

# A service of thanksgiving for a person who has given their body for medical research

---

## Introduction

### Opening Sentence

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God,  
No torment will ever touch them.

(Wisdom 3:1)

### Hymn of praise

#### Prayer

Most merciful God, whose wisdom  
is greater than anything we can ever understand,  
we come before you as we are,  
offering you our pain, our doubts,  
our feelings of guilt, and our anger.  
Trusting in your mercy and your grace,  
we ask that you will forgive what needs to be forgiven  
and heal what needs to be healed  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through the power of your Spirit,  
may the words of Scripture  
bring strength where there is weakness,  
light where there is darkness,  
faith where there is doubt  
and life where there is death,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* Amen.

### Readings from the Bible

#### Address

### Hymn of assurance

Eternal God, our strength and our redeemer,  
Giver of life and conqueror of death

(a)

We thank you for ... N ... ,  
for *their* sense of adventure, *their* insatiable curiosity,  
*their* sunny lively personality,  
*their* sheer joy in being alive.

We thank you  
that *they* who served humanity so lovingly  
should continue to do so after *their* death  
and benefit generations yet to come.  
In life, in death, *they* gave glory to you.

(b)

We remember before you ... N ... ,  
*they* were sociable and good company;  
we know that *they* were no plaster saint;  
*they* wanted to live life *their* way,  
often at the expense of other people;  
*they* was sorry all the time for what went wrong.  
*Their* final act was to do a good turn  
for other people,  
and for that we honour *them*.

We give thanks for all *they* meant to *their* family and to  
the community in which *they* lived. We acknowledge  
with gratitude the service *they* have given to medicine and  
to humanity and we commend *them* to your loving care,  
confident that *they* are at peace.

God of compassion, we pray for those who mourn;  
especially ... N ... , ... N ... and all members of their families;  
that they may grieve indeed  
but not as those without hope.  
Surround them with your love and grace  
and let them have good friends  
to share their burdens and ease their pain;  
through our saviour Jesus Christ,  
who taught his disciples to say:

**All Our Father ...**

**Final hymn**

**Nunc Dimittis**

(All remain standing and join in saying the words in bold type)

*All* **Save us, Lord, while we are awake,  
protect us while we sleep,  
that we may keep watch with Christ,  
and rest with him in peace.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:  
your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you prepared in the sight of every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations,.  
and the glory of your people Israel.

*All* **Save us, Lord, while we are awake,  
protect us while we sleep,  
that we may keep watch with Christ,  
and rest with him in peace.**  
*(as in Rejoice and Sing 742)*

May the God of all hope strengthen and sustain you,  
and may the God of life be always with you.  
May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
May his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
May he look upon you with kindness,  
and give you his peace.

*All* **Amen.**

Fleur Houston