Acts of Remembrance that have been used in memorial services

##### Welcome

We are glad you’ve come today, and we hope this memorial event will be helpful to you. We’ll use readings, music, silence and a simple act of remembrance to help us give time to our remembering and give thanks for those who have died. There is no right way to do this. Some things will work for you and some won’t. But what follows will give us an opportunity to do what really matters – to remember in your own way.

###### Welcome

Welcome to this memorial of those, most of whom, died about a year ago in the care of, or known to the hospice.

We are pleased that children are here to share the occasion. If you feel they are getting a little restless, or maybe need the toilets, use any exit and follow the circular corridor to either the entrance lobby or the Guildhall. In the Guildhall there is a table full of activities for children, which they are invited to use after, or even during, the service.

###### Welcome

As we meet together in this place today, we may reach out to each other with understanding and hope. Our loved ones have died at all ages and from different causes, but our love for them unites us. Your pain becomes my pain, just as your hope becomes my hope.

We meet together from all walks of life, from many different circumstances. Some are young and some are much older. Some of us are far along the road after our loss, but others feel grief so fresh and so intensely painful that we feel helpless and see no hope. Some of us have found our faith to be a source of strength; some of us are struggling to find answers. Some of us are very angry, filled with guilt or depression; others radiate an inner peace. But whatever pain we bring to this service, we know God understands, know that He loves each of us and shares the suffering with us. He accepts us just as we are.

(Adapted from the Creed of Compassionate Friends)