**Prayers Surrounding the Loss of a Child**

 **Following a Miscarriage**

Heavenly God, the Rock of Ages, you sustain the universe with

the power of your love and hold us in the tenderness of your

unfailing care. Support N. [and N.] who mourn the loss of their

child. Comfort them in their pain and heal them in your grace.

Hold their little one in your everlasting arms. We pray in the name

of Jesus Christ who has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows

from death to eternal life. Amen.

0 God, who gathered Rachel's tears over her lost children: Hear

now the sorrow and distress of N. [and N.] for the death of the

child they longed for; in the darkness of loss, stretch out to them

the strength of your arm and renewed assurance of your love;

through your own suffering and risen Child Jesus. Amen.

**(From**  Enriching Our Worship 2)

**Following a Stillbirth, or Death Shortly after Birth**

Heavenly Father, your love for all children is strong and enduring.

We were not able to know N. as we had hoped. Yet you knew

her growing in her mother's womb, and she is not lost to you. In

the midst of our sadness, we thank you that N. is with you now.

Amen. (From Enriching Our Worship 2)

Loving God, we thank you that in your mercy you brought your

daughter N. through childbirth in safety. We pray that N. [and

N.] will know your support in this time of trouble and enjoy your

protection always; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. (From

 Enriching Our Worship 2)

**For Use by a Woman Whose Child Has Died in the Womb**

God, I cry out in anguish for this child of my body whose death

has robbed me of hope and my joy. With your strong arm,

uphold me in the sorrow of my labor to come. Do not leave me

comfortless, but help me to trust that my beloved whom you have

known in my womb now sees your face. As my child slides from

my arms, hold her/him secure in your everlasting arms in that

place of reunion and love, that dear, dear country of the blessed

where your Child Jesus Christ reigns in eternal light. Amen.

**Following an Abortion**

Holy and life-giving God, we thank you for being with N. [and

N.] through this difficult time. Help her to accept that you love

her as you love the young life who is now held in Christ's arms.

Fill her heart with your mercy. Heal her in body and mind that

she may trust in your goodness. Guide her in the days to come,

that she may know herself to be your beloved child. We ask this in

Jesus' name. Amen.