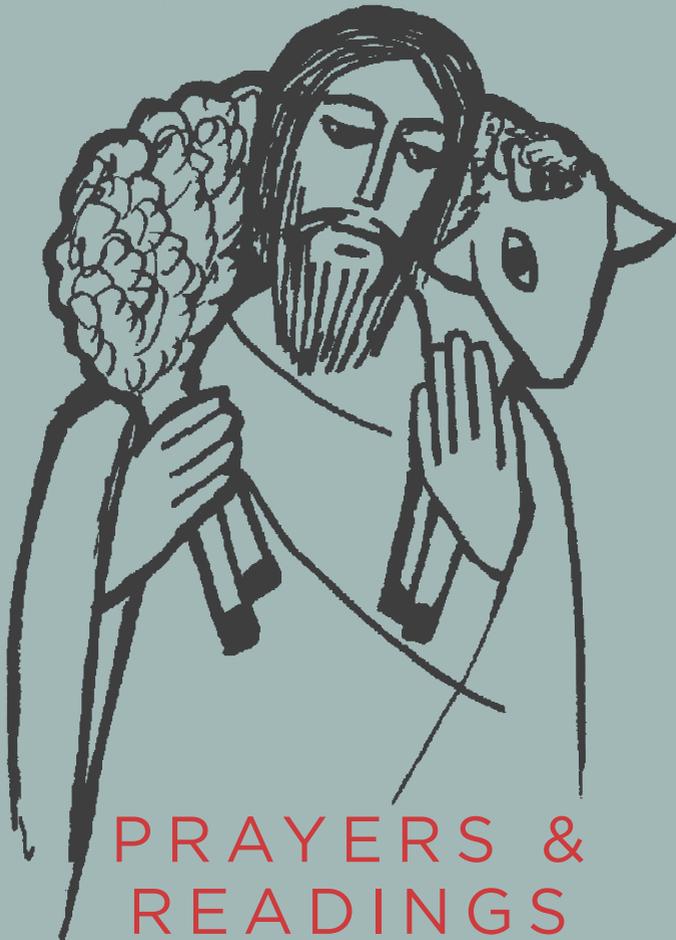


ANGLICAN SOCIETY FOR THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS



PRAYERS & READINGS

for use at the burial of an animal

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Isaiah 11. v9 "There will be no hurt or harm in all my holy mountain"

Genesis 1. v31 "God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good."

Minister: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Jesus said, 'Are not sparrows five for two-pence? And yet not one of them is overlooked by God'.

(Luke 12: 6)

or

God has made known to us his hidden purpose . . . : namely, that the universe, all in heaven and all on earth, might be brought into a unity in Christ'.

(Ephesians 1: 9-10)

Heavenly Father,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have created the universe,
and through His death you have reconciled all things
to yourself.

Strengthen our faith and hope in you,
that we may live as those
who believe in the redemption of your Creation.
We ask this in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

(The following psalm may be used)

Psalm 104: 1, 11-14, 26

Bless the Lord, my soul:

O Lord my God, thou art great indeed,
clothed in majesty and splendour.

You send springs into the gullies:
which run between the hills;

They give drink to every beast of the field:
and the wild asses quench their thirst.

Beside them the birds of the air build their nests:
and sing among the branches.

You water the mountains
from your dwelling on high:
and the earth is filled by the fruits of your work.

Lord how various are your works:
in wisdom have you made them all
and the earth is full of your creatures.

A Short Bible Reading

(e.g. Isaiah 11: 1-9, Romans 8: 18-23,
Colossians 1: 15-20, Revelation 4: 6b)-11.)

Minister: Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: 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.
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.

Minister: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
giver of life and breath,
without whose knowledge
not even a sparrow shall fall to the ground and die,
we commend (name the animal) into your loving care,
praying that your good purposes
may be fulfilled in him.
We ask this in the name of Him,
who died to reconcile all things to You,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Minister: Almighty God,
You make nothing in vain,
and love all that You have made.
Comfort all who grieve for this animal,
and console them with the knowledge of your
unfailing love;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(A little soil or water may be sprinkled on the grave of the animal)

Minister: Let us commend this animal to the love of God, the
Father of all
Heavenly Father, giver of life and source of all love,
we give you thanks for (name animal),
the friend and companion you gave us.
May the love there has been between us
live on in our greater reverence for all life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

or

Loving God, Creator of all,
you look upon your world
and, behold, it is very good.
Look now on the life of this animal,
which we remember before you,
In your tender mercy
fulfil in him your good and gracious Will
for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.
May God, in his infinite love and mercy,
bring the whole Creation
to share in the glorious liberty of the children of God.
Amen.

SUGGESTED FURTHER READING

Return to the Fold

Prayers, Readings and Hymns for use following the death of animals
By Linda J Bodicoat
Available by mail order at £4.80 (including postage and packing)
Rose Cottage Publishing
Highfield Street
Earl Shilton
Leicestershire LE9 7HS

Animal Rites

Liturgies of Animal Care
By Revd Professor Andrew Linzey
SCM Press
0-334-02760-8

Death of An Animal Friend

Produced by the Society for Companion Animal Studies (SCAS)
Available by mail order at £2.50 (including postage and packing)
IOb Leny Road
Callander
Scotland
FK17 8BA
Telephone: 01877-330996

For further help:
Pet Bereavement Support Service
(organised by SCAS and the Blue Cross)
0800-096-6606



Putting Animals on the Agenda of the Christian Church

This leaflet was written by the Revd Hugh Broadbent and the late Revd Trevor Thorpe with a concluding prayer by the late Rt Revd John Austin Baker and produced on behalf of

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