

FOR A YAHRZEIT

The family is gathered at dusk, on the evening before the anniversary of the death.

A GROUP SAYS:

At this moment, in memory of our belovedwe join hands in love and remembrance. A link has been broken in the chain that has bound us together, yet strong bonds of home and love hold us each to the other.

We give thanks for the blessing of life, of companionship, and of memory. We are grateful for the strength and faith that sustained us in the hour of our bereavement. Though sorrow lingers, we have learned that love is stronger than death. Though our loved one is beyond our sight, we do not despair, for we sense our beloved in our hearts as a living presence.

OR

AN INDIVIDUAL SAYS:

At this moment, I pause for thought in memory of my beloved

I give thanks for the blessing of life, of companionship, and of memory I am grateful for the strength and faith that sustained me in my hour of bereavement. Though sorrow lingers, I have learned that love is stronger than death. Though my loved one is beyond my sight, I do not despair, for I sense my beloved in my heart as a living presence.

The 23rd Psalm, which follows, or another favourite passage from the Bible or Prayerbook may now be recited.

Sustained by the words of faith, comforted by precious memories, we (I) kindle the Yahrzeit light in remembrance. As this light burns pure and clear, so may the blessed memory of the goodness of our (my) dear illumine our souls (my soul).

A candle is lighted:

FOR A MALE:

זְכוֹרוֹנוֹ לְבִרְבָּהּ.

Zich-ro-no-li-v'ra-cha
His memory is a blessing

FOR A FEMALE:

זְכוֹרוֹנָהּ לְבִרְבָּהּ.

Zich-ro-nah-li-v'ra-cha
Her memory is a blessing

SONG OF DAVID

Psalm 23

Eternal God, You are my shepherd, I shall not want.
You make me lie down in green pastures,
You lead me beside still waters.
You restore my soul,
You guide me in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.
Yes, even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for You are with me;
With rod and staff You comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You have anointed my head with oil;
My cup overflows.
Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
And I shall dwell in the house of the Eternal God for ever.