

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Materials Needed: candle; music (*see opening song*)

Opening Song: Favourite hymn or song;

Suggestions: *Amazing Grace; Be Not Afraid; Blest Are They; On Eagles Wings; The Lord is My Shepherd; You Are Near*

Blessed be this light
Symbol of your spirit _____ (name of loved one)
Your presence in our lives.

Light, symbol of many shared moments
Too many to count
Sacred, precious, treasured

You touched us deeply
Nurturing the seed of love
Planted in our hearts by our Creator

Your light continues to shine
Through the seasons of our lives
Joy to our hearts - happy remembrances.

We miss you!
The wound from separation is still tender
A reminder of our deep love for you.

Blessed be your spirit
Resting in the peace and joy of God
At home in His heart.

By Sally Fecteau

Scripture Reading: (samples attached at end of document)

Prayer of Remembrance and Entrustment

In the rising of the sun and its going down, we remember

In the blowing of the wind and the chill of winter, we
remember you.

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring, we
remember you.

In the blueness of the sky and the warmth of summer, we
remember you.

In the rustling of leaves and the beauty of autumn, we
remember you

In the beginning of the year and when it ends, we
remember you

When we are weary and in need of strength, we
remember you

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember you
When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember you

As long as we live, you too shall live
For you are now a part of us, as we remember you.

You were part of our struggle; you were part of our joys;
you were an integral part of our life's journey.
You will shine on.
Heavenly Father, we entrust _____ to your loving
care.

He/She is now free of pain and sickness. He/she can see
with much greater clarity than when He/she was with us
here on earth. _____ will continue to be with us
in a special way - loving and praying for us until we are
united again in Heaven.

Source: Excerpted from Gates of Prayer (Reformed Jewish Prayerbook)
p.552 Adapted

Lord Jesus, I ask for healing.
Give me the grace to embrace this part of my life's
journey.
Help me to deal with my grief.
Throughout my life you have always been with me.
But now my life has taken a different
and more painful road.
Sometimes the road seems to be rocky
I don't know what is ahead of me.
Lord Jesus, walk closely with me
Help me to see that you are with me.
That you are leading me in every moment, of every day.
With this knowledge, I can accept life's ups and downs
Provide for my journey.

Give me strength and courage to persevere,
Send companions to walk with me
To cheer me up; to help fill the long, lonely hours.
Lord, I do not desire to walk in fear.
I choose to enjoy the life given to me.
Make my cup to overflow with wonder and gratitude
And praise for our Heavenly Father.

By Sally Fecteau

Suggested Scripture Readings for Memorial Prayer

Psalm 23

Response: Only goodness and love will pursue me all the days of my life

The Lord is my shepherd

There is nothing I lack

In green pastures you let me graze

To safe waters you lead me

You restore my strength Response

You guide me along the right path

For the sake of your name

Even when I walk through a dark valley

I fear no harm for you are at my side

Your rod and staff give me courage. Response

You set a table before me

As my enemies watch

You anoint my head with oil

My cup overflows Response

Only goodness and love will pursue me

All the days of my life

I will dwell in the house of the Lord

For years to come. Response

PSALM 121

Response: My help will come from the Lord.

I look to the mountains; where will my help come from?

My help will come from the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth. Response

He will not let you fall;

Your protector is always awake.

The protector of Israel never dozes or sleeps Response

The Lord will guard you

He is by your side to protect you.

The sun will not hurt you during the day

Nor the moon during the night. Response

The Lord will protect you from all danger;

He will keep you safe

He will protect you as you come and go

Now and forever. Response

Revelations 21: 1 - 5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth disappeared and the sea vanished. And I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared and ready, like a bride dressed to meet her husband.

I heard a loud voice speaking from the throne: "Now God's home is with mankind! He will live with them, and they shall be his people. God himself will be with them, and he will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared. Then the one who sits on the throne said, "See, I make all things new!"

Romans 8: 26—28

In the same way the Spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express. And God who sees into our hearts, knows what the thought of the Spirit is; because the Spirit pleads with God on behalf of those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose

Romans 8: 31b, 31 – 35, 37 - 39

We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, not powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 10, 11 to 15; 27 - 30

I am the Good Shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for my sheep. There are other sheep that belong to me that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them, too. They will listen to my voice and they will become one flock with one shepherd. My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never die. No one can snatch them away from me. What my Father has given me is greater than everything, and no one can snatch them away from the Father's care. The Father and I are one.

John 14: 25—27

I have told you this while I am still with you. The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you. Peace is what I leave with you. It is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid.

Matthew 5: 1 – 10 (The Beatitudes).

Jesus saw the crowds and went up a hill. His disciples gathered round him, and he began to teach them:

Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor: the kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

Happy are those who mourn; God will comfort them!

Happy are those who are humble; they will receive what God has promised!

Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires: God will satisfy them fully!

Happy are those who are merciful to others: God will be merciful to them!

Happy are the pure in heart: they will see God!

Happy are those who work for peace: God will call them his children!

Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires: the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers: be happy and glad, for a great reward is kept for you in heaven.

John 14: 27-28

Whoever loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and my Father and I will come to him and live with him. Whoever does not love me does not obey my teaching. And the teaching you have heard is not mine, but comes from the Father, who sent me. I have told you this while I am still with you. The Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you.

Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid.