

Memorial Service for a Miscarriage

This Memorial Service may be celebrated in a hospital room or chapel or the family home or a parish Stillness and/or Eucharistic Chapel. This ceremony is simple and specific to the family who is grieving. A hymn may be added at the beginning or the end if the family desires. Personalize according to the circumstances and needs of the family.

Opening Prayer

Leader: Blessed by You, God of compassion and consolation. Accept the sorrow of _____ who are grieved by the loss of this baby through miscarriage. You know the desires of our hearts. Help us to have confidence in Your sustaining presence, this moment and future days.

All: Amen

Psalm Response

Leader: God, hear my cry for help, listen to my prayer. From the end of the earth I call to You with heavy heart.

All: Rest in God alone, my soul, the source of my hope!

Leader: In God alone there is rest for my soul, from God comes my safety; God alone is my rock, my safety, my fortress, I will not fall.

All: Rest in God alone, my soul, the source of my hope!

Leader: In You, God, I find shelter. Dear people, rely on God at all times, unburden your hearts to the Lord, God is a shelter for us.

All: Rest in God alone, my soul, the source of my hope!

Leader: God not only hears us, but listens to our prayer.

All: Bless be God, who neither ignores our prayer nor deprives us of deserving love.

Scripture Reading

Romans 14:7-8 or

Psalm 138:3

Reflection



Prayers of Petition

Leader: For _____ and their family, who have suffered the death of a child during pregnancy, that they may not despair in their pain, we pray...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For _____ who so ardently desire to have the gift of life, that the Lord in wisdom may respond to their desires, we pray...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all of us that we may never forget this innocent child as a member of our family and community, we pray...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Closing Prayer

Lord God, listen to our words, consider our inmost thoughts. For you, in Your compassion, uphold us. May the strength of Your presence here and now, sustain us. May the light of Your presence be our inspiration towards the future. May Your Blessings, Lord God, be with us now and forever.
Amen.

[This Memorial Service was created by Marcia Boehm, ACSW, and Sister Angele Hinkey, D.C. and published in Bitter Sweet...Hello Good Bye: A Resource in planning Farewell Rituals When a Baby Dies By Share, 1988]