

Prayers for the Sick and Dying

For use during the pandemic

Christian

If we live, we live to the Lord,
and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or whether we die,
we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:8

O Lord, support us all day long
until the shadows lengthen
and the evening comes
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then, in Your mercy,
grant us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest,
and peace at last;
through your most Holy Name. Amen.

John Henry Newman

In my Father's house are many rooms.
If it were not so, would I have told you
that I go to prepare a place for you?
And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come again and will take you to myself,
that where I am you may be also.

John 14:2-3

Peace I leave with you;
My peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
And do not let them be afraid.

John 14:27

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Psalms 23

Jesus, friend of little children,
Bless *Name* with your healing love
And make *him/her* well. Amen.

For a child

Book of Common Worship

God of compassion and love,
You have breathed into us the breath of life
And have given us the exercise of our minds and wills.
In our frailty we surrender all life to you from whom it came,
Trusting in your gracious promises;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For use when a life-support system is withdrawn.

Book of Common Worship

Jewish

May the One who blessed our ancestors —
Patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
Matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah —
bless and heal the one who is ill:
(*Name*) son/daughter of (*Name*).

May the Holy Blessed One
overflow with compassion upon *him/her*,
to restore *him/her*,
to heal *him/her*,
to strengthen *him/her*,
to enliven *him/her*.
The One will send *him/her*, speedily,
a complete healing —
healing of the soul and healing of the body —
along with all the ill,
among the people of Israel and all humankind,
soon,
speedily,
without delay,
and let us all say: Amen!
Mi Sheberach in English Translation

Guide me, Holy One, on this final journey,
Your hand pointing the way,
Your loving eye upon my face
As I seek my new dwelling.
Surround me with Your kindness,
Embrace me with tranquility;
Soothe my fears with the surety of Your care,
Even as I release my tears to Your custody.
Then shall I find Your eternal gift of peace,
Laid out for my notice and my strength.
Linger near, Holy One,
through these trials,
Easing my way as I fly to Your keeping. Amen.
Prayer for the last days of life
Reformed Judaism

Go, for God sends you.
Go and God will be with you.
The Lord God will be with *him/her* and *he/she* will arise.
May God bless you and keep you.
May God cause His face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.
May God lift up His face toward you, and give you peace.
At your right is the angel Michael.
At your left is the angel Gavriel.
In front of you is the angel Uriel.
Behind you is the angel Raphael.
And above you is the Sh'khinat El, the loving presence of God.
Be strong and of good courage,
do not fear or be saddened,
for your God is with you wherever you go.

God will guard you from all evil;
God will guard your soul.
God will guard your coming and going,
now and forever. Amen.

Prayer for the last moments of life
Reformed Judaism

Guide me, Holy One, on this final journey,
Your hand pointing the way,
Your loving eye upon my face
As I seek my new dwelling.
Surround me with Your kindness,
Embrace me with tranquility;
Sooth my fears with the surety of Your care,
Even as I release my tears to Your custody.
Then shall I find Your eternal gift of peace,
Laid out for my notice and my strength.
Linger near, Holy One, through these trials,
Easing my way as I fly to Your keeping. Amen.

Prayer for the last moments of life
Reformed Judaism

Muslim

Take away the pain, O Lord of mankind,
and grant healing, for You are the Healer,
and there is no healing but Your healing
that leaves no trace of sickness.

Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 5351, Muslim, 2191

Our Lord Allah Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name,
Your will is done in heaven and on earth;
as Your mercy is in heaven, bestow it upon the earth.
Forgive us our sins. You are the Lord of the good.
Send down Your mercy and healing upon this pain,
and *he/she* will be healed.

Narrated by Abu Dawood

Buddhist*

Remember the clear light, the pure clear light,
from which everything in the universe comes,
to which everything in the universe returns.
The original nature of your own mind,
the natural state of the universe unmanifest.
Let go into the clear light.
Trust it, merge with it. It is your own true nature, it is home.

'A Path with Heart' by Jack Kornfield

Oh Compassionate Ones, you who possess
the wisdom of understanding,
the love of compassion,
the power of protection,

Name is passing from this world to the next.
He/She is taking a great leap.
The light of this world has faded for *him/her*.
He/She has gone into a vast silence.
He/She is borne away by the great ocean of birth and death.

Oh Compassionate Ones,
Protect *Name* who is defenseless.
Be to *him/her* like a mother and father.
Let the strong force of your compassion aid *her/him*.
Forget not your ancient vows.
Adapted from a prayer on urbandharma.org

** Buddhist blessings may be used for people who are spiritual but not religious.*

Sacred Music

Christian

A Gaelic Blessing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8MKEpXqGko>

John Rutter and Cambridge Singers

A prayer of Saint Patrick

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgVOhongPdI>

John Rutter and Cambridge Singers

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v+OcYzO8Y4PH0>

John Rutter and Cambridge Singers

The Lord is my Shepherd

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8f_0NgsWzfA

John Rutter and Cambridge Singers

Allegri's Miserere Mei

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IX1zicNRLmY>

King's College Choir

Jewish

Mi Shebeirach (*traditional*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHko3CjuzpY>

Mi shebeirach avoteinu
M'kor hab'racha l'imoteinu
May the source of strength,
Who blessed the ones before us,
Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing,
And let us say, Amen.

Mi shebeirach imoteinu
M'kor habrachah l'avoteinu
Bless those in need of healing with r'fuah sh'leimah,
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit,
And let us say, Amen

Debbie Friedman / Drorah Setel

Mi Shebeirach (*contemporary*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZJ2Fr9h7SY>

Lisa Levine

El Nah Refah Na refah Nah Lah
(*based on Moses' prayer for Miriam*)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkzRjc1IvuA>

For the Medical Caregivers

Water flows over these hands.
May I use them skillfully
To preserve precious human life.
Adapted from Thich Nhat Hanh

Abide with us, O Lord,
for it is toward evening and the day is far spent;
abide with us, and with thy beloved community.
Abide with us in the evening of the day,
in the evening of life, in the evening of the world.
Abide with us and with all thy faithful ones,
O Lord, in time and eternity.
Lutheran Manual of Prayer

Sometimes I feel lonely,
and from the depths I cry unto Thee,
and within me,
Thy voice answers me,

and I know that Thou, Eternal Friend,
art near me.

Sometimes the sense of failure seizes me,
and I am disheartened.
Unto Thee do I raise mine eyes,
and the light of my heavenly Father
shines upon me, and bids me to persevere.

Sometimes my daily life oppresses me.
Unto Thee do I life up my soul,
and I realized that by doing my duty
I am serving Thee, Divine Master,
and my task is revealed to me as something good and sacred.

Sometimes I am sad and sick at heart,
but when I think of Thee, Spirit of perfect love,
joy comes to me, for I know that thou art guiding me.
O Lord God of Hosts,
surely Thou wilt ever comfort me.
Blessed by Thy Name for ever and ever. Amen.
Fratres Book of Prayer

Janna,
I hope these words soothe the sick and dying in your care. Many of my friends -- pastors and priests,
rabbis and imams, monks and poets—helped make this booklet. We all accompany you, pray for you
and offer our blessings to you and your friends.

Rebecca Kuiken
April 10, 2020