A Prayer Service on the Death of the Sovereign

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THE GATHERING

The God of hope grant us peace, now and in all our days. **Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, at this time of death and mourning we are confident that God is with us.

Let us pray in silence as we remember God's servant Elizabeth, our late Sovereign Lady and Queen.

Silence

Gracious God, your love for your children is eternal.

Neither life nor death can separate those who trust in you.

Unite us to yourself, that together with your servant, Elizabeth, we may rejoice in your light and peace; through Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for us. **Amen.**

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THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Psalm 27:1, 4-5, 7-9, 13-14

The LORD is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! 'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, LORD, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD! I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations.

The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

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THE PRAYERS

Let us pray:

Crucified Saviour, you save us from the fear of death.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Gentle Shepherd, you bring rest to our souls.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lamb of God, you grant us peace.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer

Either

As our Saviour taught his disciples, we 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.

Or

We say together the prayer that Jesus gave us:

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. Let us give thanks for the victory of Christ over death:

Glory and thanks be given to you, almighty God, our Father, because in your great love for the world you gave your Son to be our Saviour. He lived our life, bore our griefs, and died our death upon the Cross.

We thank you that you have brought him back from death with power and great glory, that he has conquered sin and death, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise.

Let us give thanks for the noble life and witness of our late Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth:

Eternal God,

we praise you for your goodness and mercy that followed your servant, Elizabeth, all the days of her life, and for her faithfulness in the tasks to which you called her.

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that for your loving servant the tribulations of this world are over and death is past, and we pray that you will bring us with her to the joy of your perfect kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** Let us ask for God's blessing in our time of mourning and grief:

God of comfort and grace, draw near to all who mourn the passing of your servant, Elizabeth, our Queen; and grant to our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and all the Royal family, the gift of your peace and the strength of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us ask for God's guidance in our future together:

Grant us, O God, in all our duties your help, in all our perplexities your guidance, in all our dangers your protection, and in all our sorrows your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May the infinite love and mercy of God bring the whole Church, living and departed in the Lord Jesus, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of God's eternal kingdom; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, remain with *you/us* always. **Amen.**

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