A Service of Thanksgiving in Memory of a Person Who Has Given Their Body for Medical Education and Research

Introduction

Opening Sentence

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, No torment will ever touch them (Wisdom 3:1)

Hymn of Praise

Prayer

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is greater than anything we can ever understand, we come before you as we are, offering you our pain, our doubts, our feelings of guilt, and our anger. Trusting in your mercy and your grace, we ask that you will forgive what needs to be forgiven and heal what needs to be healed through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through the power of your Spirit, may the words of Scripture bring strength where there is weakness, light where there is darkness, faith where there is doubt and life where there is death, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen
Readings from the Bible

Address

Hymn of Assurance

Prayer

Eternal God, our strength and our redeemer,
Giver of life and conqueror of death

(a)

We thank you for N,
for her sense of adventure, her insatiable curiosity,
her sunny lively personality,
her sheer joy in being alive.
We thank you
that she who served humanity so lovingly
should continue to do so after her death
and benefit generations yet to come.
In life, in death, she gave glory to you.

(b)

We remember before you N,
she was sociable and good company;
we know that she was no plaster saint;
she wanted to live life her way,
often at the expense of other people;
she was sorry all the time for what went wrong.
Her final act was to do a good turn
for other people,
and for that we honour her.

We give thanks for all she meant to her family and to the community in which she lived. We acknowledge with gratitude the service she has given to medicine and to humanity and we commend her to your loving care, confident that she is at peace.
God of compassion, we pray for those who mourn; especially N, N and all members of their families; that they may grieve indeed but not as those without hope. Surround them with your love and grace and let them have good friends to share their burdens and ease their pain; through our saviour Jesus Christ, who taught his disciples to say:

**Our Father …**

**Final Hymn**

Nunc Dimittis *(all remain standing and join in saying the worlds in bold type)*

**Save us, Lord, while we are awake,**
**protect us while we sleep,**
**that we may keep watch with Christ,**
**and rest with him in peace.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you prepared in the sight of every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

**Save us, Lord, while we are awake,**
**protect us while we sleep,**
**that we may keep watch with Christ,**
**and rest with him in peace.** *(as in Rejoice and Sing 742)*
May the God of all hope strengthen and sustain you, and may the God of life be always with you. 
May the Lord bless you and keep you. 
May his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you. 
May he look upon you with kindness, and give you his peace.

Amen

Fleur Houston