

Yizkor Service

Jewish Fellowship of Hemlock Farms

A Litany of Remembrance

Poem by Rabbi Sylvan Kamens and Rabbi Jack Riemer

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

*In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.*

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

*In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them.*

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we remember them.

*In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.*

When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.

*When we are lost and sick at heart,
we remember them.*

When we have joys we yearn to share,
we remember them.

*So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us,
as we remember them.*

Read Psalm 23 in Hebrew

1. מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד ה' רֹעִי לֹא אֶחְסָר.
2. מִי מִנְחֹת יִנְהַלְנִי-עַל, בְּנֵאֻת דְּשֵׂא יִרְבִּיצָנִי.
3. צֶדֶק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ-יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְלֵי, בְּפִשֵׁי יִשׁוּבֵב.
4. שִׁבְטֶךָ וּמִשְׁעַנְתֶּךָ הִמָּה יִנְחֵמְנִי, הַ עֲמֻדֵי-אֵי-רָא רַע כִּי-אֵלֶיךָ בָּגִיא צִלְמֹת לֹא-גַם כִּי.
5. דִּשַׁנְתָּ בְּשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי כֹּסֵי רִנָּה, תַּעֲרֹךְ לִפְנֵי שְׁלֹחַן נֶגֶד צַרְרֵי.
6. ה' לְאֶרְךָ יָמִים-וְשִׁבְתִּי בְּבַיִת, יָמֵי חַיֵּי-טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי כָּל, אַף.

Read Psalm 23 in English

1. A song of David. The L-rd is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2. He causes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters.
3. He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
4. Even as I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
5. You set a table before me in the presence of my adversaries; You anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.
6. May only goodness and kindness pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the L-rd for length of days.

Transliteration of Psalm 23

1. *Miz-mohr leh-dah-vid, ah-doh-noi roh-ee loh ekh-sar.*
2. *Bin-ohht deh-sheh yahr-bee-tzay-nee, ahl may meh-noo-khoht yeh-nah-hah-lay-nee.*
3. *Nahf-shee yeh-shoh-vayv, yahn-chay-nee veh-mah-geh-lay tzeh-dek leh-mah-ahn sheh-moh.*
4. *Gahm kee ay-laykh beh-gay tzahl-mah-veht, loh ee-rah rah, kee ah-tah ee-mah-dee, shiv-teh-khah oo-mish-ahn-teh-khah hay-mah yeh-nah-khah-moo-nee.*
5. *Tah-ah-rohkh leh-fah-nai shooh-khahn neh-gehd tzoh-reh-rai, dee-shahn-tah vah-sheh-mehn roh-shee, koh-see reh-vah-yah.*
6. *Ahkh tohv vah-kheh-sehd yir-deh-foo-nee kohl yeh-may khah-yai, veh-shahv-tee beh-vayt ah-doh-noi leh-oh-rehch yah-mim.*

Av Harachamim (Prayer for Martyrs)

May the All-Merciful Father Who dwells in the supernal heights, in His profound compassion, remember with mercy the pious, the upright and the perfect ones, the holy communities who gave their lives for the sanctification of the Divine Name.

They were beloved and pleasant in their lives, and [even] in their death were not parted [from Him]; they were swifter than eagles, stronger than lions to carry out the will of their Maker and the desire of their Creator.

May our G-d remember them with favor together with the other righteous of the world, and avenge the spilled blood of His servants, as it is written in the Torah of Moses, the man of G-d: O nations, sing the praises of His people, for He will avenge the blood of His servants, bring retribution upon His foes, and placate His land — His people.

And by Your servants the Prophets it is written as follows: I will cleanse [the nations of their wrongdoings,] but for the [shedding of Jewish] blood I will not cleanse them; the Lord dwells in Zion.

And in the Holy Writings it is said: Why should the nations say, "Where is their G-d?" Let there be known among the nations, before our eyes, the retribution of the spilled blood of Your servants. And it is said: For the Avenger of bloodshed is mindful of them; He does not forget the cry of the downtrodden.

Further it is said: He will render judgment upon the nations, and they will be filled with corpses; He will crush heads over a vast area. He will drink from the stream on the way; therefore [Israel] will hold its head high.

We Recite Yizkor

El Maleh Rachamim

O G-d, full of compassion, Who dwells on high, grant true rest upon the wings of the Shechinah (Divine Presence), in the exalted spheres of the holy and pure, who shine as the resplendence of the firmament, to the soul of

(mention Hebrew name and that of his/her father)

who has gone to his [supernal] world, for charity has been donated in remembrance of his soul; may his place of rest be in Gan Eden. Therefore, may the All-Merciful One shelter him with the cover of His wings forever, and bind his/her soul in the bond of life. The Lord is his heritage; may he rest in his resting-place in peace; and let us say: Amen.