

Memorial Service

My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip; he who keeps you does not slumber.

The Guardian of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps.

The Lord is your guardian; the Lord is your shelter.

The sun shall never hurt you in the day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep you from all evil; he shall keep your soul.

The Lord will guard you as you come and go, now and ever. ¹

Congregation and Rabbi: (In Unison)

The Lord is my shepherd; I am not in want. He makes me lie down in green meadows; he leads me beside refreshing streams. He restores my life; he guides me by righteous paths for his own sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no harm; for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff—they comfort me. Thou spreadest a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. Thou hast perfumed my head with oil; my cup overflows. Only goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life; I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.²

Rabbi:

Merciful Father, we lift our hearts up to thee as we recall with tearful tenderness the men and women who are no longer with us in the land of the living. Grant peace of mind to those in our midst who bear deep wounds in their hearts today. May consolation come to them soon. May they find comfort in knowing that death is the wish of some, the relief of many, and the end of all. It places all mortals on the same level. May the memory of our departed inspire us to live nobly and charitably, and to animate with cheerfulness all those who surround us. O Lord, let us all find sustaining hope in thee who hast been our source of strength and comfort throughout the ages. Amen.

¹Psalm 90; 121. ²Psalm 23.