

We have come together to remember before God the life of Eleanor, to commend her to God's keeping, and to comfort her family and friends with our sympathy and our love, in the hope we share through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Hear these comforting words from Jesus Christ our Saviour.

'I am the resurrection and the life, even in death, anyone who believes in me will live'.

*John 11:25*

And from the book of Job, chapter 19.

'I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my body has died I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes— I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!'

From Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter eight.

'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.'

Although we have been parted from Eleanor, none of us need ever be separated from the love of God.

*Let us pray:*

**Almighty God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light; Grant that your servant Eleanor, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*We share in memories of Eleanor, concluding with:*

In a time of silence, let us make our personal thanksgiving to God for Eleanor.

Together we pray:

**God our Father, we thank you that you have made each of us in your own image and given us gifts and talents which with to serve you and others. We thank you for Eleanor, the good we saw in her, the love we received from her. Now give us strength and courage to leave her in your care, confident in your promise of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Readings*

*Prayers*

Let us pray that God will grant comfort and strength to all who mourn.

God, our loving Father, draw near to Eleanor's family and friends and all who mourn today. Make your love known to them that they may turn to you and receive comfort and strength.

Help them to put their trust in you and their hope in your grace and compassion.

**Use us Father, as bearers of your love, to support them in their grief. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Let us pray for a growing faith in Jesus Christ, in whose resurrection we share in God's love and life.

**Loving Lord, the strength of all who believe in you, increase our faith and trust in your Son, that we may live victoriously now and for ever. Amen.**

Let us pray for that hope which only God can give.

**Almighty God, give us a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power, that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Lord's prayer*

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in Heaven. Give us today our daily bread, forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours now and for ever. Amen.

*Commendation*

'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose great mercy we have been born anew into a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead'. *1 Peter 1:3*

Go forth from this world Eleanor, in the love of God who created you; in the mercy of Jesus Christ, who redeems you, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens you. In communion with the faithful, may you dwell this day in peace. Amen.

*From 'A New Zealand Prayer Book'.*

