

Student Memorial Service (A suggested outline)

Preparation

Prayer tree

Paper

Calm music

Photo of deceased on display

Welcome

We come to remember _____ who has died. We come because we are thankful for his/her life and the impact they had on our lives. We are here to comfort one another in our grief. We come because we are confused and angry, upset and hurt. We come because we love _____

We are thankful for *N*.

As we recollect *his/her* life and cherish
his/her memory.

he/she has brought light to our lives;

for we have seen

in *his/her* friendship reflections of compassion,
in *his/her* integrity demonstrations of goodness,
in *his/her* faithfulness glimpses of eternal love.

Hear now a reading from the Bible; you don't need to be religious to appreciate these beautiful and ancient words.

Psalm 23

Prayer

God,

we thank you that you have made each of us

in your own image,

and given us gifts and talents with which to serve others.

We thank you for *N*,

the years we shared with *him/her*,

the good we saw in *him/her*,

the love we received from *him/her*.

Now give us strength and courage

to leave *him/her* in your care,

confident in your promise of eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We will now listen to some music. Let's use this time to remember _____ the fun times we had
the memories that are precious to us, so precious that in a very real way _____ will live
on in our hearts because of them. I offer you also during the music the opportunity to write
something on the paper and attached it to the memory tree.

Music plays

Memories are shared

If anyone would like to share a memory please do so now

A Prayer for those who mourn

Lord, we pray for those who mourn,
*for parents and brothers and sisters,
friends and neighbours.*

Be gentle with them in their grief.

Show them the depths of your love,
a glimpse of the kingdom of heaven.

Spare them the torment of guilt and despair.

Be with them as they weep beside the empty tomb

of our risen Saviour,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dismissal

Let us not forget _____ and all they mean to us. Let us end this time by hearing some ancient
words that have been said at times like this.

Deep peace of the running wave to you,

Deep peace of the flowing air to you,

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,

Deep peace of the shining stars to you,

Deep peace of the Son of peace to you.

**(Please note much of this is taken from the Church of England's book of common worship-
pastoral services)**