CONGREGATION BETH AM

For kindling the Yahrzeit or Yizkor light
[Light is placed in a position of honor in the home.]

PRAYER

I (we) give thanks for the blessing of life, for companionship, and for memory. Our tradition teaches us that we never lose those we love, for love is stronger than death.

So I (we) light this candle now, and as it burns, so may the memory of ________________ continue to be an inspiration to me (to all of us).

[The candle is lit.]


May his/her memory be a source of blessing.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF OUR LOVED ONES: YAHRZEIT IN JEWISH TRADITION

Yahrzeit is the annual anniversary of the death of a near relative and is observed on the date of the death (not the date of burial). It is customary to kindle a light on the eve preceding the date of the yahrzeit, and to keep it burning for twenty-four hours. It is also customary to attend services, to recite Kaddish at the synagogue on the closest Shabbat to the yahrzeit and to honor the memory of your loved one by giving tzedakah.

The Jewish calendar provides four occasions during the year when special memorial services are held: Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret (last day of Sukkot), the last day of Pesach and Shavuot. It is appropriate to honor the memory of our loved ones by attending these special memorial services.
Exalted and hallowed be God’s great name, in the world which God created, according to plan. May God’s majesty be revealed in the days of our lifetime and the life of all Israel - speedily, imminently. To which we say: Amen.

Blessed be God’s great name to all eternity.

Blessed, praised, honored, exalted, extolled, glorified, adored, and lauded be the name of the Holy Blessed One, beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise and comfort.

To which we say: Amen.