast taken this child into the arms of thy love, and blessed him with the blessings of thy gracious favour; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

O God, the fountain of life, whose ways are hidden and whose work is wonderful; who makest nothing in vain, and lovest that which thou hast made; Comfort the souls of thy servants, who by the death of this child are sore stricken and bereaved; and grant that they may so love and serve thee in this present life, that they, with him, may in the end obtain the fulness of thy promises, and be clothed with the perfection of glory in thy eternal kingdom; through the merits of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Prayers after the Committal (above) may be said in the church before the coffin leaves.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. **Amen.**