

# Planning a funeral service

Reynolds

The funeral service is a way to remember and celebrate the life of the person who has died. It can also help family and friends begin to process their loss.

Planning the service might feel daunting and it's natural to worry about getting things right. But there is no right or wrong way to plan it – funerals don't have to follow a set formula and the service can be as individual as the life it's celebrating.

This booklet contains some ideas on what you might like to include. You'll also find examples of readings, prayers, hymns and songs. You don't have to choose from these, you can have anything you like, but they are here in case they are helpful.

Whatever type of service you choose, your funeral director and your chosen officiant or religious leader, are here to guide you through.

Our service chapel in Bognor Regis



## **We're here to help**

If you get stuck, or just need to talk it through with someone, we, along with your chosen officiant, are here to help – there's no such thing as a strange request or a daft question.

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# Where to start

The first thing to do is decide what elements you'd like to include in the service. Your officiant can help you with this, but you could include some or all of the following:

- Entrance and/or exit music
- A short time for reflection and remembrance while a song or piece of music plays
- Visual tribute, such as a large photo or a slideshow of pictures set to music
- Readings or poems
- A spoken tribute or eulogy

If the service is religious, there may be a more set pattern to follow, and your religious leader can talk you through it.

## Getting everything ready

Once you've decided what elements you'd like to have, it's time to choose or create them. In the following pages you'll find information about:

- Whether you'd like a spoken tribute, who will deliver it and how to write one
- Choosing poems, readings or prayers
- Choosing music or hymns
- Creating the order of service

# Planning a spoken tribute or eulogy

Many people choose to have a spoken tribute, or eulogy, as part of the service. It's a lovely way to capture the character and share memories of the person who has died.

A tribute can also be a real gift to people at the service, helping them to experience parts of the person's life they didn't know much about.

If you do decide to include a spoken tribute, your officiant will guide you through the planning and writing, and you can ask other family members or friends to help – you don't have to do it alone.

## STEP 1.

### **Decide who will write and give the tribute**

It can be anyone, but it's usually a member of their family, a close friend, or the officiant. You can have more than one person give a tribute.

## STEP 2.

### Write the tribute

It can be difficult to know where to start with the writing. Your officiant can help you and we've included some tips here for you as well.

#### Things you might like to think about:

- What you loved about them
- What made them laugh
- Who or what they loved or cared deeply about
- When they were at their happiest
- Places they travelled or lived
- Things they achieved
- What they might say to people at the funeral

It can also be helpful to talk to friends and family about their memories of the person who has died.

#### As you start writing

Get everything down on paper first, then come back to edit it afterwards. You don't have to finish it all in one go.

There's no set way to structure it. You could do it in date order, or around themes such as areas of their life or their defining characteristics.

As you edit, read it out loud to see what it sounds like. Reading it to someone else can also be really helpful.

There's no set length, but a good length to aim for is between 5 and 10 minutes. Check the exact timings with your officiant, so you can comfortably read the eulogy in the time given for the service.

### STEP 3.

## Prepare to give the tribute

Use larger writing or text with lots of space between the lines. It makes it much easier to read. We can help you with this if you're not sure how to do it.

Make sure you have a couple of copies on the day.

Staple the sheets of paper together so they stay in order if you drop your speech.

If you can, visit the space where you'll give the tribute beforehand, so you'll feel more comfortable.

Ask a friend or the officiant to be on hand to take over if you're unable to finish.

Take tissues.

### STEP 4.

## Giving the tribute

It's ok to cry or feel shaky. No one will mind.

Deep breaths and pauses can help you to centre yourself and keep going.

Deliberately taking your time and speaking slowly can also help you to feel calmer.

Ask for help if you need it.

Remember you're doing a wonderful thing helping people to remember and celebrate the life of someone they loved.



# Deciding what to include

## Readings, prayers and poems

PAGES 14 – 55

You may already have something in mind, or the person who died may have asked for something particular.

If not, we've included some ideas later in this booklet. You could also think about:

- What expresses their personality?
- What will offer comfort to people mourning?
- What books, poems, films or prayers did they love?

Whether you, or someone else, would like to write something unique.

You don't have to use things exactly as they are, people often change words to make a reading fit better.

## Hymns and music

PAGES 56 – 61

Much like readings, there are no set rules. Some people choose to go for quiet, reflective music, others choose more uplifting or upbeat music.

Think about what the person who has died would have loved and what will offer comfort to people at the funeral.

Again, you'll find some popular choices later in this booklet to help if you're not sure where to start.

# Photos and visual tributes

Sharing photos of the person who has died can be a lovely way to capture their personality and remember different parts of their life.

## Large pictures

You may like to display a large picture of the person who has died. This could be on a screen or printed and displayed in a frame or on an easel. If you'd like to include one, please let us know and we can help you organise it.

## Memorial slideshows

A memorial slideshow is a series of pictures set to music, which are displayed on a large screen for people at the funeral to watch. The slideshow can also be kept, and shared with others, so you can rewatch it in years to come.

### How to make a memorial slideshow

You'll need to decide on the music and the photos. There are no rules, you can choose the music and photos that reflect their personality best.

The music can be popular or classic, reflective or upbeat. If you need some inspiration, there are a list of popular choices later on in this booklet.

Depending on the length of music, we'd suggest including around 25 to 30 photos.

If you'd like help putting it all together, we can do that for you. We can use digital and printed photos.

Whether you make one yourself, or we do it for you, we will also get it ready to be shown at the service.



# Creating the order of service

The order of service can be a wonderful keepsake for people. On the day it helps people follow along with the service. In the future it allows them to revisit all the readings and music that have been carefully chosen to remember and honour the person who has died.

There's no set format for the order of service. Some people choose to keep it simple, others include lots of photos and extra text or phrases that have special meaning.

Whatever you would like, our in-house design service can help you create a beautifully designed and uniquely personalised order of service.

We can also help you with matching stationery, such as:

- Thank you cards
- Bookmarks
- Remembrance cards
- Prayer cards
- Books of condolence
- Attendance cards
- Large printed photos
- Photo books

Your funeral director will talk to you about the stationery you need and, along with your officiant, we'll help you plan it all out.



**Anne Maria Johnson**  
20<sup>th</sup> June 1931 – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020

In loving memory of  
**Patricia Louisa Cobbing**  
(nee) Feltham  
15<sup>th</sup> March 1935 – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017



**Alan Ackerman**  
24<sup>th</sup> June 1913 – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Angels and family wish to thank you most  
sincerely for the kindness and sympathy  
shown at this time of bereavement.

If in a great comfort to know  
that Alan is now at peace.

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OPENING MUSIC  
"The Day Thou Camest"  
The First Association Foundation Band

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYERS

MEMORIES OF ALAN

POEMS

"The Goodbye Song"

Don't think of him as gone  
He's just in your heart  
He's still in your heart  
He's still in your heart

Don't think of him as gone  
From the memory that we have  
In a place of peace and comfort  
Where there will be no more pain

There's love that never dies  
That can comfort those who  
Are missing that dear person  
Who made us smile

Don't think of him as gone  
In the words of those who loved him  
He's still in your heart  
He's still in your heart



In Remembrance

# Religious readings

## Bible readings

### John 6: 35-40

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you, that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in Him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

### John 11: 17-27

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

## **John 14: 1-6**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’

## **Romans 8: 31-end**

What, then, are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 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.

## **1 Thessalonians 4: 13-end**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do, who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## **Revelation 21: 1-7**

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'



# Old Testament and Apocrypha

## **Daniel 12: 1-3, 5-9**

Everyone whose name shall be found written in the book

## **Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8**

To everything there is a season

## **Ecclesiasticus 38: 16-23**

Do not forget, there is no coming back

## **Genesis 42: 29-end**

The sorrow you would cause me would kill me

## **Isaiah 53: 1-10**

The suffering servant

## **Isaiah 61: 1-3**

To comfort all who mourn

## **Job 19: 23-27**

I know that my Redeemer lives

## **Job 19: 25-26**

I know that my Redeemer lives

## **Lamentations 3: 22-26, 31-33**

The love of the Lord never ceases

## **2 Samuel 1: 17, 23-end**

David's lament for Saul and Jonathan

## **2 Samuel 12: 16-23**

David's son dies

## **Wisdom 2: 22 – 3: 5, 9**

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God

## **Wisdom 3: 1-5, 9**

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God

## **Wisdom 4: 8-11, 13-15**

Age is not length of time

# Psalms

**Psalm 6**

**Psalm 23**

**Psalm 25**

**Psalm 27**

**Psalm 32**

**Psalm 38: 9-end**

**Psalm 42**

**Psalm 90**

**Psalm 116**

**Psalm 103: 13-17**

**Psalm 121**

**Psalm 118: 4-end**

**Psalm 139**

**Psalm 130**

**Nunc Dimittis**

# Prayers

## God Be in My Head

*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.*

## Our Eyes, Lord, Are Wasted With Grief

*Our eyes, Lord, are wasted with grief;  
you know we are weary with groaning.  
As we remember our death in the dark emptiness of the night,  
have mercy on us and heal us;  
forgive us and take away our fear  
through the dying and rising of Jesus your Son.  
Amen.*

## O Lord, Support Us All the Day Long of This Troublous Life

*O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublesome 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.*

## **Holy God, We Praise Your Name**

*Holy God, 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 [Name]  
and for all that you did through him/her.  
Meet us in our sadness  
and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving,  
for the sake of the One who loves us all.  
Amen.*

## **In Weakness or in Strength**

*Lord, in weakness or in strength we bear your image.  
We pray for those we love who now live in a land of shadows,  
where the light of memory is dimmed,  
where the familiar lies unknown,  
where the beloved become as strangers.  
Hold them in your everlasting arms,  
and grant to those who care a strength to serve,  
a patience to persevere,  
a love to last and a peace that passes human understanding.  
Hold us in your everlasting arms,  
today and for all eternity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

## **O God, Who Brought Us to Birth**

*O God, who brought us to birth,  
and in whose arms we die,  
in our grief and shock contain and comfort us;  
embrace us with your love,  
give us hope in our confusion  
and grace to let go into new life;  
through Jesus Christ.  
Amen.*

## **Irish Blessing**

*May the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
May the rains fall soft upon your fields  
And until we meet again  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

# Readings and poems

People often choose to take an existing reading or poem, and personalise it.

## **Funeral Blues**

**W. H. AUDEN**

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,  
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,  
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum  
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead  
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead.  
Put crepe bows round the white necks of public doves;  
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and West.  
My working week and my Sunday rest,  
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;  
I thought that love would last forever; I was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;  
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;  
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood;  
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

## **Crossing the Bar**

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness or farewell,  
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crossed the bar.

## **Our Memories Build a Special Bridge**

EMILY MATTHEWS

Our memories build a special bridge  
When loved ones have to part  
To help us feel we're with them still  
And soothe a grieving heart  
They span the years and warm our lives  
Preserving ties that bind  
Our memories build a special bridge  
And bring us peace of mind

## **Our Revels Are Now Ended**

**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE**

Our revels are now ended. These our actors,  
As I foretold you, were all spirits and  
Are melted into air, into thin air;  
And like the baseless fabric of this vision,  
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,  
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,  
Yea all which it inherit, shall dissolve  
And like this insubstantial pageant faded,  
Leave not a rack behind. We are such stuff  
As dreams are made on, and our little life  
is rounded in a sleep.

## **Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep**

**MARY ELIZABETH FRYE**

Do not stand at my grave and weep  
I am not there; I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow,  
I am the diamond glints on snow,  
I am the sun on ripened grain,  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry,  
I am not there; I did not die.

## **Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night**

DYLAN THOMAS

Do not go gentle into that good night,  
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.  
Though wise men at their end know dark is right,  
Because their words had forked no lightning they  
Do not go gentle into that good night.  
Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright  
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.  
Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,  
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,  
Do not go gentle into that good night.  
Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight  
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.  
And you, my father, there on the sad height,  
Curse, bless me now with your fierce tears, I pray.  
Do not go gentle into that good night.  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

## **Not, How Did He Die, but How Did He Live?**

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Not, how did he die, but how did he live?  
Not, what did he gain, but what did he give?  
These are the units to measure the worth  
Of a man as a man, regardless of his birth.  
Nor what was his church, nor what was his creed?  
But had he befriended those really in need?  
Was he ever ready, with words of good cheer,  
To bring back a smile, to banish a tear?  
Not what did the sketch in the newspaper say,  
But how many were sorry when he passed away?



## **She Is Gone (He Is Gone)**

DAVID HARKINS

You can shed tears that she is gone  
Or you can smile because she has lived  
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back  
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left  
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her  
Or you can be full of the love that you shared  
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday  
You can remember her and only that she is gone  
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on  
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back  
Or you can do what she would want:  
Smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

## **For Katrina's Sun Dial**

HENRY VAN DYKE

Time is too slow for those who wait,  
Too swift for those who fear,  
Too long for those who grieve,  
Too short for those who rejoice,  
But for those who love,  
Time is eternity.

## **Goodbye**

FRANCES DAY

Goodbye my family, my life is past.  
I loved you all to the very last,  
Weep not for me, but courage take,  
Love each other for my sake,  
For those you love don't go away,  
They walk beside you every day.

## Happiness

STEVIE SMITH

Happiness is silent, or speaks equivocally for friends,  
Grief is explicit and her song never ends,  
Happiness is like England, and will not state a case,  
Grief, like Guilt, rushes in and talks apace.

## If Tears Could Build A Stairway

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

If tears could build a stairway,  
and memories a lane.  
I would walk right up to Heaven  
and bring you back again.

No farewell words were spoken,  
No time to say "Goodbye".  
You were gone before I knew it,  
and only God knows why.

My heart still aches with sadness,  
and secret tears still flow.  
What it meant to love you –  
No one can ever know.

But now I know you want me  
to mourn for you no more;  
To remember all the happy times  
life still has much in store.

Since you'll never be forgotten,  
I pledge to you today –  
A hollowed place within my heart  
is where you'll always stay.

## On Death

KAHLIL GIBRAN

You would know the secret of death. But how shall you find it unless you seek it in the heart of life? The owl whose night-bound eyes are blind unto the day cannot unveil the mystery of light. If you would indeed behold the spirit of death, open your heart wide unto the body of life. For life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one.

In the depth of your hopes and desires lies your silent knowledge of the beyond; And like seeds dreaming beneath the snow your heart dreams of spring. Trust the dreams, for in them is hidden the gate to eternity. Your fear of death is but the trembling of the shepherd when he stands before the king whose hand is to be laid upon him in honour. Is the shepherd not joyful beneath his trembling, that he shall wear the mark of the king? Yet is he not more mindful of his trembling?

For what is it to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt into the sun? And what is it to cease breathing, but to free the breath from its restless tides that it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered?

Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing. And when you have reached the mountain top, then you shall begin to climb. And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance.

## The Stream That Overflows

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH, FROM THE EXCURSION

And when the stream that overflows has passed,  
A consciousness remains upon the silent shore of memory;  
Images and precious thoughts that shall not be  
and cannot be destroyed.

## Look for Me in Rainbows

CONN BERNARD & VICKI BROWN

Time for me to go now, I won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, way up in the sky.  
In the morning sunrise when all the world is new,  
Just look for me and love me, as you know I loved you.

Time for me to leave you, I won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, high up in the sky.  
In the evening sunset, when all the world is through,  
Just look for me and love me, and I'll be close to you.

It won't be forever, the day will come and then  
My loving arms will hold you, when we meet again.

Time for us to part now, we won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, shining in the sky.  
Every waking moment, and all your whole life through  
Just look for me and love me, as you know I loved you.

Just wish me to be near you,  
And I'll be there with you.

## No Night

HELEN STEINER RICE

There is no night without a dawning  
No winter without a spring  
And beyond the dark horizon  
Our hearts will once more sing...  
For those who leave us for a while  
Have only gone away  
Out of a restless, care worn world  
Into a brighter day

## Death Is Nothing at All

CANON HENRY SCOTT HOLLAND

Death is nothing at all. It does not count. I have only  
slipped away into the next room. Nothing has happened.

Everything remains exactly as it was. I am I, and you are you,  
and the old life that we lived so fondly together is untouched,  
unchanged. Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Call me by the old familiar name. Speak of me in the easy way  
which you always used. Put no difference into your tone.  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes that we enjoyed  
together. Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be  
ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken  
without an effort, without the ghost of a shadow upon it.

Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was.  
There is absolute and unbroken continuity. What is this death  
but a negligible accident?

Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near,  
just round the corner.

All is well. Nothing is hurt; nothing is lost. One brief moment  
and all will be as it was before. How we shall laugh at the  
trouble of parting when we meet again!

## A Flower

PO CHU - I

A flower and not a flower; of mist and yet not of mist;  
At midnight she was there; she went as daylight shone.  
She came and for a little while was like a dream of spring,  
And then, as morning clouds that vanish traceless, she was gone.

## Footprints in the Sand

ADAPTED FROM THE POEM BY MARY STEVENSON

One night I had a dream...

I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.  
Across the sky flashed scenes from my life.  
For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand;  
One belonged to me, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of my life flashed before us,  
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
I noticed that many times along the path of my life,  
There was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life. This really bothered me, and I questioned the Lord about it.

“Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you,  
You would walk with me all the way;  
But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life,  
There is only one set of footprints. I don’t understand why in times  
when I needed you the most, you should leave me.”

The Lord replied,  
“My precious, precious child. I love you, and I would  
never leave you during your times of trial and suffering.  
When you saw only one set of footprints,  
It was then that I carried you.”

## My Candle Burns at Both Ends

EDNA ST.VINCENT MILLAY

My candle burns at both ends;  
It will not last the night;  
But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends—  
It gives a lovely light!

## One Final Gift

D.H. CRAMER

Scatter me not to the restless winds  
Nor toss my ashes to the sea.  
Remember now those years gone by  
When loving gifts I gave to thee.

Remember now the happy times  
The family ties are shared.  
Don't leave my resting place unmarked  
As though you never cared.

Deny me not one final gift  
For all who came to see.  
A simple lasting proof that says  
I loved and you loved me.

## A Reflection on an Autumn Day

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

I took up a handful of grain and let it slip flowing through my fingers,  
and I said to myself, "This is what it is all about."

There is no longer any room for pretence. At harvest time the essence  
is revealed – the straw and chaff are set aside, they have done their  
job. The grain alone matters – sacks of pure gold.

So it is when a person dies the essence of that person is revealed. At  
the moment of death a person's character stands out happy for the  
person who has forged it well over the years. Then it will not be the  
great achievement that will matter, nor, how much money or  
possessions a person has amassed.

These like the straw and the chaff, will be left behind. It is what he  
has made of himself that will matter. Death can take away from us  
what we have, but it cannot rob us of who we are.

## Miss Me But Let Me Go

EDGAR A GUEST

When I come to the end of the road,  
and the sun has set for me,  
I want no tears in a gloom filled room.  
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little, but not too much,  
and not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that once we shared,  
Miss me, but let me go.

This is a journey we all must take  
and each must take alone;  
it's all part of God's perfect plan,  
a step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick of heart  
go to the friends we know.  
Bury your sorrows in doing good,  
Miss me, but let me go.

## If I Should Die

JOYCE GRENFELL

If I should die before the rest of you  
Break not a flower nor inscribe a stone  
Nor, when I'm gone, speak in a Sunday voice,  
But be the usual selves that I have known.

Weep if you must  
Parting is hell.  
But life goes on.  
So sing as well.



## Remember

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

Remember me when I am gone away,  
Gone far away into the silent land;  
When you can no more hold me by the hand,  
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.  
Remember me when no more day by day  
You tell me of our future that you plann'd:  
Only remember me; you understand  
It will be late to counsel then or pray.  
Yet if you should forget me for a while  
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:  
For if the darkness and corruption leave  
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,  
Better by far you should forget and smile  
Than that you should remember and be sad.

## You've Just Walked on Ahead of Me

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

You've just walked on ahead of me  
And I've got to understand  
You must release the ones you love  
And let go of their hand.

I try and cope the best I can  
But I'm missing you so much  
If I could only see you  
And once more feel your touch.

Yes, you've just walked on ahead of me  
Don't worry I'll be fine  
But now and then I swear I feel  
Your hand slip into mine.

## Turn Again to Life

MARY LEE HALL

If I should die, and leave you here awhile  
Be not like others sore undone, who keep  
Long vigils by the silent dust and weep.  
For my sake, turn again to life, and smile,  
Nerving thy heart and trembling hand to do  
Something to comfort weaker hearts than thine.  
Complete these dear unfinished tasks of mine,  
And I, perchance, may therein comfort you!

## Prayer of Father Bede Jarrett

WILLIAM PENN

We give them back to thee, dear Lord, who gavest them to us;  
Yet as thou dost not lose them in giving, so we have not lost them by  
their return.

Not as the world giveth, givest thou, O Lover of Souls.  
What thou gavest, thou takest not away,  
For what is thine is ours also if we are thine.

And Life is eternal and Love is immortal, and death is only an  
horizon, and an horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.  
Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further;

Cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly;  
Draw us closer to thyself so that we may know ourselves to be nearer  
to our loved ones who are with thee.

And while thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare us also for that  
happy place, that where thou art we may be also for evermore.  
Draw us closer to thyself so that we may know ourselves to be nearer  
to our loved ones who are with thee.

And while thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare us also for that  
happy place, that where thou art we may be also for evermore.

## **Farewell My Friends**

ADAPTED FROM THE POEM BY RABINDRANATH TAGORE

At every turning of my life  
I came across good friends,  
Friends who stood by me  
Even when time raced me by.  
Farewell, farewell My friends  
I smile and bid you goodbye.  
No, shed no tears  
For I need them not  
All I need is your smile.  
If you feel sad do think of me  
For that's what I'll like.  
When you live in the hearts  
Of those you love  
Remember then  
You never die.

## **You Are Ever In My Thoughts**

PATIENCE STRONG

You are ever in my thoughts, though parted we must be –  
Side by side we walk along the paths of memory,  
In the land of heart's desire  
We live and laugh and love  
The future before us –  
And a cloudless sky above  
  
I cannot hear your voice or take your hand in mine to-day –  
But no-one can rob me of my dreams or take my hopes away;  
Our lives once closely linked together  
Now lie far apart  
But you are ever in my thoughts  
And ever in my heart.

## When I Am Dead My Dearest

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

When I am dead, my dearest,  
Sing no sad songs for me;  
Plant thou no roses at my head,  
Nor shady cypress tree:  
Be the green grass above me  
With showers and dewdrops wet;  
And if thou wilt, remember,  
And if thou wilt, forget.

I shall not see the shadows,  
I shall not feel the rain;  
I shall not hear the nightingale  
Sing on, as if in pain:  
And dreaming through the twilight  
That doth not rise nor set,  
Haply I may remember,  
And haply may forget.

## Angel

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Tear drops, slow and steady, The pain so real and true,  
God took another angel, And that angel, dear, was you.  
Angel wings, upon the clouds, Your body softly sleeps,  
Hush now little angel, No more tears you have to weep.  
Little prayers are sent to you, The short life you led;  
Your family will never forget you, So rest your little head.  
I know God will look after you, Now you are truly alive,  
Your spirit soars beyond the moon, Your legacy will survive.  
You're beautiful, you're endless, Now stretch your wings and fly,  
You're loved by so many, It will never be goodbye.  
Close your pretty eyes, No more tears, just go and rest,  
Let your soul lie peacefully, We know you did your best.

## If Only

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

If only we could see the splendour of the land  
To which our loved ones are called from you and me  
We'd understand  
If only we could hear the welcome they receive  
From old familiar voices all so dear  
We would not grieve  
If only we could know the reason why they went  
We'd smile and wipe away the tears that flow  
And wait content.

## On Dying

BISHOP CHARLES HENRY BRENT

A ship sails and I stand watching  
till she fades on the horizon and someone at my side says,  
“She is gone!”

Gone where? Gone from my sight, that is all.  
She is just as large now as when I last saw her.  
Her diminished size and total loss from my sight  
is in me, not in her.

And just at the moment when someone at my side says,  
“She is gone,”  
there are others who are watching her  
coming over their horizon  
and other voices take up a glad shout,  
“There she comes!”

That is what dying is;  
An horizon and just the limit of our sight.  
Lift us up, Oh Lord, that we may see further.

## To Daffodils

ROBERT HERRICK

Fair Daffodils, we weep to see  
You haste away so soon;  
As yet the early-rising sun  
Has not attain'd his noon.  
Stay, stay,  
Until the hasting day  
Has run  
But to the even-song;  
And, having pray'd together, we  
Will go with you along.

We have short time to stay, as you,  
We have as short a spring;  
As quick a growth to meet decay,  
As you, or anything.  
We die  
As your hours do, and dry  
Away,  
Like to the summer's rain;  
Or as the pearls of morning's dew,  
Ne'er to be found again.

## The Comfort and Sweetness Of Peace

HELEN STEINER RICE

After the clouds, the sunshine,  
after the winter, the spring,  
after the shower, the rainbow,  
for life is a changeable thing.  
After the night, the morning,  
bidding all darkness cease,  
after life's cares and sorrows,  
the comfort and sweetness of peace.

## Because You Have Lived

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

To laugh often and much.  
To win the respect of intelligent people,  
the affection of children.  
To earn the appreciation of honest critics.  
To appreciate beauty.  
To find the best in others.  
To leave the world a bit better, whether by  
a healthy child, or a garden patch.  
To know even one life has breathed easier  
because you have lived.  
This is to have succeeded

## Thoughtful People

AMANDA BRADLEY

Some people give comfort wherever they go,  
They brighten the lives of the people they know.  
  
Their words are so cheerful and so reassuring,  
Their feelings for others,  
So warm and enduring.  
  
The ones they are close to  
Have somewhere to turn  
For deep understanding and friendly concern.  
  
They offer to help before anyone asks,  
Hoping to lighten life's difficult tasks.  
  
Some people give comfort wherever they go,  
And mean more to others  
Than they'll ever know.

## Tis Only We Who Grieve

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

Tis only we who grieve  
They do not leave  
They are not gone  
They look upon us still  
They walk among the valleys now  
They stride upon the hill  
Their smile is in the summer sky  
Their grace is in the breeze  
Their memories whisper in the grass  
Their calm is in the trees  
Their light is in the winter snow  
Their tears are in the rain  
Their merriment runs in the brook  
Their laughter in the lane  
Their gentleness is in the flowers  
They sigh in autumn leaves  
They do not leave  
They are not gone  
Tis only we who grieve  
If only we could see the splendour of the land  
To which our loved ones are called from you and me  
We'd understand  
If only we could hear the welcome they receive  
From old familiar voices all so dear  
We would not grieve  
If only we could know the reason why they went  
We'd smile and wipe away the tears that flow  
And wait content.



## God's Garden

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

God looked around his garden  
And found an empty place,  
He then looked down upon the earth  
And saw your tired face.  
He put his arms around you  
And lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful  
He always takes the best.  
He knew that you were suffering  
He knew you were in pain.  
He knew that you would never  
Get well on earth again.  
He saw the road was getting rough  
And the hills were hard to climb.  
So he closed your weary eyelids  
And whispered, 'Peace bethine'.  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you didn't go alone,  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.

## Epitaph on a Friend

ROBERT BURNS

An honest man here lies at rest,  
The friend of man, the friend of truth,  
The friend of age, and guide of youth:  
Few hearts like his, with virtue warm'd,  
Few heads with knowledge so inform'd;  
If there's another world, he lives in bliss;  
If there is none, he made the best of this.

## **I Fall Asleep**

**SAMUEL BUTLER**

I fall asleep in the full and certain hope,  
That my slumber shall not be broken,  
And that though I be all-forgetting,  
Yet shall I not be all-forgotten,  
But continue that life in the thoughts and deeds  
Of those I have loved.

## **Don't Make Me a Hero When I'm Gone**

**AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

I went to a funeral today.  
Someone who obviously knew the family well  
Stood to 'say a few words'.

Well, the lady in the coffin was hardly recognisable!  
She'd been so unbelievably good at everything  
It's a wonder anyone liked her at all.

So don't make me a hero when I'm gone.

There'll be good things about me to miss  
And some not so good, which you'll be better off without  
So keep things in balance.

Whatever you do, have a laugh.  
I've loved tears of laughter rolling down my cheeks  
Tummy aching with hilarity  
Always made me feel better about things.

So have a good laugh  
It'll do you good –  
And don't make me a hero when I'm gone.

## Love Eternal

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

They are not dead,  
Who leave us this great heritage  
Of remembered joy.

They still live in our hearts,  
In the happiness we knew,  
In the dreams we shared.

They still breathe,  
In the lingering fragrance windblown  
From their favourite flowers.

They still smile in the moonlight's silver  
And laugh in the sunlight's sparkling gold.

They still speak in the echoes of words  
We've heard them say again and again.

They still move,  
In the rhythm of waving grasses,  
In the dance of the tossing branches.

They are not dead;  
Their memory is warm in our hearts,  
Comfort in our sorrow.

They are not apart from us,  
But a part of us  
For love is eternal,  
And those we love shall be with us  
Throughout all eternity.

## Remember Me

ADAPTED FROM THE POEM BY MARGARET MEAD

To the living, I am gone  
To the sorrowful, I will never return  
To the angry, I was cheated  
But to the happy, I am at peace  
And to the faithful, I have never left  
I cannot speak, but I can listen  
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard  
So as you stand upon the shore  
Gazing at the beautiful sea, remember me  
As you look in awe at a mighty forest  
And in its grand majesty, remember me  
Remember me in your hearts,  
In thoughts, and the memories of the  
Times we loved, the times we cried,  
For if you always think of me,  
I will never have gone.

## Remember Me – I Will Live Forever

ADAPTED FROM THE POEM BY ROBERT TEST

Scatter my ashes to the wind  
To help the flowers grow.  
  
If you must bury something,  
Let it be my faults, my weaknesses  
And all prejudices against my fellow men.  
  
If you wish to remember me,  
Do it with a kind word or deed  
To someone who needs you,  
Then I will live forever.

## The Soldier

RUPERT BROOKE

If I should die, think only this of me:  
That there's some corner of a foreign field  
That is for ever England. There shall be  
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;  
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,  
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam;  
A body of England's, breathing English air,  
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,  
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less  
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;  
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;  
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,  
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

## I Miss Your Laughter, Fun, and Gentleness

NICHOLAS GORDON

I miss your laughter, fun, and gentleness.  
I miss the things I used to do for you.  
I miss the time, now filled with emptiness,  
When each day was a stage for something new.  
I miss your love, though mine for you remains,  
A passion with no outlet to the sea,  
A teardrop in a desert, that contains  
What's left of my maternal ecstasy.  
I miss your presence, like a silent chord  
That anchored even solitude in grace.  
I miss, for my love's labor, the reward  
Of seeing some small pleasure in your face.  
All these I miss, and yet they are all here  
Within my heart, far more than I can bear.

## **That Woman (Man) Is a Success**

**BESSIE ANDERSON STANLEY**

That woman is a success  
Who has lived well,  
Laughed often and loved much;  
  
Who has gained the respect of intelligent  
men and the love of children;  
  
Who has filled her niche and  
accomplished her task;  
  
Who leaves the world better  
than she found it,  
  
Whether by an improved poppy,  
A perfect poem, or a rescued soul;  
  
Who has never lacked appreciation of  
Earth's beauty or failed to express it;  
  
Who looked for the best in others.  
And gave the best she had.

## **His (Her) Journey's Just Begun**

**ELLEN BRENNEMAN**

Don't think of him as gone away  
his journey's just begun,  
life holds so many facets  
this earth is only one.  
  
Just think of him as resting  
from the sorrows and the tears  
in a place of warmth and comfort  
where there are no days and years.

Think how he must be wishing  
that we could know today  
how nothing but our sadness  
can really pass away.

And think of him as living  
in the hearts of those he touched...  
for nothing loved is ever lost  
and he was loved so much.

### **Our Father (Mother) Kept a Garden**

**AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

Our Father kept a garden.  
A garden of the heart;  
He planted all the good things,  
That gave our lives their start.

He turned us to the sunshine,  
And encouraged us to dream:  
Fostering and nurturing  
The seeds of self-esteem.

And when the winds and rain came,  
He protected us enough;  
But not too much because he knew  
We would stand up strong and tough.

His constant good example,  
Always taught us right from wrong;  
Markers for our pathway that will last  
a lifetime long.

We are our Father's garden,  
We are his legacy.  
Thank you Dad we love you.

## If Tomorrow Starts

DAVID ROMANO

If tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me;  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,  
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you care for me, and how much I care for you,  
and each time that you think of me I know you'll miss me too;

But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand,  
that an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand,  
and said my place was ready in heaven far above,  
and that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye,  
for all life, I'd always thought I didn't want to die.  
I had so much to live for and so much yet to do.

it seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you.  
I thought of all the love we shared and all the fun we had.  
If I could relive yesterday, I thought, just for a while,  
I'd say goodbye and hug you and maybe see you smile.

But then I fully realised that this could never be,  
for emptiness and memories would take the place of me.  
And when I thought of worldly things that I'd miss come tomorrow.  
I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow.

But when I walked through Heaven's gates, I felt so much at home.  
When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden  
throne, He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you,  
Today your life on earth is past but here it's starts anew.  
I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last.  
and since each day's the same, there's no longing for the past.



But you have been so faithful, so trusting, so true.  
Though there were times you did some things you knew you  
shouldn't do. And you have been forgiven and now at last you're free.  
So won't you come and take my hand and share my life with me?"

So if tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart,  
for every time you think of me, please know I'm in your heart.

## **Not in Vain**

EMILY DICKINSON

If I can stop one heart from breaking,  
I shall not live in vain:  
If I can ease one life the aching,  
Or cool one pain,  
Or help one fainting robin  
Unto his nest again,  
I shall not live in vain.

## **What is Success?**

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

To laugh often and much;  
To win the respect of intelligent people  
And the affection of children;  
To earn the appreciation of honest critics  
And endure the betrayal of false friends;  
To appreciate the beauty;  
To find the best in others;  
To leave the world a bit better,  
Whether by a healthy child, a garden patch  
Or a redeemed social condition;  
To know even one life has breathed easier  
Because you have lived.  
This is to have succeeded!

## A Child of Mine

EDGAR GUEST

“I’ll lend to you for a little time,  
A child of mine,” He said,  
“For you to love while he lives  
And mourn for when he’s dead.”

“It may be one or seven years  
Or twenty-one or three,  
But will you till I call him back,  
Take care of him for Me?”

“He’ll bring his charms to gladden you  
And should his stay be brief,  
You’ll have these precious memories  
To comfort you through grief.”

“I cannot promise he will stay  
Since all from earth return.  
But there are lessons taught down there  
I want this child to learn.”

“I’ve looked this world over,  
In my search for teachers true.  
In the crowds of this great land,  
I have selected you.”

“Now will you give him all your love  
Not think the labor vain,  
Nor hate me when I come to call  
To take him back again?”

I fancied what I heard them say,  
“Dear Lord, Thy will be done.  
For all the joy Thy child shall bring,  
the risk of grief we’ll run.

We'll shelter him with tenderness,  
we'll love him while we may,  
And for the happiness we've known,  
forever grateful stay.

But should the angels call for him,  
sooner than we've planned,  
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes  
and try to understand."

### **From the Ode: Intimations of Immortality, Stanza X**

**WILLIAM WORDSWORTH**

What though the radiance which was once so bright  
Be now forever taken from my sight,  
Though nothing can bring back the hour  
Of splendour in the grass, of glory in the flower;  
We will grieve not, rather find  
Strength in what remains behind.

### **Feel No Guilt in Laughter**

**AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

Feel no guilt in laughter, she'd know how much you care.  
Feel no sorrow in a smile that she is not here to share.  
You cannot grieve forever; she would not want you to.  
She'd hope that you could live your life the way you always do.  
So, talk about the good times and the way you showed you cared,  
the days you spent together, all the happiness you shared.

Let memories surround you, a word someone may say  
will suddenly recapture a time, an hour or a day,  
that brings her back as clearly as though she were still here,  
and fills you with the feeling that she is always near.  
For if you keep those moments, you will never be apart  
and she will live forever locked safely within your heart.

## Little Snowdrops

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

The world may never notice,  
If a snowdrop doesn't bloom,  
Or even pause to wonder,  
If the petals fall too soon,  
But every life that ever forms,  
Or ever comes to be,  
Touches the world in some small way,  
For all eternity.

The ones that we still long for,  
were here and then were gone,  
But the love that was then planted,  
Is a light that still shines on,  
and though our hearts are empty  
They know just what to do,  
Every beating of our hearts,  
Say of our love for you.

## The Broken Chain

RON TRANMER

We little knew that morning, God was to call your name.  
In life we loved you dearly, in death we do the same.  
It broke our hearts to lose you, You did not go alone.  
For part of us went with you The day God called you home.  
You left us beautiful memories, Your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you, You are always at our side.  
Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same,  
But as God calls us one by one, The chain will link again.

## Do Remember Me

LYNN BRYANT

Remember me in quiet days  
When raindrops whisper on your pane,  
But in your memories have not grief  
Let just the joy remain.  
Remember me when evening stars  
Look down on you with steadfast eyes;  
Remember me if once you wake  
To catch a glimpse of a red sunrise.  
And when your thoughts do turn to me,  
Know that I would not have you cry;  
But love for me and laugh for me,  
When you are happy, so am I.  
Remember an old joke we shared;  
Remember me when spring walks by,  
Think of me when you are glad,  
And while you live, I shall not die.

## Afterglow

HELEN LOWRIE MARSHALL

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.  
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,  
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun;  
Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

## Still

CHAR MARCH

Listen. There is this silence now. This stillness.  
Gradually we will get used to it. But, for now,  
It is strange.  
You have left such a gap.  
Our world is in shock, holding its breath.  
But listen closer – all your laughter, all your love  
Is still ringing out. Still holding us.  
All our memories of you are still with us.  
All the love we shared is still in every one of us.  
And although we ache from the loss of you,  
You will always be here – as still and steady,  
And fierce, as any star. Look. You are shining  
Bright through all our skies.  
Thank you  
For being here with us.

## Peace

LADY ROSAMUND LANGHAM

There is peace within a garden  
A peace so deep and calm  
That when the heart is troubled  
It's like a soothing balm.

There is Joy within a garden  
A joy that's always found  
When tasks have been accomplished  
However hard the ground.

There's life within a garden  
A life that still goes on  
Filling the empty places  
When older plants have gone.

There's glory in a garden  
At every time of year  
Spring, summer, autumn, winter  
To fill the heart with cheer.

So ever tend your garden  
Its beauty to increase  
For in it you'll find solace  
And in it you'll find peace.

## Uphill

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI

Does the road wind up-hill all the way?  
Yes, to the very end.  
Will the day's journey take the whole long day?  
From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place?  
A roof for when the slow dark hours begin.  
May not the darkness hide it from my face?  
You cannot miss that inn.

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night?  
Those who have gone before.  
Then must I knock, or call when just in sight?  
They will not keep you standing at that door.

Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak?  
Of labour you shall find the sum.  
Will there be beds for me and all who seek?

# Hymns

Abide with me; fast falls  
the eventide

All things bright and beautiful

Amazing grace! How sweet  
the sound

And did those feet in ancient  
time (Jerusalem)

Be still, for the presence  
of the Lord

Dear Lord and Father of  
mankind

Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Immortal, Invisible, God  
Only Wise

Give me joy in my heart, keep  
me praising (Sing Hosanna)

Guide me, O thou  
great Redeemer

Lead us, heavenly Father,  
lead us

Lord of all hopefulness,  
Lord of all joy

Make me a channel of  
your peace

Love divine all loves excelling

Morning has broken

Now thank we all our God

O Lord my God, when I in  
awesome wonder  
(How Great thou Art)

On a hill far away stood an  
old rugged cross

Praise, my soul, the  
King of heaven!

Praise to the Lord, the  
Almighty, the King of  
creation

Rock of Ages, cleft for me

The day thou gavest,  
Lord, is ended

The King of love my  
Shepherd is

The Lord's my shepherd,  
I'll not want (Crimond)

Thine be the glory, risen,  
conquering Son

To God be the glory,  
great things he has done



# Music

Many of these suggestions have been performed by different artists. Alternative or instrumental versions can also be sourced if needed.

## Popular music

### **A Mother's Prayer**

CELINE DION

### **Always Look on the Bright Side of Life**

ERIC IDLE

### **Angels**

ROBBIE WILLIAMS

### **Angels Brought Me Here**

GUY SEBASTIAN

### **As Time Goes By**

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

### **Because You Loved Me**

CELINE DION

### **Bridge Over Troubled Water**

SIMON & GARFUNKEL

### **Dancing With the Angels**

MONK & NEAGLE

### **Danny Boy**

DANIEL O'DONNELL

### **Don't Cry Daddy**

ELVIS PRESLEY

### **Fields of Gold**

STING

### **Flower of Scotland**

AMY MACDONALD

### **Fly**

CELINE DION

### **From a Distance**

BETTE MIDLER

### **Goodbye**

LIONEL RICHIE

### **My Heart Will Go On**

CELINE DION

### **Goodbye's the Saddest Word**

CELINE DION

### **He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother**

THE HOLLIES

## **Green Green Grass of Home**

TOM JONES

## **Hero**

MARIAH CAREY

## **I Can Feel You Drifting**

CHALEE TENNISON

## **I Don't Wanna Close My Eyes**

AEROSMITH

## **I Need You**

3T

## **I Will Always Love You**

WHITNEY HOUSTON

## **I'll Be Missing You**

PUFF DADDY

## **In the Arms of an Angel**

SARAH MCLACHLIN

## **I've Had the Time of My Life**

JENNIFER WARNES & BILL MEDLEY

## **Looking Forward, Looking Back**

SLIM DUSTY

## **Midnight Special**

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL

## **Moonlight Serenade**

GLENN MILLER

## **Wish Me Luck as You Wave Me Goodbye**

VERA LYNN

## **Mull of Kintyre**

PAUL MCCARTNEY

## **My Way**

FRANK SINATRA

## **On Eagle's Wings**

JOSH GROBAN

## **On the Road Again**

WILLIE NELSON

## **One Sweet Day**

MARIAH CAREY

## **Precious Child**

KAREN TAYLOR

## **Que Sera Sera**

DORIS DAY

## **Sailing**

ROD STEWART

## **Somewhere Over the Rainbow**

EVA CASSIDY

## **Stairway to Heaven**

LED ZEPPELIN

## **Tears in Heaven**

ERIC CLAPTON

## **Thank You for Loving Me**

JON BON JOVI

## **The Green Green Grass of Home**

TOM JONES

## **The Way We Were**

BARBARA STREISAND

## **There You'll Be**

FAITH HILL

## **Time to Say Goodbye**

ANDREA BOCELLI & SARAH BRIGHTMAN

## **The Prayer**

ANDREA BOCELLI & CELINE DION

## **Unchained Melody**

THE RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS

## **Unforgettable**

NAT KING COLE

## **Up Where We Belong**

JOE COCKER & JENNIFER WARNE

## **White Cliffs of Dover**

VERA LYNN

## **We'll Meet Again**

VERA LYNN

## **What a Wonderful World**

LOUIS ARMSTRONG

## **The Last Farewell**

ELVIS PRESLEY

## **You Were Always on My Mind**

ELVIS PRESLEY

## **When I Grow Too Old to Dream**

JOHN MCDERMOTT

## **When I Die**

NO MERCY

## **The Rose**

BETTE MIDLER

## **Wind Beneath My Wings**

BETTE MIDLER

## **Wish You Were Here**

FLEETWOOD MAC

## **Yesterday**

THE BEATLES

## **You Are My Sunshine**

ANNE MURRAY

## **You'll Be in My Heart**

PHIL COLLINS

## **You'll Never Walk Alone**

GERRY & THE PACEMAKERS

## **You're My Best Friend**

QUEEN

## **Dancing in the Sky**

DANI & LIZZY

## **The One That Got Away**

KATY PERRY

## **You Make Me Feel Brand New**

THE STYLISTICS

## **A Song for You**

THE CARPENTERS

## **My Eyes Adored You**

FRANKIE VALLI

### **The Only One**

LIONEL RICHIE

### **The One**

KODALINE

### **All of Me**

JOHN LEGEND

### **If Tomorrow Never Comes**

GARTH BROOKS

### **Lost Without You**

FREYA RIDINGS

### **Jealous of the Angels**

DONNA TAGGART

### **You Are the Reason**

CALLUM SCOTT

### **Shallow**

LADY GAGA & BRADLEY COOPER

### **See You Again**

CHARLIE PUTH

### **Supermarket Flowers**

ED SHEERAN

## **Religious music**

### **Abide With Me**

VARIOUS

### **Amazing Grace**

LEANN RIMES

### **Morning Has Broken**

YUSUF / CAT STEVENS

### **Ave Maria**

CELINE DION

### **Be Not Afraid**

JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT

### **Come as You Are**

JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT

### **Here I Am Lord**

JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT

### **Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring**

J. S. BACH

### **Hallelujah "Vocal"**

MOZART

### **Onward Christian Soldiers**

TENNESEE ERNIE FORD

### **Requiem**

BERLIOZ

### **Requiem**

### **Op.48 Pié Jesu**

FAURÉ

### **Symphony No.9**

### **"Ode to Joy"**

BEETHOVEN

### **The Lord is My Shepherd**

JOHN MICHAEL TALBOT

### **Psalms 23**

# Classical music

## Air on a G string

J. S. BACH

## Canon

PACHELBEL

## Cello Concerto

ELGAR

## Claire de Lune

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

## Funeral March

BEETHOVEN

## Fur Elise

BEETHOVEN

## Nimrod

ELGAR

## Nocturne in E Flat Major

CHOPIN

## Piano Concerto 21

MOZART

## Prelude in C Minor

CHOPIN

## Serenade for Strings

ELGAR

## Sheep May Safely Graze

J. S. BACH

## The Gadfly

SHOSTAKOVICH

## Solveig's Song

### "Peer Gynt"

GRIEG

## Symphony No.6

### "Pastoral"

BEETHOVEN

## The Four Seasons

### "Winter"

VIVALDI

## The Planets

### "Venus"

HOLST

## The Lark Ascending

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

## The Londonderry Air

### (Danny Boy)

UNKNOWN

## New World Symphony

### (Going Home)

DVORAK

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Our service chapel in Chichester

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