

STOURDENE

We Exist To Make Christ Known

Stourdene Soundcloud for All Souls / October 2021

There will be an opportunity to light a candle during this reflection, so if you wish to do this, please have one to hand.

Created and led by Maggie Bannister

Edited by Paul Bannister

Introductory Music: The Lord's my shepherd (verse 1)

As we remember loved ones who have died,
be near to us, ever-living God, and bring us comfort.
You know our grief and understand all we feel.
Walk with us as we learn to live with loss;
help us to comfort and support one another.
May your compassion surround us, may your strength sustain us,
that in the days to come we may see not only our sorrow
but the dawning of hope in the Christ who died yet lives again. Amen.
Simon Taylor



Song: There's a time for tears

There's a time for tears, and a time for pain, time to hurt while the grief remains.
There's a time when peace seems so far away, yet still God holds us on that day.

There's a time to weep from the ache inside, time to show what we've tried to hide,
There's a time to doubt and to wonder why, and hold each other as we cry.

God of comfort, God of the cross, joining us here to weep,
stand beside us, grieving our loss, and be for us the hope of peace.

There is time to smile at the memories, time for thanks as we meet to grieve.
It takes time to heal, so we pause today to mourn, remember and to pray.

God of comfort, God of the cross, joining us here to weep,
stand beside us, grieving our loss, and be for us the hope of peace.

God of comfort, God of the cross, joining us here to weep,
stand beside us, grieving our loss, and be for us the hope of peace.

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Reading by Paul Bannister: John 14.1-7

Those who have died live in their friends and families,
those who have died live in you, those who have died live in me.
Living and dying we are part of each other, touched by eternity, circled in love.
Ruth Burgess

Prayer read by Jane Evans: Surrounded by a Cloud of Witnesses by Kate McIlhagga

We look to you with praise

For the blessing of the lives of our departed loved ones,

In Praise

For opening your arms to receive our kin,

In Praise

For the home of peace and love in which they now reside,

In Praise

For the welcome you give to all your cherished children.

We look to you in hope

For healing amidst our sorrow our loss,

With hope

For an abating of our mourning with the knowledge our loved ones rest with you

With hope

For the promise of tomorrows without grief and heartache

With hope

For serenity that will return to our hearts in your time.

We look to you in remembrance

Of the life of our loved ones,

In remembrance

Of their patience and strength,

In remembrance

Of their love and support

In remembrance

Of their humour and companionship

We look to you in thanksgiving

for our fond memories

In thanksgiving

for the sharing of gifts

In thanksgiving

For your everlasting love

In thanksgiving

For the comfort you offer us.

God of comfort, we look to you with praise, hope, remembrance and thanksgiving.
May we be open to your love and wisdom in the days to come.

Compassionate God, open our hearts to receive your blessing,
open our souls to witness your grace, open our lives to welcome your love.
We ask this through your Son, our companion, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Closing Music: The Lord's my shepherd