

יזכור

*Yizkor*

*Book of Remembrance*

5784

2023 - 2024



CONGREGATION  
BETH SHALOM  
WILMINGTON, DE

May the pains of past bereavements  
grow more gentle;  
indeed,  
let them be transformed into gratitude to our  
dear ones who have died and tenderness  
to those who are still with us.

The following prayer may be recited by worshippers who are blessed by having their parents still living while others are reciting Yizkor:

ALMIGHTY GOD, while those who have lost their parents and their dear ones call to mind those who have gone to their eternal rest, I at this solemn moment raise my eyes unto You, the Giver of Life, and from a grateful heart thank You for Your mercies in having preserved the life of my beloved father and mother.

MAY it be Your will, O Lord my God and the God of my ancestors, to bless them with health and strength, so that they may be with me for many years to come. Bless them even as they have blessed me, and guard them even as they have guarded me.

IN return for all their affection and the sacrifices which they have made for me, may I bring them joy and lighten their cares. May it be my privilege to help them in every way that lies within my power; may I learn to understand and recognize the duty I owe unto them, that I may never have cause to reproach myself when it is too late.

SHIELD my home from all sorrow. May peace and harmony and Your spirit ever reign within its walls. Keep me true to You and to all with whom I contact so that I may do Your will with a perfect heart, my God in Heaven. Amen.

יְהוָה, מִה־אָדָם וְתִדְעֵהוּ, בֶּן־אָנוּשׁ  
 וְתַחֲשִׁבֵהוּ. אָדָם לַהֲבֵל דָּמָה, יָמָיו  
 כְּצֵל עוֹבֵר. בִּבְקָר יִצְיִן וְחָלָף, לָעָרֹב  
 יִמּוּלֵל וַיָּבֶשׁ. תָּשֻׁב אָנוּשׁ עַד־דָּכָא,  
 וְתֹאמַר שׁוּבוּ בְנֵי־אָדָם. שׁוּבָה יְהוָה,  
 עַד־מָתִי, וְהִנָּחֵם עַל עֲבָדֶיךָ.

Adonai, what are we humans, that You have regard for us,  
 mere mortals, that You take account of us?

We are as a breath,  
 Our days are like a fleeting shadow.

In the morning they flourish anew,  
 In the evening they shrivel and die.

Teach us to number our days,  
 That we may acquire a heart of wisdom.

The Lord redeems the life of God's servants;  
 And those who trust in God shall not feel forsaken.

I have set the Lord before me always,  
 God is at my right hand; I shall not fail.

Therefore my heart rejoices, my whole being exults,  
 And my body rests secure.

שְׁוִיתִי יְיָ לְנִגְדִי תָמִיד. כִּי מִיְמִינִי בַל־אֲמוּט:

לֵכֵן שָׂמַח לְבִי וַיִּגַּל כְּבוֹדִי.  
 אֶף־בְּשָׂרִי יִשְׁכֵּן לְבִטָּח:

## REFLECTIONS

There is a time for everything;  
there is a time for all things under the sun:

*a time to be born and a time to die*  
a time to laugh and a time to cry  
*a time to dance and a time to mourn*  
a time to seek and a time to lose

*a time to forget and a time to remember.*

This day in sacred convocation we remember those  
who gave us life.

*This day we remember those who enriched our life with  
love and with beauty, with kindness and compassion, with  
thoughtfulness and understanding.*

This day we renew the bonds that bind us to those  
who have gone the way of all the earth.

*As we reflect upon those whose memory moves us this day,  
we seek consolation, and the strength and the insight born  
of faith.*

## WORDS FROM THE TRADITION

Tender as parents with their children,  
the Lord is merciful with the worshippers.

*God knows how we are fashioned;*

*God remembers that we are dust.*

Our days are as grass;

We flourish as flowers in the field.

*The wind passes over them and they are gone,*

*and no one can recognize where they grew.*

But the Lord's compassion for the worshippers,  
God's righteousness to children's children,  
remain, age after age, unchanging.

*Three score and ten our years may number,*

*four score years if granted the vigor.*

Laden with trouble and travail,  
life quickly passes, it flies away.

*Teach us to use all of our days, O Lord,*

*that we may attain a heart of wisdom.*

Grant us of Your love in the morning,  
that we may joyously sing all our days.

## A MEMORIAL PRAYER

I haven't forgotten you, even though it's been some time now  
since I've seen your face, touched your hand, heard your voice.  
You are with me all the time.

I used to think you left me. I know better now. You come to me.  
Sometimes in fleeting moments I feel your presence close by.  
But I still miss you. And nothing — no person, no joy, no accomplishment,  
no distraction, not even God — can fill the gaping  
hole your absence has left in my life.

But mixed together with all my sadness, there is a great joy for  
having known you. I want to thank you for the time we shared,  
for the love you gave, for the wisdom you spread.

Thank you for the magnificent moments and for the ordinary ones  
too. There was beauty in our simplicity. Holiness in our  
unspectacular days. And I will carry the lessons you taught me  
always.

Your life has ended, but your light can never be extinguished. It  
continues to shine upon me even on the darkest nights and  
illuminates my way.

I light this candle in your honor and in your memory. May God  
bless you as you have blessed me with love, with grace and with  
peace. Amen.

Rabbi Naomi Levy,  
“Talking with God”

## WE TRY OUR BEST

Memories. Photographs. Video and audio recordings.

We try our best to remember our loved ones as they were.  
We try our best to remember them as though they are still here.

We try our best to remember their lessons of life,  
their sense of humor, and their beautiful songs.

We try our best to remember them for their strength and  
their courage, for their standing for justice and for peace.

We try our best to remember them with their passion and  
determination, for rising for the fallen and for speaking truths.

In this solemn hour, we try our best to remember,  
for they endure in our hearts forever.

Hayim Weiss



## TREASURING BLESSINGS THAT CAN NEVER DIE

May those we loved and lost visit us in our dreams  
and in all our days. May their memory, their legacy,  
their love, and their light shine on us always. Amen.

Rabbi Naomi Levy,  
“Einstein and the Rabbi”

## WHERE WILL I BE

Do not come when I am dead  
To sit beside a low green mound,  
Or bring the first gay daffodils,  
Because I love them so,  
for I shall not be there.  
You cannot find me there.  
Where will I be?

I will be reflected from the bright eyes of little children;  
In the smile of a bride under the chupah;  
In the flames of Shabbat candles at the family simcha.  
I will warm your hands through the glow of the winter fire;  
I will soothe you with the drop of the rain on the roof;  
I will speak to you out of the wisdom of the sages;  
And make your heart leap with the rhythm of a hora;  
I will flood your soul with the flaming radiance of the sunrise,  
And bring you peace in the tender rose and  
gold of the after-sunset.  
All these have made me happy.  
They are a part of me; I shall become part of them.

Juanita DeLong



## WE RECALL

Some of us recall parents who watched over us, nursed us, guided us, and sacrificed for us.

Some of us lovingly call to mind a wife, husband, or partner with whom we were truly united—in our hopes and our pains, in our failures and our achievements, in our joys and our sorrows.

Some of us remember brothers and sisters, who grew up together with us, sharing in the play of childhood, in the youthful adventure of discovering life's possibilities, bound to us by a heritage of family tradition and by years of togetherness and love.

Some of us call to mind children, entrusted to us too briefly, to whom we gave our loving care and from whom we received a trust that enriched our lives.

So many of us recall beloved relatives and friends whose affection and devotion enhanced our lives, and whose visible presence will never return to cheer, encourage, or support us.

Though they are gone, we are grateful for the blessings they brought to our lives. We are sustained and comforted by the thought that their presence in our lives remains an enduring blessing that we can bequeath to others. We can show our devotion to them by our devotion to those ideas that they cherished.

O God of love, make us worthy of the love we have received by teaching us to love You with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our might, and to spread the light of Your divine love on all whose lives touch ours.

Give us strength to live faithfully, for we are cheered by our confidence that You will not permit our lives to be wasted, but will bring all our worthy strivings to live on, even as we may not see their fulfillment.

Mordecai M. Kaplan, Eugene Kohn, and Ira Eisenstein

## IN MEMORIAM

### *A personal meditation*

Eternal God, Master of mercy, give me the gift of remembering. May my memories of the dead be tender and true, undiminished by time; let me recall them, and love them, as they were. Shelter me with the gift of tears. Let me express my sense of loss, my sorrow, my pain, as well as my love, and words unspoken. Bless me with the gift of prayer.

May I face You with an open heart, with trusting faith, unembarrassed and unashamed. Strengthen me with the gift of hope. May I always believe in the beauty of life, the power of goodness, the right to joy.

May I surrender my being, and the soul of the dead, to Your all-knowing compassion.

*Each congregant continues with the appropriate passages among the following, in silent meditation. Personal meditations may also be added.*

*We rise.*

## IN MEMORY OF A FATHER

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְׁמַת אָבִי מוֹרִי שְׁהֶלֶךְ  
לְעוֹלָמוֹ. הִנְנִי ( m: נוֹדֵב / w: נוֹדֵבֶת ) צִדְקָה בְּעֵד  
הַזְכָּרַת נִשְׁמָתוֹ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוּר  
הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד, שִׁבְעַ שְׁמַחוֹת  
אֶת־פָּנֶיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נֹצֵחַ. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my father who has gone to his eternal home. In loving testimony to his life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to him. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is his soul bound up in the bond of life. May I prove myself worthy of the gift of life and the many other gifts with which he blessed me. May these moments of meditation strengthen the ties that link me to his memory and to our entire family. May he rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

### *Additional meditation in memory of a father*

In memory of your life, dear father, rises before me this solemn hour as I recall all the kindness, love and encouragement which you showed me during your life. With untiring zeal you provided for my physical and spiritual needs. You rejoiced in my achievements, you guided me in my perplexities, and strengthened me in my trials and disappointments. I can pay you the tribute which you so richly deserve, by cherishing the ideals and principles you have taught me, by continuing the noble work you have left unfinished, by loyally upholding the heritage of Israel which you have transmitted unto me, and by serving my people and all who need me. Though you are gone from my physical view, the bond of love which unites us can never be severed. May the memories of your life spur me on to follow truth and righteousness. Amen.

## IN MEMORY OF A MOTHER

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמַת אִמִּי מוֹרְתִי שֶׁהָלָכָה  
לְעוֹלָמָהּ. הִנְנִי ( m: נֹדֵב / w: נֹדֶכֶת ) צִדְקָה בְּעַד  
הַזְכָּרַת נְשָׁמָתָהּ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשָׁה צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוּר  
הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת  
אֶת־פְּנִיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נִצָּח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my mother who has gone to her eternal home. In loving testimony to her life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to her. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is her soul bound up in the bond of life. May I prove myself worthy of the gift of life and the many other gifts with which she blessed me. May these moments of meditation strengthen the ties that link me to her memory and to our entire family. May she rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

### *Additional meditation in memory of a mother*

Though we are separated, dear mother, in this solemn hour, I call to mind the love and solicitude with which you tended and watched over my childhood, ever mindful of my welfare, and ever anxious for my happiness. Many were the sacrifices you made to ennoble my heart and instruct my mind. What I achieved is because of your influence, and what I am, I have become through you. Though you are no longer physically present, the lessons that you imparted unto me shall ever remain with me.

If at times, I have failed in showing you the love and appreciation which you so worthily deserved, if I have been thoughtless and ungrateful, I ask to be forgiven. I pray that your spirit inspire me to noble and intelligent living, so that when my days on earth are ended, and I arrive at the Throne of Mercy, I shall be deemed worthy of you, and to be reunited with you in God. Amen.

## IN MEMORY OF A HUSBAND

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נִשְׁמַת בְּעָלִי שְׁהֶלֶךְ  
לְעוֹלָמוֹ. הֲנִנִּי ( m: נוֹדֵב / w: נוֹדֶבֶת ) צְדָקָה בְּעַד  
הַזְכָּרַת נִשְׁמָתוֹ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בְּצָרוֹר  
הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמֻחוֹת  
אֶת־פָּנֶיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נֹצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my husband who has gone to his eternal home. In loving testimony to his life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to him. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is his soul bound up in the bond of life. Love is as strong as death; deep bonds of love are indissoluble. The memory of our companionship and love overcomes loneliness, for all that we shared still endures. May he rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

## IN MEMORY OF A WIFE

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נִשְׁמַת אִשְׁתִּי שְׁהֶלְכָה  
לְעוֹלָמָהּ. הֲנִנִּי ( m: נוֹדֵב / w: נוֹדֶבֶת ) צְדָקָה בְּעַד  
הַזְכָּרַת נִשְׁמָתָהּ. אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשָׁהּ צְרוּרָה בְּצָרוֹר  
הַחַיִּים וְתְהִי מְנוּחָתָהּ כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמֻחוֹת  
אֶת־פָּנֶיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נֹצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my wife who has gone to her eternal home. In loving testimony to her life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to her. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is her soul bound up in the bond of life. Love is as strong as death; deep bonds of love are indissoluble. The memory of our companionship and love overcomes loneliness, for all that we shared still endures. May she rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

*Additional meditation in memory of a husband or a wife*

With a sorrowing heart, O beloved \_\_\_\_\_ I fondly recall your love and companionship, your tenderness and devotion, and the many comforts and joys you brought into my life. Though death has taken you from me, the bond which unites us cannot be broken.

O God, I pray that my grief at the departure of my beloved, engender within me sympathy and kindness, understanding and helpfulness toward all mankind. Grant that the memories of my dear one impel me to seek goodness and truth, to serve Israel and humanity. Teach me by my aspirations and daily living to reflect honor upon my beloved who was dear to me in life. Be Thou my comfort and strength. Amen.

IN MEMORY OF A SON OR BROTHER

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נֶשְׁמַת ( son : בְּנִי / brother :  
אָחִי) הָאֲהוּב שְׁהָלַךְ לְעוֹלָמוֹ. הַנִּנִּי ( m : נוֹדֵב /  
w : נוֹדֵב בֵּת) צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְכָּרָת נֶשְׁמָתוֹ. אֲנָא תְּהִי  
נַפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בְּצִרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתְּהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כְּבוֹד,  
שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת־פְּנִיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נֶצַח.  
אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my beloved son/brother who has gone to his eternal home. In loving testimony to his life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to him. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is his soul bound up in the bond of life. I am grateful for the sweetness of his life and for all he accomplished in his lifetime. May he rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

## IN MEMORY OF A DAUGHTER OR A SISTER

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נַשְׁמַת ( daughter : בְּתִי /  
sister : אַחוֹתִי ) הָאֲהוּבָה שֶׁהָלַכָה לְעוֹלָמָהּ. הַנִּנִּי  
(m: נוֹדֵב / w: נוֹדֶבֶת ) צִדְקָה בְּעֵד הַזִּכְרֹת נִשְׁמָתָהּ.  
אֲנֵא תְהִי נִפְשָׁה צְרוּרָה בְּצִרּוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתִהְיֶה  
מְנוּחָתָה כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת־פְּנִיךָ, נְעִימוֹת  
בִּימִינְךָ נֶצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of my beloved daughter/sister who has gone to her eternal home. In loving testimony to her life I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to her. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, is her soul bound up in the bond of life. I am grateful for the sweetness of her life and for all she did accomplish in her lifetime. May she rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.

### *Additional meditation in memory of a child*

I remember in this solemn hour, beloved child, the many joys you afforded me during your lifetime. I recall the days when I delighted in your physical and mental growth, and planned for your future. Though death has taken you from me, you are not forgotten. Your spirit is enshrined in my heart.

O heavenly Provider, I thank Thee for the precious gift which Thou didst entrust to my keeping, and which in Thine infinite wisdom Thou hast called back unto Thyself. Though few were the years wherein I rejoiced with my child, many were the blessings that he (she) brought into my household. Teach me to live more nobly and to extend my love and devotion to other children in thankfulness for the privilege of having had and loved this child, though but for a few, brief years. Thus may his (her) soul be bound up in the bond of life and his (her) memory remain an inspiration to me. Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER A MISCARRIAGE OR STILLBIRTH

God, we are weary and grieved. We were anticipating the birth of a child, but the promise of life was ended too soon. Our arms yearned to cradle new life, our mouths to sing soft lullabies. Our hearts ache from the emptiness and the silence. We are saddened and we are angry. We weep and we mourn. Weep with us, God, Creator of Life, for the life that could not be.

Source of healing, help us to find healing among those who care for us and those for whom we care. Shelter us under wings of love and help us to stand up again for life even as we mourn our loss.

Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso  
“My Jewish Learning”

## IN MEMORY OF OTHER RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נַשְׁמַת קְרוֹבֵי וְרַעֵי שְׁהֲלָכוּ  
לְעוֹלָמָם. הִנְנִי ( m: נֹדֵב / w: נֹדֶבֶת ) צִדְקָה בְּעַד  
הַזְכָּרַת נַשְׁמָתָם. אֲנֵא תִהְיֶינָה נַפְשֹׁתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת  
בְּצִרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתִהְיֶי מְנוּחָתָם כְּבוֹד, שִׁבְעַ שְׁמֵחוֹת  
אֶת־פָּנֶיךָ, נְעִימוֹת בִּימִינְךָ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the soul of \_\_\_\_\_ and of all relatives and friends who have gone to their eternal home. In loving testimony to their lives I pledge charity to help perpetuate ideals important to them. Through such deeds, and through prayer and remembrance, are their souls bound up in the bond of life. May these moments of meditation strengthen the ties that link me to their memory. May they rest forever in dignity and peace. Amen.



## YIZKOR MEDITATION IN MEMORY OF PARENT WHO WAS HURTFUL

Dear God,

You know my heart. Indeed, You know me better than I know myself, so I turn to You before I rise for Kaddish.

My emotions swirl as I say this prayer. The parent I remember was not kind to me. His/her death left me with a legacy of unhealed wounds, of anger and of dismay that a parent could hurt a child as I was hurt.

I do not want to pretend to love, or to grief that I do not feel, but I do want to do what is right as a Jew and as a child.

Help me, O God, to subdue my bitter emotions that do me no good, and to find that place in myself where happier memories may lie hidden, and where grief for all that could have been, all that should have been, may be calmed by forgiveness, or at least soothed by the passage of time.

I pray that You, who raise up slaves to freedom, will liberate me from the oppression of my hurt and anger, and that You will lead me from this desert to Your holy place.

Robert Saks

## WE REMEMBER THEM

We lovingly recall the members of our Congregation who have died since we gathered in this sanctuary from last Rosh HaShanah to this Rosh HaShanah.

They have a special place in our hearts. We pray this day that all who have sustained the loss of loved ones in the year gone by be granted comfort and strength.

Exalted compassionate God, comfort the bereaved families of this congregation and their loved ones. Help all of us to perpetuate the worthy values in the lives of those no longer with us, whose names we respectfully recall:

Robert Cohen	Arthur Moss
Rhoda Dombchik	Larry Ornston
Josephine Fisher	Jay Rappaport
Sheila Gardner	Marie Rosenberg
Ellen Koniver	Helen Schutzman
Joel Kramer	Nancy Sherr
Susan Leigh	Jean Spinner
Roger Levy	Luigi Starr-Kramer
Steve Morelle	Sylvia Zutz
Albert Morris	

May their memory endure as a blessing. And let us say: Amen.

## IN MEMORIAM: PRAYER FOR WAR DEAD

On this solemn day of memorial, we recall in loving remembrance the sons of Congregation Beth Shalom who served in the armed forces of the United States of America and who gave their last, full measure of devotion in its service and in service of all Humanity.

Harry Fineman	Benjamin M. Simon
Seymour Miller	Arthur M. Blatman
Bernard I. Greenberg	Harry M. First
Herbert Rubenstein	Maurice Jacobs
Nathan Balick	Robert Lisansky
Herman Cohen	

Mayest Thou, O God, comfort the hearts of their beloved ones. And may their souls rest in peace. Amen.

IN MEMORY OF THE SIX MILLION

אֵל מְלֵא רַחֲמִים, שׁוֹכֵן בַּמְרוֹמִים, הַמַּצֵּא מְנוּחָה  
נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כַּנְּפֵי הַשְּׂכִינָה, בְּמַעְלֹת קְדוּשִׁים  
וְטְהוּרִים כְּזֹהר הָרָקִיעַ מְזֻהָרִים, לְנַשְׁמוֹת  
כָּל-אַחֵינוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁנִּטְבְּחוּ בַשּׂוֹאָה, אֲנָשִׁים  
נָשִׁים וְטָף, שֶׁנֶּחֱנְקוּ וְשֶׁנִּשְׂרְפוּ וְשֶׁנֶּהָרְגוּ, שֶׁמָּסְרוּ  
אֶת נַפְשָׁם עַל קְדוּשַׁת הָשֵׁם, בְּגֵן עֵדֶן תְּהִי מְנוּחָתָם.  
אָנָּה בַּעַל הָרַחֲמִים, הַסֹּתִירָם בְּסִתְר כְּנַפֶּיךָ  
לְעוֹלָמִים. וְצָרוּר בְּצָרוּר הַחַיִּים אֶת-נַשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם.  
יְהוָה הוּא נִחְלָתָם. וַיִּנּוּחוּ בְשָׁלוֹם עַל  
מִשְׁכַּבוֹתֵיהֶם. וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant infinite rest in Your sheltering presence, among the holy and pure, to the souls of our brethren who perished in the Shoah—men, women, and children of the House of Israel who were slaughtered and suffocated and burned to ashes. May their memory endure, and inspire deeds of charity and goodness in our lives. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

## IN MEMORY OF ALL THE DEAD

אֵל מְלֵא רַחֲמִים, שׁוֹכֵן בַּמְרוֹמִים, הַמַּצֵּא מְנוּחָה  
נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כְּנָפֵי הַשְּׂכִינָה, בְּמַעְלֹת קְדוּשִׁים  
וּטְהוּרִים כְּזֶהר הָרָקִיעַ מְזַהֲרִים, לְנַשְׁמוֹת  
כָּל-אֵלֶּה שֶׁהִזְכַּרְנוּ הַיּוֹם לְבִרְכָּה, שֶׁהִלְכוּ לְעוֹלָמָם,  
בְּגֵן עֵדֶן תְּהִי מְנוּחָתָם. אָנָּה בֶּעַל הָרַחֲמִים  
הַסְתִּירָם בְּסֶתֶר כְּנָפֶיךָ לְעוֹלָמִים וְצָרוֹר בְּצָרוֹר  
הַחַיִּים אֶת-נַשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם. יְהוָה הוּא נִחְלָתָם. וַיְנַחֲחוּ  
בְשָׁלוֹם עַל מְשַׁכְּבוֹתֵיהֶם. וְנֹאמֶר אָמֵן.

Exalted, compassionate God, grant infinite rest in Your sheltering presence, among the holy and pure, to the souls of all our beloved who have gone to their eternal home. Merciful One, we ask that our loved ones find perfect peace in Your tender embrace, their memory enduring as inspiration for commitment to their ideals and integrity in our lives. May their souls thus be bound up in the bond of life. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

## DO NOT STAND AT MY GRAVE

Do not stand at my grave and weep,  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow;  
I am the diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain;  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
  
When you awaken in the morning hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry.  
I am not there; I did not die.

Anonymous

## PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Adonai makes me lie down in green pastures;  
The Lord leads me, beside the still waters.

Adonai restores my soul;  
The Lord guides me in straight paths for Adonai's holy name.

Truly, though 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 give me comfort.

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 mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of Adonai forever.

## ANI-MA-AMIN

אֲנִי מֵאֲמִין בְּאַמוּנָה שְׁלֵמָה בְּבִיאת הַמָּשִׁיחַ, וְאֵף  
עַל פִּי שִׁיתְמַהֲמֶיָּה, עִם כָּל־זֶה אֲנִי מֵאֲמִין, עִם  
כָּל־זֶה אַחֲכֶה־לוֹ בְּכָל־יוֹם שֶׁיָּבוֹא.

*Ani ma-amin be-emunah sh'leima b'viat ha-mashiach. V'af  
al pi she-yitmahmei-a, Im kol zeh ani ma-amin im  
kol zeh achakeh lo b'chol yom sheyavo.*

I believe with perfect faith in the coming of the Messiah, and  
although God may tarry, I still believe; although God may tarry, I  
will wait daily for God's coming.

## OUR LGBTQ SIBLINGS:

O God, remember today our LGBTQ siblings who were martyred in years past because of their sexual or gender identity: those murdered by fanatics in the Middle Ages, those who perished in the Holocaust, and those struck down in our own city, in our own time.

Remember also those who took their own lives, driven by despair by a world that hated them because of their love or gender.

And in mercy remember those who lived lives of loneliness, repressing their true natures and refraining from sharing their love with one another.

O God, watch over the souls of these beloved ones: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, [questioning/queer,] and help us bring an end to hate and oppression of every kind.

Zichronam L'vracha

זִכְרוֹנָם לְבִרְכָּה

We are blessed remembering you.

Adapted from Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
Communal Prayer of Remembrance © 2009  
and the Religious Action Center of the  
Union for Reform Judaism © 2023

## PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF MURDER

*Avinu Shebashamayim* Heavenly Father, Master of the Universe, we mourn for those who were murdered and pray that You will grant consolation to their families in the depths of their grief.

Send a speedy recovery to the injured and peace of mind to all who have been traumatized by this act of barbarity.

Help us, Almighty God, to promote reconciliation and respect between the faiths and their adherents in this land, so that we may live in peace and security, working together for the good of all.

May the love of unity, compassion, justice, peace and harmony prevail over the forces of darkness who use terror to achieve their perverted goals.

Grant us the resolve to live together under the tabernacle of Your peace, as it is written, “they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks...”

May this be Your will and let us say, Amen.

*excerpt from Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis (May 2017)*

## PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

*El maley rakhamim*, God, full of mercy, who dwells above, Remind us of your Divine Presence here, below, where hearts break as blood flows.

Our neighborhood has lost dozens and dozens of community members and beloveds to gun violence in just the last few years, and we are not alone.

Give rest on the wings of the Divine Presence to the souls of these individuals whose lives were taken far too soon

And may they find rest on your wings in the knowledge that we, their neighbors, their survivors, will not forget them and will not forget the work that we must do to fix this broken world.

Merciful One, as we work to protect living souls so that no more lives will be lost to guns, protect our lost neighbors and loved ones' souls forever. The Everlasting is their heritage, and they shall rest peacefully at their lying places.

And let us say: Amen.

*Rabbi Hannah Spiro*

## A MEMORIAL PRAYER FOR COVID-19 VICTIMS

אֵל מְלֵא רַחֲמִים, שׁוֹכֵן בְּמְרוֹמִים, הַמַּצֵּא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת  
כְּנָפֵי הַשְּׂכִינָה

Exalted, compassionate God who dwells in the heavens, grant true rest in Your sheltering presence to the souls of those who have died alone these past months, without family or friends to hold their hands or sit at their bedsides, because of the dangers of the coronavirus.

Master of Mercy, please grant these souls the comfort and warmth they were denied in their last days. May their memory be a blessing and may they be held eternally beneath Your sheltering wings.

Remember, too, the souls of those who contracted the virus while caring for others--the health care professionals, those who work with the elderly, essential workers of all kinds, chaplains, and faith leaders. In their memory we pray. May our lives reflect a measure of their bravery and dedication.

May all of these souls be bound up in the bond of life and may they be remembered with honor.

יְהוָה הוּא נִחְלָתָם. וַיְנַחֲנוּ בְּשָׁלוֹם עַל מְשֻׁכְּוֹתֵיהֶם

*Rabbi Jessica Fisher (April 2020)*  
*Beth El Synagogue Center*  
*New Rochelle, NY*



## PRAYER BEFORE THE MOURNER'S KADDISH

Almighty and eternal God, we recall those whom Thou has summoned unto Thee. In love we remember their kind words and their unselfish deeds. We thank Thee, O Lord, 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 Thee, those who mourn. Strengthen them in their sorrow and deepen their faith as we rise to sanctify Thy name.

## FOR THOSE BELOVED WHO SURVIVE ME

Mourn me not with tears, ashes or sackcloth.  
Nor dwell in darkness, sadness or remorse.

Remember that I love you, and wish for you a life of song.  
My immortality, if there be such for me, is not in tears,  
blame or self-recrimination.

But in the joy you give to others, in raising the fallen and  
loosening the fetters of the bound.

In your loyalty to God's special children – the widow, the orphan,  
the poor, the stranger in your gates, the weak – I take pride.

The fringes of the tallit placed on my body are torn, for the  
dead cannot praise You, O Lord.

The dead have no mitzvot.  
But your tallit is whole and you are alive,  
and alive you are called to mitzvot.

You can choose, you can act, you can transform the world.  
My immortality is bound up with God's eternity, with God's  
justice, truth and righteousness.

And that eternity is strengthened by your loyalty and your love.  
Honor me with laughter and with goodness.  
With these, the better part of me lives on beyond the grave.

Rabbi Harold Schulweis  
Memorial Prayers

## MOURNER'S KADDISH

**Mourner:**

יִתְגַּדֵּל וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֶלְמָא דִּי-בְרָא  
כְּרַעוּתָהּ. וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיֵּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן  
וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעָגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב.  
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

**Congregation and Mourner:**

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלַם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא:

**Mourner:**

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא  
וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקֻדְשָׁא. בְּרִיךְ  
הוּא. לְעָלָא (לְעָלָא) מְכַל-בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא  
תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמְתָּא דְאַמִּירָן  
בְּעֶלְמָא. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל  
כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל  
כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

## TRANSLITERATION AND TRANSLATION OF THE MOURNER'S KADDISH

### **Mourner:**

*Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'mei raba, b'alma di-v'ra chirutei,  
v'yamlich malchutei, b'chayeichon uvyomeichon uvchayei d'chol  
beit yisrael, ba'agala uvizman kariv, v'im'ru: Amin.*

Magnified and sanctified be the name of God throughout the world which was created by and according to the will of God. May God establish the divine kingdom during the days of your life and during the life of all the house of Israel, speedily, and let us say, Amen.

### **Congregation and Mourner:**

*Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach l'alam ul'almei almay.*

May God's great name be blessed forever and ever.

### **Mourner:**

*Yitbarach v'yishtabach, v'yitpa'ar v'yitromam v'yitnaseh,  
v'yithadar v'yit'aleh v'yit'halal sh'mei d'kud'sha, **b'rich hu,**  
L'eyla (l'eyla) mi-kol bir-hata v'shi-rata Tush-b'hata  
v'ne-hemata da-amiran b'alma, v'imru Amin.*

Exalted and honored be the name of the Holy One, source of blessing, whose glory transcends, and is beyond all praises, hymns and blessings that humanity can render, and let us say, Amen.

*Y'hei shlama raba min-sh'maya v'chayim aleinu v'al-kol-yisrael,  
v'im'ru: amin.*

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life for us and for all Israel and let us say, Amen.

*Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol-  
yisrael, v'imru: Amin.*

May the One, who establishes peace in the heavens, grant peace to us and to all Israel; and let us say, Amen.

## CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

1801 Baynard Boulevard  
Wilmington, Delaware 19802  
(302) 654-4462

Senior Rabbi  
Michael S. Beals

Associate Rabbi  
Nick Renner

Cantor  
Bronwen Mullin

President  
Marla Cooper

You are cordially invited to attend our services  
throughout the year.

## YIZKOR WILL BE OBSERVED

5784 • 2023 - 2024

Yom Kippur  
Monday, September 25, 2023

Shemini Atzeret  
Saturday, October 7, 2023

Passover Day 8  
Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Shavuot Day 2  
Thursday, June 13, 2024