PRAYERS *for a* VIGIL

*It is appropriate that family and friends come together prior to a funeral. This rite may be used on such an occasion, whether at the church, a funeral home, or elsewhere.*

*The Minister says*

Dear Friends: It was our Lord Jesus himself who said, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Let us pray, then, for our *brother N.*, that *he* may rest from *his* labors, and enter into God’s eternal Sabbath rest.

*A psalm may be prayed. Psalms 23 and 121 are particularly appropriate.*

*One or more of the following Lessons is read.*

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who are asleep, 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 fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-15

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

*The following and other additional prayers may be said. The Litany at the Time of Death (pages 237-239) may also be used.*

O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant N., being raised with Christ, may know the strength of his presence and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: deal graciously with those who mourn [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]. Surround them with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The Minister says*

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray

*Minister and People say together*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy Name, hallowed be your Name,**

**thy kingdom come, your kingdom come,**

**thy will be done, your will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven. on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread. Give us today our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, And forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us. who sin against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, Save us from the time of trial,**

**but deliver us from evil. and deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the power, and the glory, and the glory are yours,**

**for ever and ever. Amen. now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Minister says*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

ROMANS 15:13

*The Minister may say*

May *his* soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

 *People* **And may light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.**