L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Prayers at the Time of Death and Dying**

Below is a collection of prayers that may be used on their own or in conjunction with each other or with other scripture verses and prayers at the time of dying and death.

1. Caring, gentle and loving God,

 our home is with you and our rest is in your everlasting arms.

 From you all life comes and to you we return.

 We pray for NAME whom you created in your image

 and who you love and care for in all times as your precious daughter/son.

 Be present with her/him with your kindness

 and give her/him

 comfort in body

 peace of mind,

 stillness of spirit,

 freedom from all anxiety and concern

 and deep confidence in your love for her/him. .

 These things we pray in Jesus’ name.

 Amen

2. God of endless loving-kindness,

 you invite us to find rest and peace in you

 when we are weary and burdened,

 and to find strength in quietness and courage in faith.

 Through your Holy Spirit give us a strong sense of your presence,

 carry us when we feel weighed down,

 and lift us to your heights.

 Give us peace, let us hear your comforting voice,

 and know that you are God and are always with us.

 These things we pray in Jesus’ name.

 Amen

3. Blessed are You, O Lord, our God,

 creator and sustainer of all things.

 We give thanks that in you we live and move and have our being.

 Before you all generations rise up and pass away;

 it is from you we come and to you we return;

 it is your loving and eternal presence and support that we seek;

 and it is your peace and your comfort that we long for.

 Surround us now so that in the mystery of death

we may catch a glimpse of the life you offer each of us.

 God of all time and all people,

 you did not create us for death

 but for eternal life, with you forever.

 Lift us up when we feel overburdened,

 remove from us all our anxieties and fears,

 and set us free to see your grace and love at work in all of life.

 We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

 Amen

4. God of goodness and comfort,

 of love and of peace;

 you promise that you are always near to us,

 help us draw near to you

 and to know that nothing

 can separate us from your love and compassion.

 We thank you for all the blessings of life,

 in good times, and in difficult times,

for walking with us in life, and in death,

 and for all the ways in which we come to know your love and feel your presence.

 Give NAME peace of mind, courage of spirit, comfort of body, and assurance of our love and your loving care.

 We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

 Amen

5. In this sacred time of mystery,

 keep watch, O God, over NAME

 and over all who worry or weep,

 comfort the sick,

 give rest to the weary,

 reassure the dying that they rest in the palm of your hand,

 soothe the pain of the suffering ,

 and give uspeace in mind, spirit, and soul.

 In the name of love and the strong and gentle name of Jesus we pray.

 Amen

6. God of everlasting love,

 God of eternal life,

 God of light shining in darkness,

 we turn over to you our lives and our cares,

we trust that you walk with us in all places,

and that you are always with us.

 In this sacred time and moment

 free us from anxiety and distress;

help us find comfort in your promises,

 peace in your presence,

 rest in your loving arms,

 and welcome in your kingdom,

 These things we pray in Jesus’ name.

 Amen

**Prayers of the Church**

O LORD, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.

Amen.

**Scriptures of comfort**

Psalm 23 – The Lord is my Shepherd

Psalm 27 – The Lord is my light and my salvation

Psalm 46 – God is our refuge and strength

Psalm 90 – You have been my dwelling place in all generations

Psalm 121 – I will lift up my eyes

Psalm 130 – Out of the depths, I cried to you, O Lord

Psalm 139 – O Lord, you have searched me and known me

Isaiah 40 – He will gather the lambs in his arms

John 14:1-2 – Do not let your hears be troubled