**Graveside Service for [full name]**

**[time, date, location]**

**Opening Scripture**

[option one] **John 14:1-6 in Unison**

**“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”**

**Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”**

[option two] **Responsive Reading of Scriptures**

I am the Resurrection and the Life, says the Lord.

Whoever has faith in me shall have life,

even though he die.

And everyone who has life,

and has committed himself to me in faith,

shall not die for ever.

**As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives**

**and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.**

**After my awaking, he will raise me up;**

**and in my body I shall see God.**

**I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him**

**who is my friend and not a stranger.**

For none of us has life in himself,

and none becomes his own master when he dies.

For if we have life, we are alive in the Lord,

and if we die, we die in the Lord.

So, then, whether we live or die,

we are the Lord’s possession.

**Happy from now on**

**are those who die in the Lord!**

**So it is, says the Spirit,**

**for they rest from their labors**

**and their deeds follow them.**

[option three] **Psalm 23 in unison or read by pastor**

**Sing Together** [some options—always provide words]

“Amazing Grace”

“When We All Get to Heaven”

Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

**Scripture Readings**

[option one—responsive reading]

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. (Psalm 116:15)

**Then I heard a voice from heaven say, “Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from now on.” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “they will rest from their labor; for their deeds will follow them.”** (Revelation 14:13)

Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

**For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.**

For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

**“Death is swallowed up in victory.”**

**“O death, where is your victory?**

**O death, where is your sting?”**

(1 Corinthians 15:51-55)

[option two]

**2 Timothy 4:7-8 in Unison**

**I have fought the good fight,**

**I have finished the race,**

**I have kept the faith.**

**Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness,**

**which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day,**

**and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.**

**Brief Message** [5 minutes is appropriate for a graveside service]

**Pastoral Prayer & Benediction**

[option one]

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable,

always abounding in the work of the Lord,

knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

(1 Corinthians 15:58)

**The Lord’s Prayer** [unison]

**Our Father, which 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, and the power, and the glory forever.**

**Amen.**

The God of peace be with you all.  Amen.

[option two, for a believing member of the family or church member]

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember our beloved [use appropriate descriptions] father/mother, loving husband/wife, grandfather/grandmother, brother/sister in Christ, faithful member of the church family, and dear friend [first name] before you this day. Truly he/she was a loyal servant of yours, wise counselor, excellent example, a man/woman of noble character.

We thank you for giving her to us these many years, to know and to love in our earthly pilgrimage. “The Lord has given, the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” [Job 1:21]

In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us all pray together in the words Jesus gave us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed by 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,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.