

OPENING SCRIPTURE

"I know that my Redeemer lives.
And he will stand upon the earth at last.
And after my body has decayed,
yet in my body I will see God!
I will see him for myself.
Yes, I will see him with my own eyes.
I am overwhelmed at the thought!"
JOB 19: 25-27

Although we mourn the loss of HM, Queen Elizabeth II, we rejoice that as this passage reminds us, she now sees her Redeemer, Jesus Christ, with her own eyes.

We will all have our favourite memories of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and whether we are supporters or not of the monarchy, we all admire the long and sacrificial leadership that Queen Elizabeth has offered her people.

PRAYER OF THANKS

From Church of England

God of love,
We thank you for the life of The Queen,
For her service to our nation,
And for her faith in you.
Be close to all of us who mourn,
that we may find comfort
and hope in your love
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

THE QUEEN'S FAITH

Underpinning and sustaining the Queen's life was her faith that she openly shared on many occasions:

'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God!'
Christmas Address 2002

SCRIPTURE

"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters about those who have died, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.'
1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-14

As we pray for the Royal Family and the Royal Household in their grief, we also rejoice that we can stand with them in the hope of eternal life offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.
JOHN 11: 25

*Pause for a moment and give thanks for those we have known and loved and lost.
Remember that we do not grieve without hope.*

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted"
MATTHEW 5: 4

Compassionate Lord Jesus, we ask that all those who mourn will know your comfort and your peace. We pray especially for the family and household of Queen Elizabeth, that they will be sustained by you in their sorrow, knowing the consolation of your love
AMEN

*Queen Elizabeth committed to serve God for the whole of her life, whether long or short, which she did with humility and devotion.
As we celebrate her life, and mourn her loss, we also pray for our new monarch, King Charles III and the Queen Consort.*

Sovereign God, we pray that you would draw near to King Charles in his sorrow and grief. May he be equipped with your wisdom and grace for the task that lies ahead.
We pray in the precious name of Jesus.
AMEN

*We close with a prayer from the Archbishop of
Canterbury, Justin Welby.*

Gracious God, we give thanks for the life of
your servant, Queen Elizabeth, for her faith
and her dedication to duty.

Bless our nation as we mourn her death and
may her example continue to inspire us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord

AMEN



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Queen
Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022