The Lord gives, the Lord takes away, 
blessed be the name of the Lord. 
Death comes upon us just as the leaf falls 
from the tree when its day is done. 
Yet, the deeds of loving and righteous human beings, 
enrich the lives of others just as the fallen leaf 
enriches the soil beneath. 
Our loved ones continue to be with us 
when we remember their deeds 
and the precious times we shared with them. 
Death is not the end; the earthly body vanishes, 
but the immortal spirit lives on with G-d. 
In our hearts, also, our loved ones never die. 
Their love, their kindness, the beautiful words they 
spoke and their memory are a lasting inspiration, 
moving us to noble deeds and blessing us ever more.
THE YIZKOR MEMORIAL
SERVICE

Recalling and Honoring Our Dead

One of the most enduring traditions of Judaism is honoring our families. The Torah calls us to honor our mothers and our fathers during their lives, and to remember them after their deaths. We do that formally four times a year at Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Passover and Shavuot - during the Yizkor Memorial Service.

Yizkor, comes from the Hebrew root word zakhor, which is derived from remember and therefore means memorial. Recalling the memories of our loved ones who have passed away is more than a convenient form of emotional release. It is an act of solemn piety and an expression of profound respect. It is a ritual through which we pay homage to our ancestors and recall the goodness of life and the traditional goals of our heritage.

The Yizkor Memorial Service is based on the firm belief that we the living, through Jewish ritual and acts of piety and goodness, can redeem the dead. By living according to the precepts of the Torah, we honor our parents and give continuing life to their values. We do this primarily through the mitzvot (Divine Commandments), acts of loving kindness, and caring deeply for the needs of those around us. We express that caring in prayer and through tzedakah (contributions to charity).

The Yizkor Memorial Service was probably first introduced during the massacres of the Crusades and the early medieval pogroms. It was at first recited only during the Day of Atonement. On that holiest day of the year, when we seek redemption from our sins, we seek atonement as well for members of the family who have died. The tradition of giving tzedakah was based in the belief that the good deeds and acts of loving kindness committed by survivors elevate the souls of the departed. The Yizkor Memorial
Service was later added to all pilgrimage holiday services – Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot – because the Torah reading on the last day of each of these holidays mentions the importance of **tzedakah**.

**Yizkor** may be said for all Jewish dead: parents, grandparents, mates, children, family and friends. It may be recited for suicides and for sinners. Although the Mourners’ Kaddish must be said in the company of a minyan, the Yizkor Memorial Prayer, which does not include the Mourners’ Kaddish, may be said privately only if one cannot get to the synagogue. It is considered much better if the Yizkor Memorial Prayer is recited with a congregation.

**Yizkor** is a redemptive prayer. As such, it should be recited beginning with the very first holiday after death. Despite a widespread belief to the contrary, there is no legitimate religious reason to delay it.

**Yizkor** is recited throughout one’s entire lifetime. The need and obligation to honor the memory of the departed does not end in a particular year.

**Yizkor** It is customary to kindle yahrzeit candles for the departed on the four holidays when Yizkor is recited. Because the candle and flame symbolize the relation of body and soul, it is considered best that the lights be candles. If candles are not available, electric bulbs or gas light may be used. For Yizkor memorial purposes, one light will serve adequately to recall all the departed.

**YIZKOR MEMORIAL DATES**

Yom Kippur ..................October 9, 2019
Shemini Atzeret ..................October 21, 2019
Passover .............................April 16, 2020
Shavuot .............................May 30, 2020
MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE DEPARTED

What is man, or the son of man,
What is man, O Lord, what is man?

יְהֹוָה מַעַּ-אָדָם וּתְדַעְתָּו בַּ-אָנָו וְתַכְּרִיתָו
אֵדְם לְהַבְּלָדָּה סָמָה יִמְּיָו כָּעַר

Adonai ma-adam va-te-da-eh-hu ben enosh va-t’khash-ve-hu.
Adam la-hevel da-ma ya-mav k’tzel o-ver.

Lord, what is man, that You should take knowledge of him,
or the son of man, that You should make account of him?
Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow.

(Psalm 144: 3, 4)

Ma-enosh ki tiz-k’reh-nu u-ven adam ki tif’ke-denu.
Va-t’khas-rehu m’at m’elohim v’khavod v’hadar t’at-rehu.

What is man, that You are mindful of him?
And the son of man, that You visit him?
For You have made him a little lower than the angels,
and have crowned him with glory and honor.

(Psalm 8: 5, 6)
He who dwells in the shelter of the most High, who abides under the protection of the Almighty, Will say to the Lord, My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.

(Psalms 91:1, 2)

I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not fail. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my flesh also dwells in safety.

(Psalms 16:8, 9)

As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field. For the wind passes over it, and it is gone; and its place knows it no more. But the loving kindness of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who fear him.

(Psalms 103:15, 16, 17)
Reflections Before Yizkor

Death for us is a mixture of moods,

Fear of abandonment, separation, being left alone,
brooding anger,
fists shaken against the sky,
voices shouted against the grave,

regrets over things that could have been,
that should have been,
but that were not.

bittersweet nostalgia,
ugly scenes transmuted into memories
of mere mischief.

Sharp quarrels softened by the passing of time,
words of stone smoothed by perspective,
tears, salt of self pity, brine of resentment

and remembrance of that gray day,
of a tear in the cloth, of a handful of earth,

and now this moment
when together we cling to courage
we who have the right to mourn
for others and for ourselves.

It is the dignity of the soul
to hold on to the past;
it is the dignity of the spirit to
take hold of the future,

To love again and to forgive others and ourselves,
to rise from grief, to sew the torn garment,
to live, to love, even to laugh again,

and at the same time to remember –
always to remember, always.

Rabbi Harold Schulweis
Yizkor
יִזָּקָר
Prayer in Memory of a Father

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat a-vi mori sheh-ha-lakh l’olamo.
Ana t’hi nafsho tz-ru-ra bi-tz’ror ha-khayim,
u-t’hi m’nukhato kavod.
S’va s’ma-khot et panekha.
N’i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved father
who has gone to his eternal home to be reunited with You.
O may his soul be bound up in the bond of life, a living
blessing in our midst. Amen.

Prayer in Memory of a Mother

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat i-mi morati sheh-ha-lakh l’olama.
Ana t’hi nafsho tz-ru-ra bi-tz’ror ha-khayim,
u-t’hi m’nukhato kavod.
S’va s’ma-khot et panekha.
N’i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved mother
who has gone to her eternal home to be reunited with You.
O may her soul be bound up in the bond of life, a living
blessing in our midst. Amen.
Prayer in Memory of a Husband

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat ba-ali ha-ya-kar sheh-ha lakh l'olamo.
Ana t'hi nafsho tz-ru-ra bi-tz’ror ha-khayim,
u-t'hi m'nukhato kavod.
S’va s’ma-khot et panekha.
N’i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved husband who has gone to his eternal home to be reunited with You.
O may his soul be bound up in the bond of life,
a living blessing in our midst. Amen.

Prayer in Memory of a Wife

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat ish-ti hay-ka-rah sheh-hal-kha l’olama.
Ana t’hi nafsha tz-ru-ra bi-tz’ror ha-khayim,
u-t’hi m’nukhata kavod.
S’va s’ma-khot et panekha.
N’i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved wife who has gone to her eternal home to be reunited with You.
O may her soul be bound up in the bond of life,
a living blessing in our midst. Amen.
Prayer in Memory of a Brother

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat a-khi ha-ya-kar sheh-ha-lakh l’olamo.
Ana t’hi nafsho tz-ru-ra bi-tz’ror ha-khayim,
u-t’hi m’nukhato kavod.
S’va s’ma-khot et panekha.
N’i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved brother who has gone to his eternal home to be reunited with You. O may his soul be bound up in the bond of life, a living blessing in our midst. Amen.

Prayer in Memory of a Sister

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat a-kho-ti hay-ka-rah sheh-hal-kha l’olama.
Ana i’hi nafsho tz-ru-ra bi-tz’ror ha-khayim,
u-t’hi m’nukhata kavod.
S’va s’ma-khot et panekha.
N’i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved sister who has gone to her eternal home to be reunited with You. O may her soul be bound up in the bond of life, a living blessing in our midst. Amen.
Prayer in Memory of a Son

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat b'ni ha-ahuv.
makhmahd eynai aheh-ha-lakh l'olamo.
Ana t'hi nafsho tz-ru-ra bi-tz'ror ha-khayim,
u-t'hi m'nukhato kavod.
S'va s'ma-khot et panekha.
N'i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved son who has gone to his eternal home to be reunited with You. O may his soul be bound up in the bond of life, a living blessing in our midst. Amen.

Prayer in Memory of a Daughter

Yizkor Elohim nish-mat bi-ti ha-a-huva.
makhmahd eynai sheh-hal-kha l'olama.
Ana t'hi nafsha tz-ru-ra bi-tz'ror ha-khayim,
u-t'hi m'nukhato kavod.
S'va s'ma-khot et panekha.
N'i-mot bi-min-kha ne-tzakh. Amen.

O heavenly Father, remember the soul of my beloved daughter who has gone to her eternal home to be reunited with You. O may her soul be bound up in the bond of life, a living blessing in our midst. Amen.
Prayer in Memory of the Jewish Martyrs

Yizkor Elohim nish-mot
(kol kero-vai uk-rovo-tai, hen me-tzad avi, hen me-tzad ee-me)
Hak-doshim v'hat-horim sheh-neher-gu,
Sheh-neesh-chatu v'sheh-nees-refu, v'sheh-neat-b'u
v'sheh-neh-chen-ku al kiddush Hashem.
Ba-voor sh'blee neder eten tze-dakah b'Ahdam, b'sechar zeh,
Tehe-yenah naf-sho-tayhem tz'-ru-rot b'tz-ror ha-chaim eem
nish-mot Avraham Yitzchak v'Yaakov,
Sarah Rivka Rachel v'Leah, v'eeem sheh-ar tza-dee-keem

May God be mindful of the souls of all our brothers and sisters, departed members of the house of Israel who sacrificed their lives for the sanctification of the holy Name and honor of Israel. Grant that their heroism and self-sacrificing devotion find response in our hearts and the purity of their souls be reflected in our lives.

May their souls be bound up in the bonds of eternal life, an everlasting blessing among us. Amen..
A Psalm of David

מְמוֹר לֶדֶד

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for
His name’s sake.

Although I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will
fear no evil, for You are with me;
your rod and your staff comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and loving kindness shall
follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

(Psalm 23)
Memorial Prayer for the Departed

El Maleh

אל מלא

אל מלא רחמניש שולח בפורומים. המצא מנחה בנווה לו בפיי
השכינה. בציעלות חודשים ותורות זכר קדשיות מצהירם
את נשמותımız והשדויות שחלפו עלולומם.
בעבור שאצנו נ dword יזדקה עד זכורות כמותיה.
בגו עוזי נבאה מנחותם. לכו יעלו הרחמים בחסידות בסטה
כגון עלולומם. אורוור ביוור חיותם את נשמותיהם.
’י המاذך: ינحوا בשלום על משכבתם. ונאמר אמי:

El maleh rakha-mim, shokheyn bam-ro-mim
Ham-tze men-u-kha n’kho-na al kan-fey ha-Shekhinah.
B’ma-a-lot k’doshim, u-t’horim k’zohar ha-rakiyah
maz-hi-rim et nish-mot ha-y’sharim v’ha-y’sharot
sheh-hal-khu l’olamam.
Ba-avur she-anu no-d’rim litz-daka b’ad haz-karot nishmo-tayhem.
B’gan eden t’hey m’noo-kha-tam.
La-khehn ba’al ha-rakha-mim yas-tirem b’se-tehr k’na-fav l’olamim.
V’yitz-ror bitz-ror ha-khayim et nishmo-tayhem.
Adonai hu-na-kha-latam.
V’yanu-khu b’shalom al mish-k’votam. V’nomar Amen.

O merciful God,

Who dwells on high and yet is full of compassion,
keep in Your divine presence among the holy and pure,
whose light shines as the brightness of the firmament,
the souls of our dear and beloved
who have gone to their eternal home with You.
O may their souls be bound up in the bond of life,
and their memories inspire us to serve You and all humanity
in truth, kindness and peace. Amen.
Notes on the Mourners’s Kaddish

The Kaddish makes no reference either to death or another world. It is concerned with the continuity of life and calls for us to sanctify and make holy our moral energies in this world.

A Hasidic commentary gathers the first letter of the first four words of the Kaddish and notes that it combines to read “YOSHER”, which means honesty and fairness. Through our open relationship with others, we prove the existence of God in our lives and demonstrate the reality of the attributes of Divinity. How we live with each other shows our system of belief. We prove God not through deductive reasoning, but through what we do and how we act.

Prayer Before the Mourners’s Kaddish

Almighty and eternal God, we recall those who have gone to their eternal rest.

In love, we remember their kind words and their unselfish deeds.

We thank you, Adonai, for their lives, for our companionship with them, for the sweet memories they leave behind.

May we, in tribute to our departed, live wisely, courageously and usefully.

Thus will our departed be bound up in the bond of life and endure as a living influence among us.

Comfort, we pray You, those who mourn.

Strengthen them in sorrow and deepen their faith as they rise to sanctify Your name.
MOURNER'S KADDISH

(Kaddish Yatom)

קדיש יתומים

Mourners:

יוחנן ויתקדש שמה רוח. בצעלים ויבאר כל אもらいיה,
ויוכל נחלות חלקיהו והשמעון והמעלה כל בית ישראל,
בצעלים ובם קרבין, ואמור אמן.

Congregation and Mourners:

יהו שמה רבא מברך עלעלם ועללם, עלפיי.

Mourners:

יתברך וישמעה ויתפזר ויתורומם ויתנו בן יתימיה
ויוכל נחלות חלקיהו והשמעון והמעלה כל בית ישראל,
ויוכל נחלות חלקיהו והשמעון והמעלה כל בית ישראל,
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ויוכל נחלות החלקיו והשמעון והמעלה כל בית ישראל,
ויוכל נחלות החלקיו והשמעון והמעלה כל בית ישראל,
ויוכל נחלות החלקיווה השם仪器, ויהי נשיא השם仪器
ויוכל על כל ישראל, ויאמר אמן.
Mourners:
Yit-ga-dal v’yit-ka-dash sh’mei raba,
b’al-ma div-ra kir-u-tei v’yam-likh mal-khu-tei,
b’kha-ye-khon uv’yo-me-khon
uv’kha-yei d’khol beit Yis-ra-el,

Congregation and Mourners:
Y’hei sh’mei raba m’va-rakh
l’o-lam ul’al-mei al-ma-ya.

Mourners:
Y’it-ba-rakh v’yish-ta-bakh, v’yit-pa-ar, v’yit-ro-mam,
v’yit-na-sei, v’yit-ha-dar, v’yit-a-leh, v’yit-ha-lal,
sh’mei d’kud-sha b’reekh hu.

L’ei-la (ul’ei-la) min kol bir-kha-ta v’shi-ra-ta,
tush-b’kha-ta v’ne-khe-ma-ta, da-amiran b’alma,
V’im-ru Amen.

Y’hei sh’la-ma raba min sh’maya
v’kha-yim, aleinu v’al kol Yis-ra-el, V’im-ru Amen.

O-seh sha-lom bim-ro-mav, hu ya-a-seh sha-lom
aleinu v’al kol Yis-ra-el, V’im-ru Amen.
Mourners:
Magnified and sanctified be G-d’s great name in the world which He has created according to His will. May He establish his kingdom soon, in our lifetime. Let us say: Amen.

Congregation and Mourners:
May His great name be praised to all eternity.

Mourners:
Hallowed and honored, extolled and exalted, adored and acclaimed be the name of the Holy One, though He is infinitely beyond all the praises, hymns and songs of adoration which are uttered. Let us say: Amen.

May G-d grant abundant peace and life to us and to all Israel. Let us say: Amen.

May He who ordains harmony in the universe grant peace to us and to all Israel. Let us say: Amen.
A PERSONAL MEDITATION

Our Creator, the King of kings, delights in life. Because of His love for us, and because we are so few, each of us is important in His kingdom. Though we are flesh and blood, we are irreplaceable. When one of the House of Israel dies, there is a loss of glory in His kingdom and His grandeur is diminished. Therefore, members of the House of Israel, all of you who mourn and all of you who remember on this day, let us fix our hearts on our Father in Heaven, our King and our Redeemer, and let us pray for ourselves, and for Him too, that He and His sovereignty be hallowed and enhanced, glorified and celebrated.
IN LOVING AND PERPETUAL REMEMBRANCE

Prayer of Remembrance

Oh God, as we recall our cherished loved ones, we thank You for the years You gave them, years in which they brought joy and comfort to many.

As we recall them, we pray that their memory be for us a source of lasting inspiration leading us to noble thoughts and good deeds.

In gratefulness for all blessings that have come to us from their lives, may we resolve to dedicate ourselves anew to the heritage they have bequeathed to us. Amen.

We invite you to keep this Scroll of Remembrance as a reminder of today’s Yizkor Memorial Service.