

All Creatures Great and Small

chorus:

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small.
all things wise and wonderful, the lord God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours, He made their tiny wings.

chorus

The purple headed mountain, the rivers running by,
the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.

chorus

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them every one.

chorus

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

chorus

Prayer for the Death of a Pet

By Rabbi Barry H. Block

O Lord our God, we come before You this day in sadness. N., who brought us so much joy in life, has now died. (His/Her) happy times in our family's embrace have come to an end. We miss N already.

Help us, O God, to remember the good times with N. Remind us to rejoice in the happy times (he/she) brought to our home. Let us be thankful for the good life we were blessed to give to (him/her).

We are grateful to You, God, for creating N., for entrusting (him/her) to our care, and for sustaining (him/her) in our love for a measure of time. We understand that all that lives must die. We knew that this day would come. And yet, O God, we would have wanted one more day of play, one more evening of love with N.

O God, as we have taken care of N. in life, we ask that You watch over (him/her) in death. You entrusted N. to our care; now, we give (him/her) back to You. May N. find a happy new home in Your loving embrace.

As we remember N., may we love each other more dearly. May we care for all Your creatures, for every living thing, as we protected the blessed life of N. May (his/her) memory bless our lives with love and caring forever.

Amen.

Animal Rites

By Andrew Linzey

(i) Holy Father
your son, Jesus Christ
taught us that not one sparrow
is forgotten in your sight;

we ask you now to remember
our friend and companion N.
whose life was blessed
by the gift of your Spirit
and whose life among us
on earth has ended.

Receive now we pray the
life of N.
which we commit into your hands.

Take pity, dear Lord, on this innocent creature
whose life, like ours, was burdened
with suffering and pain,
and grant us with him/her
a share in your eternal kingdom.

Eternal Father, we know that nothing
can finally separate us with those we love
and that in another place and another time
we shall be reunited with all those earthly faces
whom we have loved
and for whom we now mourn.

We ask these prayers
through Jesus Christ your Son, Our Lord.
Amen.

(ii) Pilgrim God
who journeys with us
through the joys and shadows
of this world

be with us
in our sorrow
and feel our pain;

help us to accept
the mystery of death
without bitterness
but with hope.

Among the shadows
of this world,
among the turmoil of life
and the fear of death

you stand alongside us,
always blessing, always giving,
arms always outstretched.

For this we know: every living thing is yours and returns to you.

As we ponder this mystery
we give you thanks
for the life of N.
and we now commit him/her
into your loving hands.

Gentle God:
fragile is your world,
delicate are your creatures,
and costly is your love
which bears and redeems us all.

Prayers for Pet Services

source unknown

Holy Creator, give us eyes to see and ears to hear how every living thing speaks to us of your love. Let us be awestruck at your creation and daily sing your praises.

Especially, create within us a spirit of gratitude for the life of this beloved pet who has lived among us and given us freely of his/her love. Even in our sorrow we have cause for joy for we know that all creatures who died on earth shall live again in your new creation. Amen.

Blessed are you, Lord God, for all living creatures you have made. You keep them in your care and not one of them is lost without you knowing. They glorify you, each in its own way, and speak to us of your beauty and love. Bless them and keep them from harm. They unquestionably accept their place in the rhythm of your creation. May we respect them and cherish them for they are your gift to us; through them may we come to know you better and praise you, their Creator. Blessed be the love and joy that they bring to us. Amen. Holy God, we pray for N. who is lost. Guard him/her from all fear and bring him/her in safety to this day's end, whether it be with his/her family on earth, or in heaven. Grant peace and comfort to his/her human family as they face the unknown in the days ahead. Amen. Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Prayer for the Pet Just Passed

from Chaplain of Pets

My Beloved God, I thank you for blessing me with the angel that you sent to me as my pet. I know that this divine one came from your Grace, as my very days were blessed by your presence of that one in my life. For this I am grateful. My heart is released from the burden of sadness in knowing that we will be reunited again when we return to our true home in Heaven. Please help me through my loss with the understanding and knowing that my pet remains with me in spirit, loving me still as I love them. Thank you for giving me the time with this divine angel, whom you sent directly from your love. I have truly been blessed. Amen.

Prayer for The Healing of The Heart

from Chaplain of Pets

My Beloved God, help me to know the truth from within that, although my pet has passed away, they live in spirit. Give me the grace to go within my heart and to feel and know this truth so that I do not doubt. Help me to regain my balance and my enjoyment of life by realizing that we are all infinite spirit and that my pet is still with me in that living spirit. Help me to take those spiritual gifts that my pet gave and taught to me and use them to give my life a richer meaning and substance, and to share those things with others. Thank you for allowing me to care for one of your beloved angels for the time that we had. Amen.

Farewell to our beloved friend, N. We mourn your passing, but look forward to seeing you again.

The Euthanasia Prayer
from Chaplain of Pets

Beloved God, Help me to understand that you are/were with me, by my side, helping me to make the humane decision to end the suffering of my beloved pet. Help me to forgive myself, as you forgive me lovingly each day for my shortcomings, knowing

my heart. Help me to understand that it is good and noble to have the courage to face such a difficult decision and to make it despite how much it hurts to do so. Help me to realize that, as my decision was made from love, there is no reason for me to hang onto the heavy burden of guilt that I feel at times. Help me to realize that, as you have sent us our beloved pets to be our guardians, we are their guardians in return and are responsible for their every need - including their need to be free of pain and suffering. Help me to realize that our life together was a blessing from you and that is you who called them home to Heaven, and that I only took them to the door, where you gratefully and lovingly welcomed them home. Amen.