A Service of Thanksgiving and Commemoration for the Departed
All Souls' Day

Silence procession with organ music.

The Gathering
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit be with you
All: And also, with you.

The Greeting

The minister welcomes everyone to the service and introduces these opening words:

I have the Lord always before me
All: He is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.
Show us your mercy, O Lord:
All: And grant us your salvation
For with you is the well of life
All: And in your light shall we see light.

Hymn – Be Still My Soul 1
Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief and pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2 Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake,
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice, who ruled them while he dwelt below

3 Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief and fear are gone,
sorrow forgotten, love's pure joy restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.

'Stille, meine Wille; dein Jesus hilft siegen' Katherina A D von Schlegel (born 1697) tr Jane L Borthwick (1813-1897)

We have come together to remember those whom we love but see no longer.
We come to give thanks for their lives and to commend them again to the love of God.
We come also to renew our faith in God's love and to remind
ourselves of the victory of Christ, who conquered death and opened
God's kingdom to all believers.

Confession

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy.
All: Lord, have mercy.
You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.
You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided: Lord, have mercy.
All: Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life.
All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Lamentations 3:17-25, 31-33

17 My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is;
18 so I say, 'Gone is my glory, and all that I had hoped for from the LORD.'
19 The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall!
20 My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me.
21 But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, [b] his mercies never come to an end;
23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
24 'The LORD is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'
25 The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. For the Lord will not reject for ever.
32 Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
33 for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

This is the word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn – The Lord's my shepherd

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie in pastures green.
He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

2 My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill.
For thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me comfort still.

4 My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes,
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me.
And in God's house forevermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

Sermon

Anthem – Calm me, Lord While we listen to the music, we have an opportunity to bring our prayers to God.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer:

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, the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Commemoration and Thanksgiving

You, Christ, are the King of glory,
All: the eternal Son of the Father
You overcame the sting of death
All: and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers
You are seated at God's right hand in glory
All: we believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood;
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

Father of all,
by whose mercy and grace
your saints remain in everlasting light and peace:
we remember with thanksgiving
those whom we love but see no longer;
and we pray that in them
your perfect will may be fulfilled;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

The names of those who have died are read and candles are lit in their memory. After each group of names, we use the following prayer: The church would have collected the names at least a few weeks before the service.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord
All: and let light perpetual shine upon them.

After we have remembered, we pray:

Hear us, O merciful Father,

as we remember in love
those we have placed in your hands.
Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold,
lambs of your own flock,
sinners of your own redeeming.
Enfold them in the arms of your mercy,
in the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and in the glorious company of the saints in light.
Amen.

Hymn – Lord of All Hopefulness

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like,
no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Jan Struther (1901-1953) © Oxford University Press

The Blessing

The minister prays a prayer for God's blessing, to which we all respond:

All: Amen.

Choir – The Clare Benediction
May the Lord show his mercy upon you;
may the light of his presence be your guide:
May he guard you and uphold you;
may his spirit be ever by your side.

When you sleep may his angels watch over you;
when you wake may he fill you with his grace:
May you love him and serve him all your days
Then in heaven may you see his face.

May the Lord's loving kindness surround you;
keep you safe as you journey on your way:

May he lead you and inspire you
as he grants you the gift of each new day.

May he bless all your loved ones and cherish them;
Ev'ry friend, ev'ry stranger at your door:
In the name of his Son our Saviour Christ
May God bless you now and evermore

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The hymns and anthems may be replaced with familiar songs.

The Eucharist of the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed — 2 November

The Church of England's Common Worship: Times and Seasons provides a specific Eucharistic liturgy for All Souls' Day, officially titled "The Eucharist of the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed." It is observed on 2 November and is a Lesser Festival in the Church of England calendar.

1. Order of service

I. The Gathering
- Entrance hymn (optional)
- Greeting
- Prayers of Penitence and Absolution
- Collect of the Day

II. The Liturgy of the Word
- Old Testament reading
- Psalm
- New Testament reading
- Gospel reading
- Sermon
- Prayers of Intercession (litany)

III. The Liturgy of the Sacrament
- The Peace
- Preparation of the Table
- Taking of the Bread and Wine
- Eucharistic Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer
- Breaking of the Bread
- Giving of Communion

IV. The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
- Acclamation
- Reading aloud of the names of the departed
- Silence, either after each name or group of names, or after all the names
- Commemoration prayer(s)
- Prayer after Communion

V. The Dismissal
- Blessing
- Dismissal

The Litany

Let us pray.

God our Father, Creator of all things and the source of all life, we come before you in thanksgiving for the lives of those who have gone before us. We remember those whom we have loved, those who have shaped our lives, and those whose faith and witness continue to inspire us.
Lord, in your mercy,
All: Hear our prayer.

Officiant: For all who have died in the faith of Christ, that they may rest in your eternal peace and rejoice in the light of your presence.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Officiant: For our loved ones who have departed this life, especially those whose absence we feel deeply, that we may give thanks for their lives and cherish the love we shared with them.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Officiant: For those who died suddenly, through violence, war, disasters, illness, or loneliness, and for those whose lives were forgotten or whose names are known to you alone, that they may be received into your everlasting mercy.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Officiant: For those who mourn the death of family members, friends, and loved ones, that they may find comfort in your presence, strength in their sorrow, and hope in the promise of the resurrection.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Officiant: For families and communities in Malaysia, across every race, language, and culture, who remember their departed loved ones in different ways, that we may show one another compassion, respect, and the love of Christ.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Officiant: For the faithful who have witnessed to the Gospel through their lives, service, sacrifice, and prayer, especially those who nurtured our faith and served your Church, that their example may encourage us to remain steadfast in our Christian calling.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Officiant: For your Church throughout the world, that we may proclaim with courage that Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again, and that death shall not have the final word.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Officiant: For ourselves, that as we remember those who have died, we may number our days wisely, love our neighbours faithfully, forgive generously, and live each day in the light of your eternal kingdom.
All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.
Accept these prayers for the sake of our Jesus Christ.