

# *Psalms & Canticles for the Funeral Service*

## **Psalms**

### 1. Psalm 23 (traditional)

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul:  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk  
through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### 2. Psalm 23 (modern)

The Lord is my shepherd:  
therefore can I lack nothing.  
He shall make me lie down in green pastures:  
and lead me beside still waters.  
He shall refresh my soul:  
and guide me in right pathways for his name's sake.  
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death  
I will fear no evil:  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff comfort me.  
You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who trouble me:  
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.  
Surely your goodness and loving-kindness will follow me  
all the days of my life:  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### 3. Psalm 121

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills:  
but where shall I find help?  
2 My help comes from the Lord:  
who has made heaven and earth.  
3 He will not suffer your foot to stumble:  
and he who watches over you will not sleep.  
4 Be sure he who has charge of Israel:  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
5 The Lord himself is your keeper:  
the Lord is your defence upon your right hand;  
6 The sun shall not strike you by day:  
nor shall the moon by night.  
7 The Lord will defend you from all evil:  
it is he who will guard your life.  
8 The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:  
from this time forward for evermore.

#### 4. Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord:  
Lord, hear my voice;  
2 O let your ears consider well:  
the voice of my supplication.  
3 If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong:  
who then, O Lord, could stand?  
4 But there is forgiveness with you:  
so that you shall be feared.  
5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him:  
and in his word is my hope.  
6 My soul looks for the Lord:  
more than watchmen for the morning,  
more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.  
7 O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:  
and with him is ample redemption.  
8 He will redeem Israel:  
from the multitude of their sins.

#### 5. Psalm 139:1-11

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:  
you know when I sit or when I stand,  
you comprehend my thoughts long before.  
2 You discern my path and the places where I rest:  
you are acquainted with all my ways.  
3 For there is not a word on my tongue:

but you, Lord, know it altogether.  
4 You have encompassed me behind and before:  
and have laid your hand upon me.  
5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:  
so high that I cannot endure it.  
6 Where shall I go from your spirit:  
or where shall I flee from your presence?  
7 If I ascend into heaven you are there:  
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.  
8 If I spread out my wings towards the morning:  
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
9 Even there your hand shall lead me:  
and your right hand shall hold me.  
10 If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:  
and the night will enclose me',  
11 The darkness is no darkness with you,  
but the night is as clear as the day:  
the darkness and the light are both alike.

### Canticles

#### 1. From the Song of the Church (Te Deum Laudamus)

You, Lord Christ, are the King of glory:  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you took our flesh to set us free:  
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death:  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory:  
We believe that you will come to be our judge.  
Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood:  
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

#### 2. Hymn of the Risen Christ (Easter Anthems)

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:  
so let us celebrate the feast,  
Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.  
Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:  
death has no more dominion over him.  
In dying, he died to sin once for all:

in living, he lives to God.  
See yourselves, therefore, as dead to sin:  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Christ has been raised from the dead:  
the first fruits of those who sleep  
For since by one man came death:  
by another has come also the resurrection of the dead,  
For as in Adam all die:  
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

### 3. A Song of St Anselm

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; “  
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.  
Often you weep over our sins and our pride, “  
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.  
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, “  
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.  
Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life; “  
by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.  
Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; “  
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.  
Your warmth gives life to the dead, “  
your touch makes sinners righteous.  
Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; “  
in your love and tenderness remake us.  
In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, “  
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.