



A Lament for the International Day of Mourning or a service of remembrance for work-related deaths

God of all creation,
Where were you the day my father died?

He was too young to die, my dad.
And they said it was a heart attack.
How many years did it take to know about the
negligence of his doctors when he was injured as a
young worker?
Where were you God the day the system began
their blaming the victim?

He was a man of peace, my dad.
But there was no peace in his dying.
How was he feeling as he tried to ignore his body's warning signs?
Where were you God the day this man learned to never burden others with his
pain?

Dad was my role model, generous to a fault.
And he died so alone, with only mum to comfort him, half way around the world.
What would he think of how his family is caring for each other and others now?
Where are you God today, when I need to know even more of dad's spirit?

God of the risen Christ,
Was it you that rolled the stone from my barricaded heart to hear my cry?
Is it you that stirs my cold, hard-edged rationality with these passionate
questions?
God, were you there all these days in the midst of my grief?

God of all creation,
Are you really listening to me, today?

Prayer for the faithful departed

We bless you, O God, for all those we love who have departed this life, giving
thanks for their lives.
Especially we remember today those we hold in our hearts with love:

We thank you, O God, that the suffering and struggles of their lives have passed.
We pray that they are at peace with you with those from every people and nation.

By your tender mercy, may their spirits serve your eternal purpose of justice and love on earth, as it is in heaven.
Help us to live lives graced with their spirits, until we are joined with them in peace eternal, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Blessing

May the Spirit of hope lead you to prepare the way of the Lord;
may the God of comfort embrace you,
as the valleys are lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low;
may the Child of Peace leap within you,
as together we journey towards the reconciliation of all things. **Amen.**