END OF LIFE READINGS AND BLESSINGS

Thank you for accompanying this patient at the end of their life. Below are some prepared blessings and readings which you can choose from. As far as you are familiar with the patient and their wishes please choose what you feel is appropriate. Most important is your presence, your attentiveness and your intention to care.

May you be blessed as you bless others on their journey onwards.

A blessing for you, as you bless others...

May love be in your head
And in your thinking
Love be in your eyes
And in your looking
Love be in your mouth
And in your speaking
Love be in your feet
And in your treading
Love be in your ears
And in your hearing
Love be in your heart
And in your understanding

These blessings are a compilation from:

Alternative Pastoral Prayers by Tess Ward
Benedictus by John O'Donohue
Celtic Daily Prayers Book 2

They have been collated by the Chaplaincy Team at Somerset NHS Foundation Trust 2020. If you would like further support please email chaplains@sompar.nhs.uk
Let us be still

Let us be still
We are here after a long hard journey
What has happened has happened
What has not happened has not happened
Let it be.
In this time of quiet,
Let the quietness of peace come upon you
All dear to you
And all who have no peace
And you, (name of patient), who are loved
For you there are no more troubles and no more sorrow
You have laid your burden down now
May you be enfolded in peace.
Deep peace

Deep peace of the running waves to you
Deep peace of the flowing air to you
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the gentle night to you
Moon and stars pour their comforting light on you
Deep peace of the source of peace to you
Journey

{name of patient}, go forth on your journey;
In the joy that created you and delights in you;
In the love that surrounds you;
And in the peace that awaits you
May you go forth under the strength of heaven
Light of sun
Radiance of moon
May you go forth with the splendour of fire
Speed of lightening
Swiftness of wind
May you go forth supported by the depth of the sea
Stability of rock
Firmness of earth
May you be surrounded and encircled
Above, below and about
With the deep Love that binds us all.
Tide

{Name of patient}, Go gently on your voyage, beloved
Let love call you home with the ebb tide
May the moon light a way across the waters for you
May the earth cradle you
The breeze blow you swiftly
Until you reach the place
Where your vessel need labour no more
Where love rises in bright fullness
And a new dawn breaks upon the white shore
Love was at your beginning
May love be at your ending
Love in your lying down
Love in your rising up
Love in your thinking
Love in your heart’s feeling
Love when you are in company
Love when you are alone
Love which held you before your mothers holding
May Love keep you as her own
Now and forever more
For one of Christian faith

May your soul and body be in the safe keeping of God,
May God lighten your darkness
and the light of the presence of God dispel the shadows of night.
In the name of the Father precious,
And of the Spirit of blessed balm
In the name of gentle Jesus
Lay thee down to rest.
The peace of all peace be yours,
Now and forever more.