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### Prayers you may wish to use at home

Eternal God, whose love is stronger than death, we rejoice that the departed as well as the living are held in your love and care. As we remember with thanksgiving those we have loved who have gone before us, we pray that we may look forward with confidence to the day when we shall be reunited with them in the joy and peace of your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

God of love and mercy,  
embrace all those  
whose hearts today  
overflow with grief,  
unanswered questions  
and such a sense of loss.  
Grant them space  
to express their tears.  
Hold them close  
through the coming days. Amen.

*Please feel free to take this service  
sheet home with you.*

**This service has been live streamed and can be watched again on our facebook page [facebook.com/PCDChurches/live](https://www.facebook.com/PCDChurches/live) or our youtube channel by searching Cudham and Downe Churches.**

**If you feel you would like to talk to the Vicar, Rev John Musson, his telephone number is 01959 540012, or email [vicar@pcd.org.uk](mailto:vicar@pcd.org.uk)**

**You are welcome to join us at any of our church services. Full details are on the church website [pcd.org.uk](http://pcd.org.uk)**



The Parishes  
of Cudham  
and Downe

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020**

## **A service in Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**

### **Greeting**

In the name of Christ, who died and was raised by the glory of the Father, we welcome you: grace, mercy and peace be with you all.

All **And also with you.**

*The minister welcomes people to the service  
and says the following sentence from Scripture*

After he had risen from the dead, Jesus met with his friends and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

*As music is played the Easter Candle is lit.*

### **Introduction**

We meet this evening to remember those who are separated from us by death, those we love but see no longer; to ask God to deepen our faith and hope that death is not the end, but rather a gateway to eternal life.

In remembering painful things, we weep, we look, and sometimes we see signs of resurrection. Often in the looking into the dark places of our lives we see signs of God's presence with us. So, with confidence we offer to God all that we have been, all that we are, and all that we shall be.

I have set the Lord always before me:  
All **God is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord:  
All **And grant us your salvation.**

For with you is the well of life:  
All **And in your light shall we see light.**

### **The Acclamation**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls; you uphold us in life and sustain us in death: to you be glory and praise for ever!

For the darkness of this age is passing away as Christ the bright morning star brings to his saints the light of life.

As you give light to those in darkness who walk in the shadow of death, so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants, that death may be for them the gate to life and unending fellowship with you; where, with your saints, you live and reign, one in the perfect union of love, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

## The Word of God

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, says the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

All **Alleluia, alleluia!**

*Please sit for the reading*

A reading from the Bible: Psalm 121

- <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the mountains—  
where does my help come from?
- <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.
- <sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not slumber;
- <sup>4</sup> indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- <sup>5</sup> The Lord watches over you—  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
- <sup>6</sup> the sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
- <sup>7</sup> The Lord will keep you from all harm—  
he will watch over your life;
- <sup>8</sup> the Lord will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.

At the end of the reading:-

This is the Word of the Lord  
All **Thanks be to God.**

## The Sermon

### The Choir sing

AMAZING GRACE! how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there a thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we first begun.

## The Prayers

*We sit or kneel for our prayers; the prayers end:-*

Lord Jesus, dying you destroyed our death,  
and by rising again, you restored our life.  
Therefore we are confident to pray:

**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 Commemoration

Blessed be our God for ever more, now and  
always, from everlasting to everlasting.

All **Amen.**

O Lord, may the souls of those who have  
fallen asleep in Christ, rest in peace:

All **And rise in glory.**

Hear us, O loving Father, as we remember in love  
all those we have placed in your hands...

*The names of the departed are read aloud. When  
names have been read, the lights are dimmed and  
you are invited to come to the front and light a  
candle for a loved one. As the candles burn, silence  
will be kept. Then a minister prays*

Thank you, O Lord, for those we love, but see  
no longer. Give them rest with all your saints  
in heaven, where sorrow and pain are no  
more, only life everlasting.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Neither death nor life can  
separate us from God's love  
All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Blessing *Followed by reflective music*

*After the service, you are welcome to stay – either to  
continue to pray by the lighted candles or just to sit  
quietly in church*