

# Resources for Baptism and Rites of Passage in Simple English – Materiaalia kasteisiin ja elämänkaaren toimituksiin yksinkertaisella englannin kielellä

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## Baptism of a child – Lapsen kaste

This order for baptism is usually used for infants and preschoolers. When baptizing older children up to fourteen years of age, consider whether to use this order or the one for the baptism of an adolescent or adult.

More detailed information about the requirements of the Church Law, the Church Order and the ecumenical agreements on religious affiliation, freedom of religion, and godparents can be found here in Finnish [https://kirkkokasikirja.fi/toim/01a\\_lapsen\\_kaste.pdf](https://kirkkokasikirja.fi/toim/01a_lapsen_kaste.pdf)

The pastor who will be conducting a baptism must contact the home of the child to be baptized well ahead of time to arrange a face-to-face meeting to discuss the meaning of baptism and the practical arrangements. The pastor is to fill out the official form for registration of baptism and return it to the parish office on the next office day after the baptism. The name of the child may also be registered using this form.

A baptism is usually conducted in a church, a home or some other location as agreed upon by the pastor and the child's parents. Water is poured into the font before the service begins or just before the Great Commission (# 11) is read.

An Easter candle may be lit to burn during the entire service. The baptism may be recorded in the family Bible.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Opening hymn / Virsi

## 2 Greeting / Alkusiunaus

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (B) Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

### Greeting

Optional

P: The Lord be with you

A: and with your spirit.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

You may use one of the following texts or your own words.

Dear Christians, we are here because God has given this child to you, NN and NN (parents' names). You have followed Christ's command. He/she will be baptized. God calls him/her by his/her name. God gives him/her salvation as a gift.

### OR

Christians, we have come here today to celebrate Christian baptism. Jesus invited little children to come to him and gave them his blessing. In holy baptism, Jesus takes this child to be his own. Jesus gives him/her the gift of eternal life. Jesus has promised us, saying, "The Father gives me my people. Every one of them will come to me. I will always accept them." (John 6:37)

### OR

Dear friends, if you wish to enter the kingdom of heaven, you must be born again by water and the Spirit. Our Lord Jesus Christ has given us baptism as a sign and seal of new life. Baptism washes us clean from sin and clothes us in new life. Jesus says: "I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will be able to come in and go out. They will find everything they need. A thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. But I came to give life – life that is full and good." (John 10:9–10)

## 4 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional

## 5 Questions or invitation / Kysymykset tai kehotus

### Questions 1

P: As a parent/the parents, you have chosen a name for this child.  
What name have you chosen?

Parent(s): (Name)

P: Do you wish him/her to be baptized into the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

P: Parent(s) and godparents, do you, together with the congregation, wish to bring up NN in the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

### Questions 2

P: As a parent/the parents of this child, you have given him/her the name NN (given names). Do you wish him/her to be baptized into the Christian faith?

Parents

(together): We do.

P: Parent(s) and godparents, do you, together with the congregation, wish to bring up NN in the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

### Or a pronouncement

P: As a parent/the parents of this child, you have given him/her the name NN (given names).

Your child will be baptized today into the Christian faith. As parent(s) and godparents, you are responsible, together with the congregation, for bringing up NN in the Christian faith.

## 6 Sign of the cross / Ristinmerkki

The pastor says:

Merciful God, you alone save us from the power of sin, death, and evil. Write NN's name into the book of life. Let your light shine upon him/her and lead him/her into the kingdom of heaven.

While marking the forehead and chest of the child with the sign of the cross, the pastor says:

Receive the sign of the cross on your forehead (+) and chest (+). It is a sign that Jesus Christ has saved you. He has died on the cross and risen from the dead. He has called you to follow him.

## OR

While marking the forehead and chest of the child with the sign of the cross, the pastor says:

Receive the sign of the cross (+) on your forehead and chest. It is a sign that Jesus Christ has saved you. He died on the cross and has risen from the dead. He has called you to follow him.

The pastor continues:

Merciful God, you alone deliver us  
from [the powers of] evil.  
Write NN's name into the book of life.  
Let your light shine on him/her.  
Lead him/her on the way to eternal life.

## 7 The Collect / Rukous

P: Let us pray.

1

God, our Father in heaven,  
we thank you for the gift of life.  
In baptism you give us gifts of grace and love.  
This child has been blessed with the sign of the cross.  
Take him/her to be your own.  
Let the saving work of your Son Jesus Christ  
protect him/her from all harm.  
Let your Holy Spirit live in this child.  
Let him/her grow in faith and love.  
Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

2

God, our Father in heaven, you give us life. In baptism you grant us your  
mercy and love. Receive NN into the family of God. Give him/her your Holy  
Spirit. Let him/her grow in faith and love. This we pray in the name of Jesus  
Christ.

3

Almighty God, we thank you for this child. He/she is a gift to us.  
We thank you for the future and the hope that you give him/her.

Thank you that the kingdom of heaven belongs to children.  
 In baptism you take us into your care and into the fellowship of the church.  
 You guide us with your Holy Spirit and your word.  
 Let this child enjoy all the gifts of salvation.  
 Let him/her grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.  
 Support him/her with your strength  
 and keep him/her in the faith unto eternal life.  
 This we pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4

God, our Father in heaven, you are full of grace.  
 We thank you for the gift of baptism.  
 It washes away all our sins in Jesus's name.  
 A new life with the Holy Spirit begins.  
 Thank you for all this.  
 We pray: In baptism take this child to live as your child.  
 Thank you for setting him/her free from the chains of sin, death and  
 darkness.  
 Let him/her serve you as your child throughout his/her life.  
 Let him/her find a place in heaven after this life.  
 Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

5

God, our Father:  
 Life is a gift from you.  
 We thank you for this gift.  
 Thank you for holding this child in your care and protection.  
 Take him/her into your family in baptism.  
 Make the love of Jesus real to him/her  
 every step of the way.  
 Now this child is frail and weak.  
 Be with him/her and carry him/her in your arms.  
 Light up his/her whole life.  
 Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

A: Amen.

## 8 Readings of the Bible / Raamatunluku

The children's gospel Mark 10:13-16 is not optional and should always be read at the baptism of a child. Besides the children's gospel, you may add one or more of the passages suggested here or some other Bible passage.

### Mark 10:13–16

People brought their small children to Jesus so that he could lay his hands on them to bless them. But the followers told the people to stop bringing their children to him. Jesus saw what happened. He did not like his followers telling the children not to come. So he said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because God's kingdom belongs to people who are like these little children. The truth is, you must

accept God’s kingdom like a little child accepts things, or you will never enter it.” Then Jesus held the children in his arms. He laid his hands on them and blessed them.

Optional passages:

Galatians 3:26–27

You were all baptized into Christ, and so you were all clothed with Christ. This shows that you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Titus 3:4–8

But then the kindness and love of God our Saviour was made known. He saved us because of his mercy, not because of any good things we did. He saved us through the washing that made us new people. He saved us by making us new through the Holy Spirit. God poured out to us that Holy Spirit fully through Jesus Christ our Saviour. We were made right with God by his grace. God saved us so that we could be his children and look forward to receiving life that never ends. This is a true statement.

1 Peter 3:20–21

God was waiting patiently for people while Noah was building the big boat. And only a few – eight in all – were saved in the boat through the floodwater. And that water is like baptism, which now saves you. Baptism is not the washing of dirt from the body. It is asking God for a clean conscience. It saves you because Jesus Christ was raised from death.

## 9 Sermon or speech / Puhe

## 10 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

## 11 The Great Commission / Kastekäsky

The words of the institution of baptism

P: Jesus said to his disciples: “All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time.” (Matthew 28:18–20)

**OR**

God, giver of life, you created water to make things grow on the earth, to refresh and to cleanse us. You saved Noah and his family in the ark carried by waters. We thank you for giving us baptism to be our ark of salvation. Through the waters your people passed, from slavery in Egypt into freedom. Your son Jesus received baptism in the water of Jordan. By his death and resurrection, he freed us from the chains of sin and death.

After he had risen from the dead, he himself instituted holy baptism, when he said to his disciples:

“All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have

told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time.”

We pray: give us your Holy Spirit,  
so that the one that will be baptized in this water will receive new life.  
Let him/her inherit your eternal kingdom.  
Hear our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
inheritor of your eternal kingdom. Hear our prayers for the sake of  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

## 12 The Creed / Uskontunnustus

P: Let us confess our Christian faith together.

A: I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven.  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.

P: Into this faith, this child will be baptized.

## 13 Baptism / Kaste

The pastor pours water onto the child's head three times and says:

NN (given names only),  
I baptize you in the name  
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



The pastor then lays his/her hand on the child's head. Parents and godparents may also do so.

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**A:** Amen.

**Optional**

The pastor takes hold of the child's baptismal dress and says:

The apostle Paul says, "You were all baptized into Christ, and so you were all clothed with Christ. This shows that you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:27)

**Optional**

The pastor takes the baptismal candle and lights it from an altar candle, an Easter candle, or some other candle burning by the font. Then the pastor gives the lit candle to the parent(s) and says:

Jesus says, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

**Optional**

The pastor takes the child into his/her arms and says:

In holy baptism, NN (given names) has become a member of Christ's church and the congregation of X (name of local congregation). We take him/her and his/her home into our love and prayers. Jesus held a child in his arms and said: "Whoever accepts children like these in my name is accepting me. And anyone who accepts me is also accepting the one who sent me." (Mark 9:37)

**P:** In holy baptism, NN has been received as a family member of the Church of Christ and X parish. We will pray for NN on his/her life journey.

The pastor gives the child back to a parent or godparent.

## **14 Hymn / Virsi**

**Optional**

## **15 Prayer of intercession / Yhteinen esirukous**

Besides using the prayer given here, it is also possible to prepare (and read) a prayer together with relatives or friends who are coming to the baptism.

**P:** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of life. You have adopted NN as your own child and a member of X parish. You have given him/her eternal life. Be always his/her shelter and protection.

**Father or mother / isä tai äiti**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our beautiful child. God has made him/her beautiful, a wonder to see. We are happy for the joy she/he brings into our lives. We ask you to guard her/him. Grant us much love and wisdom. Guide our family with your love and mercy all our days.

**Godparent / joku kummeista**

Help us godparents love our goddaughter/godson. We will pray for her/him every day. Show us ways to support her/his parents on their journey together. Give us all a beautiful journey together.

**Sister or brother / joku sisaruksista**

Heavenly Father, I want to thank you for my little sister/brother. Thank you for the journey that we shared together. Give us times of joy and let us always stay close in our hearts to each other.

**Grandparents / joku isovanhemmista**

Heavenly Father, thank you for my grandson/daughter's gift of life. She/He is a miracle. Guard us on our way to you and grant us many years together. Let our days be filled with joy, closeness, and tenderness. Protect us with your light on our journey.

**P:** Heavenly Father, hear our prayers in Jesus's name. Into your arms we commend NN, our lives, and the whole world.

**A:** Amen

**16 The Lord's Prayer / Isä meidän**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
And deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

## 17 Blessing / Siunaus

P:           The Lord bless you and keep you;  
          the Lord make his face shine upon you,  
          and be gracious to you;  
          the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
          and give you peace.  
          In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A:           Amen.

## 18 Hymn / Virsi

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## Baptism of an adolescent or adult – Nuoren tai aikuisen kaste

This order is used when a person fifteen or more years of age is baptized and may, after deliberation, be used for a baptism of a sufficiently mature child under that age. (For legal requirements concerning the religious affiliation of children, see the introduction to the order for baptism of a child.)

Young persons and adults who have not been baptized can join the church after receiving instruction (rippikoulu), after which they can be baptized.

A young person who is at least fifteen but less than eighteen years old can, with written permission from his/her guardians and regardless of their religious affiliation, ask the parson (head pastor, kirkkoherra) of a parish if they can become a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland.

The baptismal candidate must have at least two godparents (sponsors) who are confirmed members of a church that has an Evangelical Lutheran confession or a church with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland has a ratified agreement on this matter. In addition to godparents, a person belonging to a Christian church or community that recognizes the validity of baptism administered in the Evangelical Lutheran church may also be a godparent. At least two godparents or other witnesses must be present at a baptism.

Receiving baptism as a young person or adult also makes that person confirmed. In that case, however, the person has the right to take part in a separate rite of confirmation with others should they wish to do so.

A baptism is conducted in a church, a home or some other suitable place. An Easter candle may be lit for the entire service. When choosing music, it is necessary to remember that a baptism is also an occasion of worship. If possible, the person to be baptized should wear an alb. The alb may be put on before the service or after the act of baptism (#13).

The prayers and words from the ordo of the baptism of a child may also be used. The baptismal candidate may take part in choosing Bible passages and prayers to be read/used at this service.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Hymn / Virsi

## 2 Blessing and greeting / Siunaus ja tervehdys

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (B) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

### Greeting

Optional

P: The Lord be with you

A: and with your spirit.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

### 4 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional

## 5 Sign of the Cross / Ristinmerkki

The pastor says:

Merciful God, you alone save us from the power of sin, death, and evil. Write NN's name into the book of life. Let your light shine upon him/her and lead him/her into the kingdom of heaven.

While marking the forehead and chest of the child with the sign of the cross, the pastor says:

Receive the sign of the cross on your forehead (+) and chest (+). It is a sign that Jesus Christ has saved you. He has died on the cross and risen from the dead. He has called you to follow him.

### OR

While marking the forehead and chest of the child with the sign of the cross, the pastor says:

Receive the sign of the cross (+) on your forehead and chest. It is a sign that Jesus Christ has saved you. He died on the cross and has risen from the dead. He has called you to follow him.

The pastor continues:

Merciful God, you alone deliver us

from [the powers of] evil.  
 Write NN's name into the book of life.  
 Let your light shine on him/her.  
 Lead him/her on the way to eternal life.

## 6 The Collect / Kollehtarukous

P: Heavenly Father,  
 we thank you for the life you give us.  
 In baptism we receive a new life in Christ.  
 NN has now been blessed with the sign of the cross.  
 Keep him/her/them as your own.  
 Let your Holy Spirit guide him/her/them.  
 Help NN grow in faith and love,  
 in the name of Jesus.

A: Amen

## 7 Bible reading / Raamatunluku

Use one of the following or other Bible passages.

Galatians 3:26–27

You were all baptized into Christ, and so you were all clothed with Christ. This shows that you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

Titus 3:4–8

But then the kindness and love of God our Saviour was made known. He saved us because of his mercy, not because of any good things we did. He saved us through the washing that made us new people. He saved us by making us new through the Holy Spirit. God poured out to us that Holy Spirit fully through Jesus Christ our Saviour. We were made right with God by his grace. God saved us so that we could be his children and look forward to receiving life that never ends. This is a true statement.

1 Peter 3:20–21

God was waiting patiently for people while Noah was building the big boat. And only a few – eight in all – were saved in the boat through the floodwater. And that water is like baptism, which now saves you. Baptism is not the washing of dirt from the body. It is asking God for a clean conscience. It saves you because Jesus Christ was raised from death.

## 8 Short sermon or speech / Puhe

## 9 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

## 10 The Great Commission / Kastekäsky

(Words of the institution of baptism)

P: Jesus said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the

name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time.” (Matthew 28:18–20)

## 11 The Creed / Uskontunnustus

P: Let us confess our Christian faith together.

A: I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven.  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

## 12 The Question / Kysymys

P: Do you wish to be baptized into this faith?

Baptismal candidate: Yes

## 13 Baptism / Kaste

P: We now baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

The pastor pours water three times onto the head of the person being baptized and says:

NN (given names only), I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The pastor then lays his/her hand on the head of the baptized one. Godparents [and parents] may also do so.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

The baptized person responds:

Amen.

Optional

If the newly baptized person is not already wearing an alb, his/her/their godparents now put one on him/her/them. The pastor says:

The apostle Paul says, “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Gal. 3:27)

Optional

The pastor takes the baptismal candle and lights it from an altar candle, an Easter candle or a candle burning by the font. Then the pastor gives the lit candle to the newly baptized person and says:

Jesus says, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

P: In holy baptism you have become a member of Christ’s church and the parish of X (name of local congregation).  
We take you into our prayers.  
The apostle Paul said, “So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of God’s household”. (Eph. 2:19)

## 14 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

## 15 Intercession / Yhteinen esirukous

You may pray with your own words.

P: Let us pray

God, our loving Father,  
we thank you for welcoming NN into your family.  
Let your Holy Spirit strengthen him/her/them in his/her/their life as he/she/they find his/her/their way.  
Bless the godparents and help them support NN.  
Let us all know your love and goodness all our days.  
Keep us all in your care and give us hope for the future.  
Lord, hear our prayer.

A: Amen.



## 16 Lord's prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever.  
Amen

## 17. Blessing / Siunaus

P:           The Lord bless you and keep you;  
              the Lord make his face shine upon you,  
              and be gracious to you:  
              The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
              and give you peace.  
              In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A:           Amen

## 18 Hymn / Virsi

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## Emergency baprtism – Hätäkaste

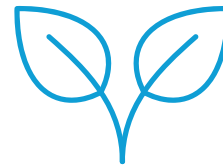
If it is feared that an unbaptized child may die, and a pastor is not immediately available to administer baptism, any member of the Lutheran church or another Christian can baptize the child with water in the name of the triune God. The parish office must be notified immediately after the baptism. Later, if the child survives, a special service of prayer, blessing and commemorating the baptism will be held.

This order is also followed if it is necessary to baptize an unbaptized adult and there is no time to wait for a pastor. If possible, there should be witnesses present at an emergency baptism. A hymn may be sung at the ceremony.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



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## Emergency baptism order A: When the person baptising is a layperson – Hätäkaste B, kun kastava henkilö ei ole pappi

### 1 Baptism / Kaste

The person performing the baptism pours water three times onto the head of the person being baptized and says:

[NN (given names only, if any),]

I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

### 2 Lord's Prayer / Isä meidän

All Christians who are able to join the prayer say the prayer together. Each person may pray in their own language.

Let us pray together.  
Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

### 3 Blessing / Siunaus

The one who administered the baptism says:

P:           The Lord bless us and keep us;  
              the Lord make his face shine upon us,  
              and be gracious to us.  
              The Lord lift up his countenance upon us,  
              and give us peace.  
              In the name of the Father, and of the (B) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A:           Amen.

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## Emergency baptism, order B: When the person baptising is a pastor – Hätäkaste B, kun kastajana on pappi

Some parts are marked as optional. You may include them if it is possible. When this order is used for baptism the reaffirmation of emergency baptism will not be needed. Instead there may be a service of thanksgiving and remembering baptism.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader

### Hymn / Virsi

Optional

### 2 Short introduction / Johdanto

Optional

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

A: Amen.

P: We are here to baptize this child/NN and surround him/her in God's blessing. We pray for NN/him/her, for his/her [parents, sisters and brothers, and for all who are taking care of him/her].

### 3 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional. Some verses of Psalm 139 may be read.

### 4 Sign of the Cross / Ristinmerkki

You may use option 1 or 2 or a pronouncement.

#### Option 1: Questions / Kysymys

P: As a parent/the parents, you have chosen a name for this child. What name have you chosen?

Parent(s): (answer)

P: Do you wish him/her to be baptized into the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

P: Parent(s) and godparents, do you, together with the congregation, wish to bring up NN in the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

### Option 2: Questions / Kysymys

P: As a parent/the parents of this child, you have given him/her the name NN (given names). Do you wish to have him/her baptized into the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

P: Parent(s) and godparents, do you, together with the congregation, wish to bring up NN in the Christian faith?

Parent(s): I/We do.

### Option 3: Pronouncement / Kehotus

P: As a parent/the parents of this child, you have given him/her the name NN (given names). Your child will be baptized today into the Christian faith. As a parent/the parents and godparents, you are responsible, together with the congregation, for bringing up NN in the Christian faith.

## 4 Children's Gospel / Lasten evankeliumi

People brought their small children to Jesus so that he could lay his hands on them to bless them. But the followers told the people to stop bringing their children to him. Jesus saw what happened. He did not like his followers telling the children not to come. So he said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because God's kingdom belongs to people who are like these little children. The truth is, you must accept God's kingdom like a little child accepts things, or you will never enter it." Then Jesus held the children in his arms. He laid his hands on them and blessed them. (Mark 10:13–16)

## 5 Baptism / Kaste

The pastor pours water three times onto the head of the person being baptized and says:

[NN (given names, if any),]  
I baptize you in the name  
of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The pastor continues:

As Jesus took children in His arms and blessed them,  
we now ask God's blessing upon NN/this child.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God and  
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

A baptismal candle may be given to the parents.

The light of this candle shines for NN/this child.

Jesus says, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

## 6 Prayer / Rukous

P: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father,  
we thank you for the gift of baptism.  
You care for every one of us.  
Be our strength when we are insecure and in distress.  
Surround NN/this child with the warmth of your love.  
Protect him/her from any harm.  
Send your angels to guard him/her.  
Bless everyone who takes care of NN/this child  
with your patience and understanding.  
Hear our prayer.

A: Amen.

## 7 Lord's prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

## 8 Blessing / Siunaus

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father,  
and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

**OR**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;  
the Lord make his face shine upon us  
and be gracious to us.

The Lord look kindly upon us,  
and give us peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

**OR**

May almighty God,  
Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless us now and forever. Amen.

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## Service of prayer for remembering baptism after an emergency baptism – Kasteen muistamisen rukoushetki sairaalassa toimitetun kasteen jälkeen

When a child has been baptized by a lay Christian in an emergency and he/she survives, the baptism is ceremonially verified (without water) following the order given below. This happens very rarely, since a hospital chaplain is almost always available at the hospital and will officiate at the baptism. An emergency baptism in the hospital is a real and full baptism that does not need verifying. The family may want to have a ceremony at home using the service of baptismal commemoration.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader





## 1 Hymn / Virsi

## 2 Greeting / Tervehdys

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

Optional

P: The Lord be with you

A: And with your spirit.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

The pastor speaks in his/her own words or uses one of the alternatives below.

P: Dear Christians, life is a great gift of God. God has taken this child into His family. In holy baptism, He has given him/her eternal life. We bring this child before God with thanksgiving and pray for God's blessing.

**OR**

P: Dear Christians, Jesus invited little children to come close to him and blessed them. In holy baptism, Jesus has taken this child into his loving care and given him/her the gift of salvation. Jesus is our Saviour. We trust in his eternal love and pray for you, (name/names of parent/parents) and your child. Jesus says, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

## 4 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional

## 5 Questions or a pronouncement / Kysymykset tai kehotus

### Questions / Kysymykset

P: Parent(s), what name have you given your child?

Parent(s): NN (given names).

P: NN has been baptized. The Church welcomes him/her with joy. Parent(s) (or name/names of parent/parents) and godparents, do you wish to guide NN in the Christian faith together with the church of Christ?

Parent(s) and  
godparents: Yes.

## OR

P: Parent(s) (or name/names of parent/parents), you have named your child NN (given names). Your child has been baptized and is now a member of the church. Parent(s) and godparents, do you wish to guide NN in the Christian faith together with the church of Christ?

Parent(s)  
and/or  
godparents: Yes.

## Pronouncement / Kehotus

P: Parent(s) (or name/names of parent/parents), you have named your child NN (given names). Your child has been baptized and is now a member of the church. Parent(s) and godparents, guide NN in the Christian faith together with the church of Christ.

## 6 Sign of the cross / Ristinmerkki

While marking the forehead and chest of the child with signs of the cross, the pastor says:

Receive the sign of the cross (+) on your forehead and chest.  
It is a sign that Jesus Christ has saved you.  
He has died on the cross and risen from the dead.  
He has called you to follow him.

The pastor continues:

Merciful God, you alone deliver us from [the powers of] evil.  
Write NN's name into the book of life.  
Let your light shine on him/her and lead him/her on the way to eternal life.

## 7 The Collect / Rukous

You may also use prayers from the order for baptism.

P: Let us pray.

1  
God, our Father in heaven,  
we thank you for the gift of life.  
In baptism you give us gifts of grace and love.  
This child has been blessed with the sign of the cross.  
You have taken him/her to be your own child.  
Let the saving work of your Son Jesus Christ  
give him/her safety.  
Let your Holy Spirit live in this child.  
Let him/her grow in faith and love.  
Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

2

Almighty God, we thank you for this child. He/she is a gift to us.  
We thank you for the future and the hope that you give him/her.  
Thank you that the kingdom of heaven belongs to children.  
In baptism you take us into your care and into the fellowship of the church.  
You guide us with your Holy Spirit and your word.  
Let this child enjoy all the gifts of salvation.  
Let him/her grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.  
Support him/her with your strength  
and keep him/her in the faith until eternal life.  
This we pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

3

God, our Father in heaven, you are full of grace.  
We thank you for the gift of baptism.  
It washes away all our sins in Jesus's name.  
A new life with the Holy Spirit begins.  
Thank you for all this.  
We pray: In baptism take this child to live as your child.  
Thank you for the freedom from the chains of sin, death and darkness.  
Let him/her serve you as your child throughout his/her life.  
Let him/her find a place in heaven after this life.  
Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

A: Amen.

## 8 Scripture reading / Raamatunluku

The children's gospel is always read, but you may also use other passages from the Bible.

People brought their small children to Jesus so that he could lay his hands on them to bless them. But the followers told the people to stop bringing their children to him. Jesus saw what happened. He did not like his followers telling the children not to come. So he said to them, "Let the little children come to me. Don't stop them, because God's kingdom belongs to people who are like these little children. The truth is, you must accept God's kingdom like a little child accepts things, or you will never enter it." Then Jesus held the children in his arms. He laid his hands on them and blessed them. (Mark 10:13–16)

## 9 Short sermon or speech / Puhe

## 10 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

## 11 The Great Commission / Kastekäsky

Our Lord Jesus Christ himself said to his disciples, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I

have told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time” (Matthew 28:18–20)

## OR

God, giver of life. You created water to make things grow on the earth, to refresh and to cleanse us. You saved Noa and his family in the ark carried by waters. We thank you for giving us baptism to be our ark of salvation.

Your people went from slavery in Egypt through the water into freedom.

Your son Jesus received baptism in the water of Jordan. By his death and resurrection he freed us from the chains of sin and death. After he had risen from the dead he himself instituted the holy baptism when he said to his disciples:

“All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time.” (Matthew 28:18–20)

We pray: give us you Holy Spirit, so that the one that will be baptized in this water will receive new life. Let him/her inherit your eternal kingdom.

Hear our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, inheritor of your eternal kingdom.  
Hear our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

## 12 Uskontunnustus / Creed

P: Let us confess our Christian faith together.

A: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven.  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

### 13 Declaration / Vahvistussanat

P: This child (name) was baptized in a hospital. It was done as Christ commanded his followers to do with water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The pastor then lays his/her hand on the child's head. Parents and godparents may also do so.

P: Now we bless this child.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

A: Amen.

#### Optional

The pastor takes the baptism candle and lights it from an altar candle or an Easter candle or some candle burning by the font. Then the pastor gives the lit candle to the parent(s) and says:

“Jesus says, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

The pastor takes the child into his/her arms and says:

In holy baptism NN has become a member of Christ's church and the congregation of X (name of local congregation). We welcome NN into our community and hold him/her and his/her family in our love and prayers. Jesus took a child in his arms and said, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.” (Mark 9:37)

The pastor gives the child back to a parent or godparent.

### Commemorating baptism (optional) / Kasteen muistaminen

P: We Christians are called to remember our baptism. It is a source of faith, grace and love for us. You may dip your fingers in this water and make the sign of cross on your forehead. Parents, you can make the sign of cross on your children, if you wish.

### 14 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

### 15 Prayer of intercession / Esirukous

A prayer prepared beforehand with those participating in the service may be read instead of one of the prayers given here. You may also use prayers from the order for baptism.

P: Let us pray.

1

Heavenly Father, thank you for making NN (child's name)  
a member of your family.

We pray: let him/her know your protection in his/her life.

We thank you for all the goodness you have shown to his/her  
family/parents.

Bless them with your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.

Help the godparents to support NN as he/she grows.

Lead our lives and let us finally enter your glory to be with you.

Hear us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

2

God our Father, thank you for the gift of (child's name) to  
(parent's/parents' name/names).

Thank you for taking him/her in baptism to be your own,  
member of church and an heir of eternal life.

Bless NN and send your holy angels to protect him/her.

Help his/her mother and father, grandparents and godparents  
to love and guide him/her throughout life.

Help him/her walk your path and know your goodness all the days of his/her  
life.

Hear our prayers for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ.

3

Eternal God, you are the source of life.

We thank you for the goodness you have shown this family.

Surround the parents with your strength and love as they raise their child.

In baptism you took NN (the child's name) as your own.

Stay close to him/her and let your grace keep him/her safe in life.

Protect him/her from harm every day.

Bless NN's family, godparents and grandparents, and everyone who loves  
him/her.

Help them to support each other.

After this life is over, give us eternal life in a home in heaven.

Hear our prayers.

A: Amen.

## 16 Lord's prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

### **17 Benediction / Siunaus**

P:           The Lord bless you and keep you.  
              The Lord make his face shine upon you,  
              and be gracious to you.  
              The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
              and give you peace.  
              In the name of the Father,  
              and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A:           Amen.

### **18 Hymn / Virsi**

Optional

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# Wedding ceremony or blessing of a marriage – Avioliittoon vihkiminen tai avioliiton siunaaminen



## 1 Music / Alkumusiikki

## 2 Introduction / Johdanto

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

Optional

P: The Lord be with you

A: and with your spirit.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

P: Dear MM and NN, you have come here before God to be married.  
We listen to what the Bible tells us. We pray that God will bless your  
marriage.

**OR**

P: Dear NN and NN, you have come before God to be united in marriage.  
We share your joy and pray that God's blessing be on you and your  
marriage.  
It is written in the Bible...

## 4 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional

## 5 Prayer / Rukous

P: Let us pray

Dear God, our Father in heaven,  
you are the source of love.  
You created us as men and women/You created us as



companions for each other.  
You gave us marriage as a gift and a calling.  
Bless NN and NN, who become man and wife today.  
We thank you for bringing them together.  
Bless this wedding feast and let Christ be our guest.  
This we pray in his name.

A: Amen

## 6 Scripture reading / Raamatunluku

Usually 1 Corinthians 13:1–8a,13 is read.

## 7 Sermon or speech / Saarna tai puhe

## 8 Questions / Kysymykset

### Questions A / Kysymykset A

These questions are used if this is the legal marriage ceremony.

The pastor asks the groom:

You now stand in the presence of almighty God and these people/family and friends/witnesses.

I ask you, NN, do you take MM as your [legal] wife and promise to be faithful to her and love her [as long as you live]

The groom answers:

I do.

The pastor asks the bride:

You now stand in the presence of almighty God and these people/family and friends/witnesses.

I ask you, NN, do you take MM as your [legal] husband and promise to be faithful to him and love him [as long as you live]

The bride answers:

I do.

### Questions B / Kysymykset B

These questions are to be used if this is a blessing of a marriage.

The pastor says:

You have come to before the face of God to ask His blessing on your marriage.

The pastor asks the husband:

Do you, NN (full name), in the marriage into which you have entered with NN (full name), promise to show her faithfulness and love “in need and in plenty, in sorrow and in joy”?

The husband answers:

I do.

The pastor asks the wife:

Do you, NN (full name), in the marriage into which you have entered with NN (full name), promise to show him faithfulness and love “in need and in plenty, in sorrow and in joy”?

The wife answers:

I do.

## 9 Blessing of the rings / Sormusrukous

This prayer is left out if the couple is already married. The rings are given to the pastor. The bride and groom may kneel. Holding the rings up high, the pastor says:

P: Let us pray for the marriage [and the union signified by this ring (by these rings)].

Almighty God, you are love.

This ring is (These rings are) a sign of M and N’s marriage.

Let this ring (these rings) remind them of your love,  
which has no beginning or end.

Let this marriage be strong and lasting.

Be with them in times of joy and times of grief.

Help them stay faithful and support each other with thankful hearts.

Hear our prayer.

Amen.

### Promises of love

Optional

If the bride and groom wish to say these promises out loud, they both hold the rings together.

The groom says:

I take you, M, as my [legal] wife.

Whatever comes, I promise to love you every day  
[as long as we live].

As a sign of this, I give you this ring.

The bride says:

I take you, N, as my [legal] husband.

Whatever comes, I promise to love you every day

[as long as we live].

As a sign of this, I give you this ring.

## **10 Pronouncement of marriage and a blessing / Avioliiton vahvistaminen**

This is left out if the couple is already married.

P: Before God and these people/witnesses,  
you have made your vows to each other.  
You now begin your life as husband and wife.  
You have given and received your wedding ring(s)  
as a sign of your marriage.  
With the authority I have been given,  
I now confirm your marriage  
and declare you husband and wife.

## **11 Blessing the married couple / Aviopuolisoiden siunaaminen**

The newlyweds may kneel.

P: Receive the blessing.

May God, the Father, give you joy and blessings.  
May God, the Son, be with you in times of joy and sorrow.  
May God, the Holy Spirit, pour his love into your hearts.  
May God, the Father, Son and (+) Holy Spirit, bless you.

**OR**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (+), the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

## **12 Prayer of intercession / Esirukous**

Besides using one of the prayers given here, you may prepare (and read) a prayer together with relatives or friends who are coming to the wedding.

P/R: Let us pray.

1  
Holy God,  
Bless MM and NN in their love for each other.  
Help them trust in you and one another all their lives.  
Let forgiveness guide them.  
Protect them from all harm.  
Keep their loved ones in your care.  
Grant us all love, happiness and peace.  
Guide us at last to our home in heaven.  
Hear our prayer.

2

God, the Father, bless NN and NN in their new life together.  
Let them experience joy and bless them with your presence.  
Strengthen them, and let them grow together in faithfulness, love, and trust.  
Guide and strengthen them in their work and companionship.  
May their lives serve God and the whole community.  
At the end of their lives, bring them to heaven.  
Hear our prayer in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

3

Almighty God, if you do not build the house, the builders' work is in vain.  
Pour out your blessing upon this couple, (names),  
so that they can grow together in love and trust.  
May they know your grace.  
Help them build a home that is founded on faith, hope, and love.  
Give them your Holy Spirit, that they may live in peace and grow in faith.  
At the end of their lives, bring them to your heavenly home.  
Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

4

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of love.  
Bless NN and NN, who have bound themselves together in your presence.  
We thank you for their love, trust, and commitment.  
Help them grow together, side by side.  
Help them love each other and stay faithful in all seasons of life.  
Protect them from all harm.  
In difficult times, lead them closer to each other and to you.  
We pray for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

5

Heavenly Father, you bless creation with beautiful gifts.  
Pour out your blessing onto NN and NN.  
May they be joined in love and companionship.  
May they live their lives in holiness and commitment.  
We pray for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, always and forever.

7

God, our heavenly Father,  
you have given us marriage as a gift.  
Your presence makes our lives holy.  
We ask you to join this couple together in love.  
Bless their marriage for your glory.  
Hear our prayers.

8

God, you are Love.  
Your love crosses all borders and limits.  
You have brought us together here today.

We come from different places around the world.  
 Thank you for your loving presence in the lives of people living in all places.  
 You know the heart of everyone.  
 No one is a stranger to you.  
 Help us to understand each other.  
 Help us to strengthen those ties that connect us.  
 Bless and protect the marriage of NN and NN today  
 and all the days of their lives.  
 Let them enjoy health and happiness.  
 Hear our prayer, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9

### **A prayer with many readers**

*A father or mother of the bride or groom:*

You gave us our child(ren). We thank you for the joy he/she/they has/have brought into our lives.  
 Bless our son/daughter and his/her spouse as they build their own home and family. Protect them from all evil. Make them ready to live in harmony and teach them to ask for forgiveness and to forgive. [Hear our prayer.]

*A sister or brother of the bride or groom:*

Today we thank you, God, for our childhood home. Be with NN and NN and protect them during the journey they have now begun. Help us to remain close to one another. [Hear our prayer.]

*A godparent of the bride or groom:*

You promised your blessing to my godchild when he/she was baptized. I ask for your continual blessing upon him/her and the one who is dearest on earth to him/her. Help them to remember they can always return to the grace of baptism. [Hear our prayer.]

*A friend:*

You have led NN and NN together. Bless their love and help them to stay together for the rest of their lives. Let us keep on enjoying our friendship in days to come. [Hear our prayer.]

P/R

Father in heaven, thank you for hearing our prayers. We put this couple and ourselves in your care. After this life, take us to a home in heaven. Hear our prayers for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

10

Our God and Creator,  
 O source of all goodness and love!

You have called NN and NN to live in marriage.  
 You gave marriage as a gift to people

and intended for it to be a place where love may grow.  
 We thank you for the promises to show each other faithfulness and love  
 they have made in your presence.  
 Let this promise guide them always,  
 even in moments of worry and grief.  
 Strengthen their mutual love and friendship.

O Lord, the source of life is with you.  
 Help us to live close to you and close to one another.  
 Give us strength and love  
 to bear one another's burdens  
 and to forgive each other.

The whole world is longing for peace, hope and love.  
 Let us remember that you are our God, and we are your people.  
 You have created us; our lives are in your hand.  
 You know us and grant us your grace.  
 Praise be to you, in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 Amen.

### 13 Lord's Prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name.  
 Your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever.  
 Amen.

### 14 Blessing / Siunaus

P/R:           The Lord bless you and keep you,  
                   the Lord make his face shine upon you,  
                   and be gracious to you.  
                   The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
                   and give you peace.  
                   In the name of the Father,  
                   and of the (B) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A:               Amen.

### 15. Concluding music / Päätösmusiikki

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## Blessing a new home – Kodin siunaaminen

A blessing of a new home is led by a pastor, another church worker or another Christian. For the ceremony, a Bible and a cross or crucifix may be placed on a table covered with a white cloth, and a candle may be lit.

The blessing of a new home may be recorded in the family Bible. A home with only one person may also be blessed, but the wording should be adjusted accordingly.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Hymn / Virsi tai laulu

Instead of a hymn, some other suitable piece of music may be used.

## 2 Introduction / Johdanto Optional

Optional

P/R: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

Optional

P/R: Our help comes from the Lord.

All: He has made heaven and earth.

**OR**

P/R: The Lord be with you

A: and with your spirit.

**OR**

P/R: Dear friends in Christ,  
we enter this home in the name of God,  
(+) Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A: May the Lord be with us always.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

You are free to use your own words here, but two examples are given below.

P/R: Dear Christians, God has made everything in his creation to be good. We thank Him for all the good things he has given us. Today we thank God for this home he has given you, pray for all of you who live here, and ask God to bless you and all who visit.

**OR**

P/R: Dear Christians, a home is God's great gift to us. It is our wish to feel safe in our home. We hope everyone will see that we belong there. At home, we long for peace when we are troubled and rest when we are tired. Our Saviour Jesus tells his followers to bring a blessing of peace to all homes. Today we give thanks for this home and ask for God's blessing upon it. As the Saviour instructed us, we say, "Peace be with this home!" (Luke 10:5)



## 4 Psalm / Psalmi

The psalm may be replaced by the singing of a hymn. Two possible psalms are given below, but some other psalm may be used instead. The psalm may be sung or recited. The antiphon may precede and follow the psalm.

### Antiphon

The Lord is my refuge;  
my home is protected by the Most High.

### Psalm

Psalm 91:1–2, 4–5

You can go to God Most High to hide.  
You can go to God All-Powerful for protection.  
I say to the Lord, “You are my place of safety, my fortress.”  
You can go to him for protection.  
He will cover you like a bird spreading its wings over its chicks.  
You can trust him to surround and protect you like a shield.  
You will have nothing to fear at night  
and no need to be afraid of enemy arrows during the day.

### OR

Psalm 127:1–2

If it is not the Lord who builds a house,  
the builders are wasting their time.  
If it is not the Lord who watches over the city,  
the guards are wasting their time.  
It is a waste of time to get up early and stay up late,  
trying to make a living.  
The Lord provides for those he loves,  
even while they are sleeping.

### Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit  
as it was in the beginning and is now and always,  
from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

The antiphon is repeated.

## 5 Scripture reading / Raamatun lukukappale

One or more of the listed passages is read. Other appropriate passages may also be read, especially ones that follow the time of the church year. Reading may be followed by a moment of silent meditation.

Genesis 18:1–5

Later, the Lord again appeared to Abraham near the oak trees of Mamre. It was the hottest part of the day, and Abraham was sitting at the door of his tent. He looked up and saw three men standing in front of him. When he saw the men, he ran to them and

bowed before them. Abraham said, “Sirs, please stay a while with me, your servant. I will bring some water to wash your feet. You can rest under the trees. I will get some food for you, and you can eat as much as you want. Then you can continue your journey.” The three men said, “Do as you wish.”

#### Acts 16:31

They said to him, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved – you and all who live in your house.”

#### Romans 12:10–18

Love each other in a way that makes you feel close like brothers and sisters. And give each other more honour than you give yourself. As you serve the Lord, work hard and don't be lazy. Be excited about serving him! Be happy because of the hope you have. Be patient when you have troubles. Pray all the time. Share with God's people who need help. Look for people who need help and welcome them into your homes.

Wish only good for those who treat you badly. Ask God to bless them, not curse them. When others are happy, you should be happy with them. And when others are sad, you should be sad too. Live together in peace with each other. Don't be proud but be willing to be friends with people who are not important to others. Don't think of yourself as smarter than everyone else.

If someone does you wrong, don't try to pay them back by hurting them. Try to do what everyone thinks is right. Do the best you can to live in peace with everyone.

#### Philippians 4:4–7

Always be filled with joy in the Lord. I will say it again. Be filled with joy. Let everyone see that you are gentle and kind. The Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks for what you have. And because you belong to Christ Jesus, God's peace will stand guard over all your thoughts and feelings. His peace can do this far better than our human minds.

#### Colossians 3:12–17

God has chosen you and made you his holy people. He loves you. So your new life should be like this: Show mercy to others. Be kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Don't be angry with each other, but forgive each other. If you feel someone has wronged you, forgive them. Forgive others because the Lord forgave you. Together with these things, the most important part of your new life is to love each other. Love is what holds everything together in perfect unity. Let the peace that Christ gives control your thinking. It is for peace that you were chosen to be together in one body. And always be thankful.

Let the teaching of Christ live inside you richly. Use all wisdom to teach and counsel each other. Sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Everything you say and everything you do should be done for Jesus your Lord. And in all you do, give thanks to God the Father through Jesus.

#### Hebrews 13:2

Always remember to help people by welcoming them into your home. Some people have done that and have helped angels without knowing it.

### 1 Peter 4:8–10

Most important of all, love each other deeply, because love makes you willing to forgive many sins. Open your homes to each other and share your food without complaining. God has shown you his grace in many different ways. So be good servants and use whatever gift he has given you in a way that will best serve each other.

### Revelation 3:20

Christ says, “Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you. And you will eat with me.”

### Luke 10:38–42

While Jesus and his followers were traveling, he went into a town, and a woman named Martha let him stay at her house. She had a sister named Mary. Mary was sitting at Jesus’s feet and listening to him teach. But her sister Martha was busy doing all the work that had to be done. Martha went in and said, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are getting worried and upset about too many things. Only one thing is important. Mary has made the right choice, and it will never be taken away from her.”

### Luke 19:1–10

Jesus was going through the city of Jericho. In Jericho there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a wealthy, very important tax collector. He wanted to see who Jesus was. There were many others who wanted to see Jesus too. Zacchaeus was too short to see above the people. So he ran to a place where he knew Jesus would come. Then he climbed a sycamore tree so he could see him.

When Jesus came to where Zacchaeus was, he looked up and saw him in the tree. Jesus said, “Zacchaeus, hurry! Come down! I must stay at your house today.”

Zacchaeus hurried and came down. He was happy to have Jesus in his house. Everyone saw this. They began to complain, “Look at the kind of man Jesus is staying with. Zacchaeus is a sinner!”

Zacchaeus said to the Lord, “I want to do good. I will give half of my money to the poor. If I have cheated anyone, I will pay them back four times more.”

Jesus said, “Today is the day for this family to be saved from sin. Yes, even this tax collector is one of God’s chosen people. The Son of Man came to find lost people and save them.”

### John 12:1–3

Six days before the Passover festival, Jesus went to Bethany. That is where Lazarus lived, the man Jesus raised from death. There they had a dinner for Jesus. Martha served the food, and Lazarus was one of the people eating with Jesus. Mary brought in a pint of expensive perfume made of pure nard. She poured the perfume on Jesus’s feet. Then she wiped his feet with her hair. And the sweet smell from the perfume filled the whole house.

John 15:9–12

“I have loved you as the Father has loved me. Now continue in my love. I have obeyed my Father’s commands, and he continues to love me. In the same way, if you obey my commands, I will continue to love you. I have told you these things so that you can have the true happiness that I have. I want you to be completely happy. This is what I command you: Love each other as I have loved you.”

## 6 Response / Vastaus

Optional. A hymn, song or instrumental music may be used.

## 7 Sermon or speech / Puhe tai saarna

## 8 Hymn / Virsi tai laulu

Optional. Another suitable piece of music may be used instead of a hymn.

## 9 Prayer / Rukous

Sprinkling of water may be used. People may wander to each room and say a prayer there or read a passage from the Bible. Suggested Bible readings are found in the extra material that follows this order.

## Responsive reading / Vuoroluku

Optional

P/R: Blessed are you, O Lord, our God!

A: Yours is all that is in the heavens and on earth.

P/R: Blessed be the name of the Lord now and forever.

A: Resound the praises of his name!

## Blessing

P/R: God, in his goodness, gives us a home and people who are near and dear. May the triune God, the Father (B), Son and Holy Spirit, bless this home and all who live here and all who visit this place.

## OR

P/R: A servant of God prayed long ago, “I ask you to bless the house of your servant...You, O Lord, have blessed it, and so it will be blessed forever.” Trusting in the eternal goodness of the same eternal God, I call for his blessing upon this home in the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May this home be a place where God’s will is sought and followed. May the love of Christ rule in your heart(s).

## 10 Prayer of intercession / Esirukous

Three alternatives are given here; the second one is intended to be read by a member of the household. A prayer in your own words may also be used.

P/R: Let us pray.

1

Heavenly Father, we praise you for your gifts and your presence in all phases of life. We can take from your hand all that we have. Help us to use your gifts for the good of all. Bless this home. [Let those who live here feel safe and give them a sense of belonging together. Help them to love and honour each other.] Let those who visit this home also experience warmth and friendship. Hear us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

2

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray and drive far from it all that is evil. May your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. May the cross of the Son of God protect you by day and by night, at morning and at evening, at all times and in all places. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and stay with you always. Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of the night. Let those who are tired rest knowing you are a constant presence in their lives. This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen

## 11 Lord's prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
 hallowed be your name.  
 Your kingdom come,  
 your will be done,  
 on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
 as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever.  
 Amen.

## 12 Hymn or other music / Virsi tai muuta musiikkia

Optional

## 13 Blessing / Siunaus

P/R: Almighty God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

A: Amen.

### OR

P/R: The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you:  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father,  
and of the (B) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

## 14 Concluding music / Päätösmusiikki

A hymn, song or instrumental music may be used.

## Extra material for blessing a home / Lisämateriaalia

Prayers and Bible readings in different rooms of the home / Rukouksia ja raamatunkohtia luettavaksi kodin eri huoneissa.

Other suitable Bible passages may also be used. It is recommended to use an Easy-to-read Bible. It can be found at biblegateway.com pages. <https://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Easy-to-Read-Version-ERV-Bible/>

### At the front door or entrance / Sisäänkäynnin luona

Psalms 100 or Ps. 91:1–4, 9–12

### On the property / Pihalla

Gen. 1:11–12

### At the main door / Pääovella

P/R: Peace be to this home  
A: and to all who dwell here.

Someone who lives in the home: Welcome to our home.

Prayer: God, who blesses people's homes,  
be present in this home, and drive from it all that is evil.  
Defend from harm all who live here and all who pass through this door  
and bless them in their entering it and leaving it,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen

**In the bedrooms / Makuuhuoneissa**

Psalm 4:9 or other passages may be chosen for each room.  
An evening hymn may be sung.

**In a study or workroom / Työhuoneessa**

Psalm 139

P/R: Lord, bless the work of our hands and minds.  
Help us to make the world a better place for all  
and to maintain peace on earth.

**In the kitchen / Keittiössä**

Matt. 23:11

Prayer: Lord, bless the hands that prepare here the food to be eaten at this house.  
Bless also the hands that clean up after the meal. Let us remember that you  
called us to be servants for your kingdom. Amen.

**At a table / Ruokapöydän ääressä**

Psalm 145:15–16

Prayer: Come, Lord Jesus,  
be our Guest,  
and let your/these gifts  
to us be blessed.  
Amen.

**OR**

God is great, God is good;  
let us thank Him for our food.  
By His hands, we all are fed.  
Give us, Lord, our daily bread.  
Amen.

**In the living room / Olohuoneessa**

Luke 10:38

Acts 16:23–34

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## Prayer with a sick or dying person – Rukoushetki sairaan tai kuolevan luona

This order for prayer is to be used by request of the patient, for example in a hospital room. This moment of prayer may be led by a pastor, another person from a Christian community, someone from the hospital, or one of the patient’s family members. In preparation, you may cover a table with a white cloth and place on it a Bible, a cross and a candle. You may use an LED candle if necessary.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader





## 1 Hymn / Virsi

Optional. A hymn may be sung, preferably one that is known to the sick or dying person.

## 2 Introduction / Johdanto

P: In the name of the Father,  
and the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
May the peace of Christ be with you all.

A: Amen.

## 3 The Bible Reading / Raamatun teksti

One or more of these passages may be read.

Philippians 4:6–7

Don't worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks for what you have. And because you belong to Christ Jesus, God's peace will stand guard over all your thoughts and feelings. His peace can do this far better than our human minds.

Revelation 21:4

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

2 Corinthians 1:3–4

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Father who is full of mercy, the God of all comfort. He comforts us every time we have trouble so that when others have trouble, we can comfort them with the same comfort God gives us.

Psalms 23:4

Even 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, they comfort me.

Romans 8:38–39

Yes, I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love –not death, life, angels, or ruling spirits. I am sure that nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us or nothing below us – nothing in the whole created world – will ever be able to separate us from the love God has shown us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## 4 Prayers / Rukous

There are two sets: 4a and 4b are for praying together with a sick person; 4c and 4d are for praying for a dying person. Choose the most appropriate prayer or prayers.

### 4a Blessing for a sick person / Siunaus sairastavalle

You may put your hand on the head of the patient and say:

1

### The assurance of God's grace / Jumalan armon vakuutus

P: In holy baptism, you have become a child of our loving God.

He promised to be with you all the days of your life.  
 He says, “My friend, be of good courage. Your sins have been forgiven.”  
 May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

A: Amen.

2

You who have lost your sight and who cannot see the light of the sun,  
 the beauty of the world, or the faces of your loved ones:

The Lord is with you.

You who have lost your hearing and cannot hear the voices around you:

The Lord is with you.

You who have become helpless and cannot get up  
 from your bed while others go in and out of the room:

The Lord is with you.

You who have lost your understanding of what is happening around  
 you or have become too weak to make contact with us:

The Lord is with you.

You who have pain and suffering:

The Lord is with you.

You who are in your final struggle:

The Lord is with you.

You who are near the hour of death:

The Lord is with you.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

#### **4b Prayers for a sick person / Rukouksia sairaan puolesta**

1

Father, your only Son took upon himself the sufferings of all people.

He is with us in our sickness.

Look upon N.

In the midst of illness and pain, may Christ,  
 who heals both body and soul,  
 comfort him/her/them.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

2

Lord and Father, almighty and eternal God,  
 you give us strength and support in our frailty:

turn with kindness toward [your servant] N (name).

Free him/her/them from all illness and restore him/her/them to health.

Let him/her/them know your goodness and mercy and  
 gratefully bless your holy name.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

3

Merciful God,

we trust you at this time.

It is through your power that we were created.

Thank you for all the seasons of life.

We ask you today to touch NN with your healing Spirit.

Let the warmth of your love pass through his/her/their body  
and give him/her/them again your gift, his/her/their health.

And, whether my days be short or long,

let me serve you in all the days I have left in this world.

#### **4c Assurance of Grace for a dying patient / Armon vakuutus kuolevalle**

P: God [whose love is infinite,  
loves, liberates, and forgives us.  
In the name of Jesus.

A: Amen.

P: Jesus says:  
“My friend, have no fear. Your sins have been forgiven.”  
At the end of your time, you may trust yourself to the hands of your Creator.  
May the holy angels carry you to heaven. May you have eternal peace and  
light.

#### **OR**

P: In the name of the Father, (+) and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

I commend you, my dear brother/sister, to Almighty God, your Creator.  
May you return to him who formed you from the dust of the earth.  
[May the angels and all the saints come to meet you as you leave this life.]  
May Christ, who was crucified for you, bring you freedom and peace.  
May Christ, who died for you, admit you into his garden of paradise.  
May Christ, the true Shepherd, acknowledge you as one of his flock.  
May he forgive all your sins and set you among those he has chosen.  
Amen.

#### **4d Commending a person into God’s hands / Kuolevan saattaminen Jumalan käsiin**

P: We have come together for prayer and to entrust NN ´s soul to God,  
who is faithful and compassionate.

Let us commend our NN to the mercy of God.

The leader and others who are present may lay a hand on the head of the dying person as the leader says one or more of the following. The leader may also trace a cross on the person's forehead as a reminder of the gift of baptism.

**P:** NN, child of God,  
go forth in the name of God, the Father Almighty, who created you;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who saved you;  
in the name of the Holy Spirit, who was poured out upon you.  
May you rest in peace and dwell forever in the paradise of God.  
Amen.

**OR**

Loving God, source and destiny of all life,  
we ask for your gentle and comforting presence with NN  
as he/she/they struggle with illness and coming death.  
We pray that you will give him/her/them courage  
and faith in your promises.  
Be near his/her/their family in their fear and confusion and sorrow.

## 5 Lord's Prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

## 6 The Blessing / Siunaus

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father,  
and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**A:** Amen.

**OR**

**P:** May Almighty God, Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**A:** Amen

## **7 Hymn / Virsi tai laulu**

Optional

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## The Lord's supper in a home or hospital – Ehtoollinen sairaan luona

This abbreviated order for the Eucharist is meant to be used when a pastor visits Christians who are ill and unable to attend public worship. Holy communion may be celebrated in a home, a hospital room or any other suitable place. In preparation for the Eucharist, it is advisable for the pastor to first visit the patient for a pastoral conversation. When the Lord's Supper is delivered to someone who is ill, other Christians who are with the patient may also take part. The dishes used for communion are set on a table covered with a white cloth. A cross or crucifix may also be put on the table, and a candle may be lit. If the person is very sick, the order may be shortened so that it only contains a hymn or a song, confession and forgiveness, gospel, the words of institution, the Lord's prayer and the blessing. It is advisable to have a pastoral conversation with the patient before the Eucharist.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

## 2 Invocation and greeting / Alkutervehdys

The invocation and greeting may be spoken or sung.

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

The pastor speaks in his/her own words or says these words:

Our Lord Jesus Christ said, “When two or three gather in my name, I am there with them.” Today, we believe in this promise. When we confess our sins, Christ shows us mercy. He is faithful and forgiving, cleansing our hearts. We rely on His mercy and grace and confess our sins together.

## 4 Confession and forgiveness / Synnintunnustus ja anteeksianto

If there is more than one communicant, the confession resembles confession in public worship. When a communicant makes confession privately to the pastor, the pastor must follow the guidelines specified in the order for private confession, including strict confidentiality.

### Confession

The communicant may make a confession in his/her/their own words. Alternatively, the pastor may read one of the following confessions, either together with the communicant or on his/her/their behalf.

1

God, our heavenly Father, I have sinned in my thoughts and words, by what I have done and left undone. [I confess ....] My sins trouble me deeply. I have also sinned without knowing it. I am sorry for it all, and I pray: Show me mercy, forgive my sins, through your Son, Jesus Christ.

2

Dear heavenly Father, you see me and my whole life, and yet you love me. I come before you just as I am. God, receive me in your goodness and mercy and forgive my sins.

### Declaration of forgiveness (Absolution)

3

Jesus said to his disciples, “When you forgive someone’s sins, they are forgiven.” As a servant of Jesus Christ, I declare that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit.

4

Jesus says, “Do not be afraid, my friend, your sins are forgiven.” [As his servant, I convey

to you forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.] May the almighty God forgive us our sins and lead us to eternal life.

A: Amen

## 5 Scripture reading / Raamatunluku

Optional. One or several of the following passages is read. Other Bible verses suited to the occasion or the time of the church year may also be read.

Psalm 73:23–26

Isaiah 43:1–3a

Hebrews 4:14–16

Matthew 11:28–30 (Jesus says, “Come to me, all..”)

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

## 6 Some words to the people present (speech) /

### Jotain sanoja läsnä oleville ihmisille (puhe)

Optional

## 7 Creed / Uskontunnustus

Optional

A: I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.



## 8 Prayers of intercession / Esirukous

Optional. You may use one of the prayers below or your own words.

P: Let us pray.

1

Living, almighty God, we bring our whole life before you.

Today we pray especially for NN. Bless, strengthen and comfort him/her/them.

We remember the sick, suffering, and vulnerable, and are asking for strength for those who are caring for them.

We think of our family and dear ones. We pray for all those we love.

We pray for the church and its servants.

We thank you for the hope of eternal life, which you have given to us in your Son Jesus Christ.

Trusting in him, we leave ourselves, one another, and our whole life in your care.

2

Almighty God, dear heavenly Father, You know our weakness. You alone can save us. Your Spirit gives life. Let it strengthen NN. Help him/her/them trust you day by day, also when in distress. Thank you that we remain safe in your hands. Hear us [as we pray] in the name of your Son Jesus Christ.

3

Almighty God, we bring our whole life to you.

We remember our family and relatives, friends, and loved ones. Give them your peace. We pray for healing and comfort for all who are ill, suffering and helpless. Give strength to those who care for them. We are grateful for the hope of eternal life through Jesus Christ. We entrust ourselves, one another, and our whole life into your care.

A: Amen.

## 9 Offertory hymn / Uhrivirsi

The bread and wine are made ready during the hymn. There could be a moment of silence instead of a hymn.

## 10 Eucharistic prayer / Rukous ja asetussanat

The prayer can be started with the exhortation, "Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God."

P: O holy God, you love all people. That is why you sent Jesus to us. He healed many who were ill. He looked for those who were lost. He cared for all who came to him. He loved us so much that he gave his life for us.

On the night when he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and gave thanks (+). He broke the bread and gave it to his disciples. He said, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup and gave thanks (+). He said, “Drink from it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood. It is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink from it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Heavenly Father, we rejoice for all that Jesus has done for us. Thank you for him joining us at this meal. Bless us with your Holy Spirit. Let us one day praise you in your heavenly kingdom. Through Jesus Christ, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory belong to you, Almighty Father, now and forever.

A: Amen.

### 11 Lord's prayer / Isä meidän

The Lord's prayer is recited all together.

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

### 12 Greeting of peace / Rauhan tervehdys

The greeting is spoken.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

### 13 Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) / Jumalan Karitsa

Optional. The pastor may break the bread during the Agnus Dei. The Agnus Dei may be said or sung.

A: Lamb of God, you bear the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you bear the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you bear the sin of the world; give us peace.

## 14 Communion / Ehtoollisen vietto

### Distribution

When giving bread, the pastor says:

The body of Christ, given for you.

When giving wine, the pastor says:

The blood of Christ, poured out for you.

### Words to conclude the meal

P: We have received the Lord Jesus Christ.  
May he protect and keep us until eternal life.

A: Amen.

### OR

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ keep our spirit, soul and body safe until eternal life.

A: Amen.

## 15 Prayer of thanksgiving / Kiitosrukous

P: Let us pray.

God, our Father, we thank you for feeding us at your table. Make us strong in faith, hope, and patience. Thank you for holding us close to you, even when we are weak. Keep us in your hands in life and death. Hear us in Jesus's name.

A: Amen.

## 16 Benediction / Siinaus

The benediction may be spoken or sung.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

### OR

P: Almighty God, Father (+), Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

A: Amen.

## **17 Hymn / Virsi**

Optional

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## Funeral service – Hautaan siunaaminen

A funeral service is led by a pastor in a church or a chapel, at an open grave or at the home of the deceased: whatever the relatives agree upon with the pastor.

If the funeral service is held in a church or chapel, an Easter candle may be lit for the service. Before the funeral, the pastor should meet with the relatives of the deceased for a discussion. If invited by the relatives, the pastor should, if possible, also be with them as they gather after the service.

At the funeral of a stillborn baby or a person whose remains are missing, this order is used as applicable. In selecting music, one should remember that a Christian funeral is an occasion of worship. If a church musician (kanttori) participates in the funeral, he/she is responsible for the music and should be consulted.

Flowers are usually used as part of a farewell to the deceased. Flowers can be laid by the coffin either at the beginning of the service or after the final hymn. If the first option is selected, then an additional hymn or some other music may come before the flowers are laid.

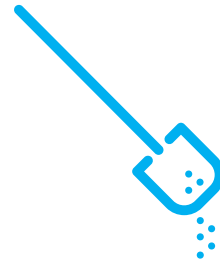
When the body of the deceased is taken to the grave in a procession, a cross may be carried at the head of the procession. A hymn may be sung while walking to the grave.

In matters of detail, local burial customs should be observed.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Hymn / Virsi

An instrumental prelude or some other suitable music may precede the hymn. If flowers are to be laid by the coffin at the beginning of the service, it may be done after the organ prelude and before the hymn.

## 2 Blessing and greeting / Johdanto

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

Optional

P: The Lord be with you.

A: And with your spirit.

## 3 Introductory words /Johdantosanat

You may use these words or speak freely.

P: Dear family [and friends] of NN,  
welcome to XX chapel.  
We have come together here to remember NN and to give thanks for  
his/her/their life.  
We now commend NN into God’s merciful hands.  
God is our comfort and strength both in life and death.  
We believe that God will raise us/NN up from the dead.  
This gives us hope and we can now be at peace.

## 4 Confession and forgiveness / Rippi ja anteeksianto

Optional. The confession prayer may be said unison. Kneeling is also a possibility. The confession may include silent personal prayer preceded by an exhortative or introductory phrase such as “Hear my/our silent confession.”

P/A: Holy God, we confess before you that we have sinned  
in thoughts and words,  
in what we have done and left undone.  
Remember us in your merciful goodness.  
You know how we have broken your commands,  
but forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ.

### Forgiveness

P: May the almighty God forgive us our sins  
and lead us to eternal life.

A: Amen.

## 5 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional. You may use one of these psalms or choose another.

**Antiphon**

Grant him/her/them rest eternal, O Lord;  
and let light perpetual shine upon him/her/them.

**Psalm**

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd.  
I will always have everything I need.  
He gives me green pastures to lie in.  
He leads me by calm pools of water.  
He restores my strength.  
He leads me on right paths to show that he is good.  
Even if I walk through a valley as dark as the grave,  
I will not be afraid of any danger, because you are with me.  
Your rod and staff comfort me.  
You prepared a meal for me in front of my enemies.  
You welcomed me as an honoured guest.  
My cup is full and spilling over.  
Your goodness and mercy will be with me all my life,  
and I will live in the Lord's house a long, long time.

**OR**

Psalm 39:4–5, 7, 12

Lord, tell me, what will happen to me now?  
Tell me, how long will I live?  
Let me know how short my life really is.  
You gave me only a short life.  
Compared to you, my whole life is nothing.  
The life of every human is like a cloud that quickly disappears.  
So, Lord, what hope do I have?  
You are my hope!  
Lord, hear my prayer!  
Listen to the words I cry to you.  
Look at my tears.  
I am only a traveller passing through this life with you.  
Like all my ancestors, I will live here only a short time.

**OR**

Psalm 90:1–6, 12

My Lord, you have been our home forever and ever.  
You were God before the mountains were born,  
before the earth and the world were made.  
You have always been and will always be God!  
You bring people into this world,  
and you change them into dust again.  
To you, a thousand years is like yesterday,  
like a few hours in the night.  
Our life is like a dream that ends when morning comes.

We are like grass that grows and looks so fresh in the morning,  
but in the evening it is dry and dying.  
Teach us how short our lives are  
so that we can become wise.

### **Gloria Patri**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit  
as it was in the beginning and is now and always,  
from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

The antiphon is repeated.

### **6 Prayer / Rukous**

Another prayer may also be used. The call to prayer may be followed by a moment of silent prayer.

**P:** Let us pray.

1.

Almighty God, your Son, Jesus Christ, has defeated death and opened the way to eternal life. Now comfort us in our grief/sadness. Help us understand that not even death can stop Christ from loving us.

2.

Jesus Christ, you were born as a human being like one of us. You lived a human life and died a human death. You rose up from the dead. That is why we believe that the dead will be raised to life again. We give NN over into your hands. Give us comfort in our sadness. Help us. You won a victory over death and give us new life. Therefore, we praise you, Jesus Christ.

3

God of grace and loving kindness,  
give eternal rest to our brother/sister NN,  
who has departed from this life.  
Light up his/her/their last journey with your glory.  
Let us remember him/her/them with thankful hearts today.  
May your holy angels carry him/her/them  
to the company of those who have gone before him/her/them.  
May he/she/they receive peace with you in Paradise.  
Let the death and prayers of your Son bring her/him/them to safety.  
Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, your dear Son.

### **7 Scripture reading / Raamatun lukukappale**

One or more Bible passages may be read. You may use these passages or other suitable passages. Family and friends are welcome to read passages.

Romans 8:31–35, 37–39

So what should we say about this? If God is for us, no one can stand against us. And God is with us. He even let his own Son suffer for us. God gave his Son for all of us. So now with Jesus, God will surely give us all things. Who can accuse the people God has



chosen? No one! God is the one who makes them right. Who can say that God's people are guilty? No one! Christ Jesus died for us, but that is not all. He was also raised from death. And now he is at God's right side, speaking to him for us.

Can anything separate us from Christ's love? Can trouble or problems or persecution separate us from his love? If we have no food or clothes or face danger or even death, will that separate us from his love? But in all these troubles we have complete victory through God, who has shown his love for us.

Yes, I am sure that nothing can separate us from God's love – not death, life, angels, or ruling spirits. I am sure that nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us or nothing below us – nothing in the whole created world – will ever be able to separate us from the love God has shown us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:1–5

We know that our body – the tent we live in here on earth – will be destroyed. But when that happens, God will have a home for us to live in. It will not be the kind of home people build here. It will be a home in heaven that will continue forever. But now we are tired of this body. We want God to give us our heavenly home. It will clothe us and we will not be naked. While we live in this tent, we have burdens and so we complain. I don't mean that we want to remove this tent, but we want to be clothed with our heavenly home. Then this body that dies will be covered with life. This is what God himself made us for. And he has given us the Spirit as the first payment to guarantee the life to come.

#### John 14:1–6

Jesus said, "Don't be troubled. Trust in God, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house. I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back. Then I will take you with me, so that you can be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. The only way to the Father is through me."

## 8 Sermon or speech

### 9 Creed

The use of the Creed is optional. All stand for the creed.

A: I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,

I believe in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.  
 He ascended into heaven,  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting.

## 10 The words of the committal / Siunaussanat

The committal may also take place at the grave.

P: Believing in the risen Jesus Christ,  
 we stand to commit NN (full name) into the hands of God.

**OR**

P: In faith in the triune God,  
 we commit NN (full name) in His hands to wait for the day of resurrection.

The pastor then throws or pours sand three times on the coffin (a sign of the cross may be drawn with the sand) and says:

NN (given name[s]), you were formed from soil of the earth,  
 and soil you will become again. Jesus Christ, our Saviour,  
 will raise you on the last day.

**OR**

NN (given name[s]), you are dust of the earth.  
 Dust you will become again.  
 Jesus Christ, our Saviour, will wake you up on the last day.

**OR**

In this life, the seed lives only for a short time.  
 In eternity it will flourish forever.  
 Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life.

**OR**

At the funeral of a stillborn baby or a small child:  
 [NN (given name[s], if the child had any),]  
 God, our Father, has created you.  
 You may rest in his arms.  
 Jesus Christ, our Saviour, will raise you up on the last day.

## 11 Hymn or other music / Virsi tai muuta musiikkia

Optional

## 12 Prayer / Rukous

P: Let us pray.

1

Dear God, we give NN over into your hands. Have mercy on him/her/them. Give NN life forever. Thank you for our life together. We are sad. But we trust in you.

We pray: Help us and comfort us. Be close to us in our sadness. Take away our fear and our guilt. Help us trust that you help us and give us strength. God, give us the joy of Easter and the hope that the dead will rise to life again. Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

2

Holy and powerful God,  
By the death and burial of Jesus, you have destroyed the power of death.  
You have made holy the resting places of all your people.  
Keep our sister's/brother's body that we now lay to rest.  
Lead her/him/them in the company of all your saints,  
and on the last day let him/her/them rise up to be with all the faithful.  
Let her/him/them share in the everlasting joy and peace  
that Christ our Lord brought through his rising from the dead.  
He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

## 13 The Lord's Prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

## 14 The Blessing / Siunaus

P: May the Almighty and merciful God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless us all.

A: Amen.

### OR

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father,  
the Son and the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

## 15 Hymn or other music / Virsi tai muuta musiikkia

## 16 Prayer at the grave

Optional

Almighty God, Heavenly Father, we lay NN to rest in your gentle arms. We have nothing to fear because you are with us. Amen.

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## Service of prayer beside an open grave or internment of an urn – Rukoushetki läheisen haudalla tai uurnan lasku

This order is used when the remains of the deceased have been transported to some other location. This order may also be used when an urn is interred, and parts of this order can also be used for the funeral of a person whose remains are missing.

This service may be led by a pastor, another church worker or a layperson. A candle may be lit during the service.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Hymn / Virsi

## 2 Introduction / Johdanto

P/R: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

Some examples are given here, but you are free to use your own words.

P/R: Dear friends. The grave reminds us that life is short, but God gives us the promise of life and resurrection. Christ says, “I am the one who lives. I was dead, but look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.” (Rev. 1:18)

**OR**

P/R: Dear friends. The grave reminds us that life is short, but God gives us the promise of life and resurrection. It says in the Bible, “I know that there is someone to defend me and that he lives! And in the end, he will stand here on earth and defend me.” (Job 19:25)

**OR**

Dear friends, Jesus says: “I am the resurrection and the life.” He died and was laid in a grave. He can comfort those who stand beside a grave in their sorrow. Now that NN is placed in his/her/their grave, we pray that NN/he/she/they can rest in peace.

## 4 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional. Two alternatives are given below, but another psalm may be used instead. Instead of a psalm, a hymn may be sung at this point.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd.

I will always have everything I need.

He gives me green pastures to lie in.

He leads me by calm pools of water.

He restores my strength.

He leads me on right paths to show that he is good.

Even if I walk through a valley as dark as the grave,

I will not be afraid of any danger, because you are with me.

Your rod and staff comfort me.

You prepared a meal for me in front of my enemies.

You welcomed me as an honoured guest.

My cup is full and spilling over.

Your goodness and mercy will be with me all my life,

and I will live in the Lord’s house a long, long time.

**OR**

Psalm 73:23–26

But I am always with you.

You hold my hand.

You lead me and give me good advice,  
and later you will lead me to glory.

In heaven, God, I have only you.

And if I am with you, what on earth could I want?

Maybe my mind and body will become weak,  
but God is my source of strength.

He is mine forever!

**Gloria Patri**

Optional

Glory to the Father and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning and is now and always,  
from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

**4 Scripture reading / Raamatun lukukappale**

One or more of the listed passages is read. Other appropriate passages may also be read, especially ones that follow the time of the liturgical calendar. Reading may be followed by a moment of silent meditation.

1 Corinthians 15:44–49

There is a physical body. So there is also a spiritual body. As the Scriptures say, “The first man, Adam, became a living person.” But the last Adam is a life-giving spirit. The spiritual man did not come first. It was the physical man that came first; then came the spiritual. The first man came from the dust of the earth. The second man came from heaven. All people belong to the earth. They are like that first man of earth. But those who belong to heaven are like that man of heaven. We were made like that man of earth, so we will also be made like that man of heaven.

2 Corinthians 4:16–18

That is why we never give up. Our physical body is becoming older and weaker, but our spirit inside us is made new every day. We have small troubles for a while now, but these troubles are helping us gain an eternal glory. That eternal glory is much greater than our troubles. So we think about what we cannot see, not what we see. What we see lasts only a short time, and what we cannot see will last forever.

2 Corinthians 5:1–5

We know that our body – the tent we live in here on earth – will be destroyed. But when that happens, God will have a home for us to live in. It will not be the kind of home people build here. It will be a home in heaven that will continue forever. But now we are tired of this body. We want God to give us our heavenly home. It will clothe us and we will not be naked. While we live in this tent, we have burdens and so we complain. I don’t mean that we want to remove this tent, but we want to be clothed with our heavenly

home. Then this body that dies will be covered with life. This is what God himself made us for. And he has given us the Spirit as the first payment to guarantee the life to come.

Matthew 27:57–60

That evening a rich man named Joseph came to Jerusalem. He was a follower of Jesus from the town of Arimathea. He went to Pilate and asked to have Jesus's body. Pilate gave orders for the soldiers to give Jesus's body to him. Then Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a new linen cloth. He put Jesus's body in a new tomb that he had dug in a wall of rock. Then he closed the tomb by rolling a very large stone to cover the entrance. After he did this, he went away.

## 5 Response / Vastaus

Optional. Those present may, for example, sing a hymn or suitable spiritual song.

## 6 Sermon or speech / Puhe tai saarna

## 7 Prayers / Rukoukset

Use the prayer below or your own words.

P/R: Let us pray.

Dear heavenly Father, we leave our beloved NN in your caring hands. We thank you for the years we shared and all that he/she/they meant to us. We have laid his/her/their body/ashes to rest to wait for the dawn of resurrection and new creation.

Our Saviour died and was buried, and so he made our grave to be a holy place of rest. You, O God, woke him up from the dead, conquered death and opened up heaven to those who believe.

God, you know the longing of our hearts. In your word you have promised to hear our every sigh. [Trusting in your promise we ask you to hear our silent prayers.

(moment of silence)

Jesus Christ, our Saviour. We lift up our eyes to you. Have mercy on us and fill us with a living hope. Do not forsake us; lead us to resurrection and eternal life.

A: Amen.

## Lord's prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.



Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

## **8 Blessing / Siunaus**

P/R: May the Almighty and gracious God,  
the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, give us his blessing.

A: Amen.

### **OR**

P/R: The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father,  
and the (B) Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

## **9 Hymn or other concluding music**

Optional

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## **Service of prayer when a loved one has died or been buried in a far away place or on the anniversary of a death – Rukoushetki läheisen kuoltua, muualle haudatun läheisen muistohetkessä tai kuoleman muistopäivänä**

This order may be used when a family member or friend has died in another country or on the anniversary of a death of a loved one. Parts of it may be used in times of crisis.

The service should be prepared ahead of time together with the participants or the family members. The service may be led by a pastor or a layperson. A candle may be lit during the service. If it is the wish of the family or participants, pictures of the deceased may be displayed on a table.

P: Pastor

A: All

R: Reader



## 1 Hymn / Virsi

Optional

## 2 Introduction / Johdanto

P/R: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: Amen.

## 3 Introductory words / Johdantosanat

Use the words below or your own.

Dear friends of NN, we have come together to remember NN, to thank God for his/her/their life and to mourn his/her/their death. Jesus calls those who are tired and sad to come to him. He says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." NN was laid to rest [the place and maybe the time]. Now Jesus also calls you to come to him for a moment of rest and prayer. [Other information may be given here.]

**OR**

Dear friends, NN has left this world. Death confuses us. It is difficult to understand what has happened. Sorrow fills our hearts. We search for strength and comfort in God's word, in prayer and with this community.

**OR** (If a long time has passed)

Dear friends, we have come together to share our sorrow for the death of NN. Today we remember his/her/their life and give thanks for it. We remember all the good things that came to us through his/her/their life. We have come together to share our memories of NN, to keep his/her/their memory alive in our community/family. We have come together to pray for him/her/them and for us as well, so that we may have the strength to carry on.

## 4 Psalm / Psalmi

Optional

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd.

I will always have everything I need.

He gives me green pastures to lie in.

He leads me by calm pools of water.

He restores my strength.

He leads me on right paths to show that he is good.

Even if I walk through a valley as dark as the grave,

I will not be afraid of any danger, because you are with me.

Your rod and staff comfort me.

You prepared a meal for me in front of my enemies.

You welcomed me as an honoured guest.

My cup is full and spilling over.  
Your goodness and mercy will be with me all my life,  
and I will live in the Lord's house a long, long time.

**OR**

Psalm 73:23–26  
But I am always with you.  
You hold my hand.  
You lead me and give me good advice,  
and later you will lead me to glory.  
In heaven, God, I have only you.  
And if I am with you, what on earth could I want?  
Maybe my mind and body will become weak,  
but God is my source of strength.  
He is mine forever!

**OR**

Psalm 103:14–18  
He knows all about us.  
He knows we are made from dust.  
He knows our lives are short, that they are like grass.  
He knows we are like a little wildflower that grows so quickly,  
but when the hot wind blows, it dies.  
Soon, you cannot even see where the flower was.  
But the Lord has always loved his followers,  
and he will continue to love them forever and ever!  
He will be good to all their descendants,  
to those who are faithful to his agreement  
and who remember to obey his commands.

Glory to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever.  
Amen.

#### **4 Bible Reading / Raamatun lukukappale**

One or more Bible passages are read. You may also use other suitable Bible passages.  
The Bible reading may be followed by a moment of silent meditation.

Ecclesiastes 12: [6–] 7  
[Remember your Creator while you are young,  
before the silver rope snaps and the golden bowl is crushed  
like a jar broken at the well,  
like a stone cover on a well that breaks and falls in.]  
Your body came from the earth.  
And when you die, it will return to the earth.

But your spirit came from God,  
and when you die, it will return to him.

#### Romans 8:38–39

(The apostle Paul writes to the Romans:) I am sure that nothing can separate us from God’s love – not death, life, angels, or ruling spirits. I am sure that nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us or nothing below us – nothing in the whole created world – will ever be able to separate us from the love God has shown us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### 2 Corinthians 5:1–5

We know that our body – the tent we live in here on earth – will be destroyed. But when that happens, God will have a home for us to live in. It will not be the kind of home people build here. It will be a home in heaven that will continue forever. But now we are tired of this body. We want God to give us our heavenly home. It will clothe us and we will not be naked. While we live in this tent, we have burdens and so we complain. I don’t mean that we want to remove this tent, but we want to be clothed with our heavenly home. Then this body that dies will be covered with life. This is what God himself made us for. And he has given us the Spirit as the first payment to guarantee the life to come.

#### Revelation 1:17–18

When I saw him, I fell down at his feet like a dead man. He put his right hand on me and said, “Don’t be afraid! I am the First and the Last. I am the one who lives. I was dead, but look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.”

#### John 11:25–26

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection. I am life. Everyone who believes in me will have life, even if they die. And everyone who lives and believes in me will never really die.”

#### John 14:1–4

Jesus says, “Don’t be troubled. Trust in God, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house. I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back. Then I will take you with me, so that you can be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

## 5 Sermon or speech / Saarna tai puhe

## 6 Hymn or other music / Virsi tai muuta musiikkia

Optional

## 7 Prayers / Rukous

You may use the prayer(s) below or use your own words.

P/R: Let us pray

1

Almighty God, dear heavenly Father,  
Death has come here and our lives are changed. NN has reached the end of his/her/their journey. We thank you for all the good things in his/her/their

life and all the blessings we received through him. We thank you for the journey we could travel together. Let us keep his/her/their memory in our hearts forever. We leave NN in your hands and entrust him/her/them to your eternal grace.

God, you see our hearts and thoughts. Be near us and teach us to trust that you will take care of us. Strengthen our faith that you are greater than any sorrow. Thank you for letting us rest in your presence in any situation. Lead us so that we will not be left alone in sorrow. Thank you for those who support us and listen to us. Give us courage and strength for all the tasks waiting for us. Make us loving and sensitive to those near us in this time of sorrow.

God, your word ensures us that you know what we need, even when we don't have the words to say it. Your ears hear even our silent sighs. Trusting in this promise, we ask you now to hear our silent prayers.

(moment of silence)

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of life and the moments of joy and sorrow. In your hands, you hold all the phases of our lives. We remain surrounded by your love and grace. Help us turn to Christ, the conqueror of death, so that we may rise to eternal life with those we love. Hear our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son.

2

God, our Father, this night we place all our memories of NN before you: all the good, all the bad, all the joyful, and all that bring us sorrow. Let these memories connect us to our dear NN like a bridge. Let the water of tears wash away all bitterness and let them turn into thanks for the time we shared.

Dear God, we pray that you strengthen our faith in life everlasting. Give us trust that there is a place where things that were broken are fixed and things that were lost are found again, where there is rest for the weary and joy for the sad, and that one day we may be reunited with NN in your heavenly home.

Grant eternal rest to NN, O Lord. Let perpetual light shine upon him/her/them. May he/she/they rest in peace.

3

Holy, living God,  
thank you that we may leave NN in your hands.  
Let eternal light shine on him/her/them.  
Give peace to our hearts.  
Surround us with mercy and grace.  
This we pray in the name of your Son Jesus Christ.

A: Amen

Service of prayer when a loved one has died or been buried in a far away place or on the anniversary of a death –  
Rukoushetki läheisen kuoltua, muualle haudatun läheisen muistohetkessä tai kuoleman muistopäivänä

## 8 Lord's Prayer / Isä meidän

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.

### The sign of cross and covering of the face of the deceased

Optional. This order is used immediately after death.

P/R:            May God give you eternal peace.  
                  May His light shine upon you always.

The priest or reader makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the deceased and says:

May the holy angels lead you into everlasting life.

The priest or reader may cover the face of the deceased with a cloth or ask one of the people present to do it.

## 8 Blessing / Siunaus

P:                May the almighty and merciful God,  
                  Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless us all.

A:                Amen.

**OR**

P:                The Lord bless you and keep you.  
                  The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
                  and be gracious to you.  
                  The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,  
                  and give you peace.  
                  In the name of the Father,  
                  and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

A:                Amen.

## 9 Hymn or other music / Virsi tai muuta musiikkia

Optional