

Some Prayers and Readings on Visiting the Re-Opened Cemetery

It is customary when visiting the grave or resting place of a loved one to place a stone. You may wish to select a stone from your home, or from another special place, to take with you. Some people (adults and children) paint such stones before taking them. If you feel this, or something similar, might help, please do it. If you aren't sure whether something would be within the rules or guidelines of the cemetery, do please check with your Rabbi.

For a Visit After Lockdown

(Lines 2 and 3 are specific to a visit after a funeral at which family could not be present)

My heart was pained by your dying;
[My soul was torn by not being with you on your final journey;
My tears felt like they fell in the wrong place.]
A bit of me knew we were together in spirit;
A bit of me always felt distance did not matter;
A lot of me yearned to be close in any way possible.
Now, at last, I can be physically near you.
Now I can see the grass nearby your resting place.
Now I can add a stone on your grave
Now is my "time to gather stones together."

*Mi-ma'amakim k'ratikha Adonai;
Adonai shim'ah v'koli.*

מִמַּעַמְקִים קְרָאתִיךָ יְהוָה:
אֲדַנִּי שְׁמָעָה בְּקוֹלִי.

Out of the depths, I cry to you Eternal One; O God, listen to my prayer!

You are no longer at my side, for death has separated us. I cannot look to you to lighten my burdens or to give me the benefit of your strength, your wisdom, your faith. Yet what you meant to me does not wither or fade. I remember so much about you, and the many things we shared. There are times when the pain of missing you seems more than I can bear, yet there is much for which I must give thanks. For life and love, the happiness you gave me, the blessing that you were which I cherish in my heart. Rest in peace, my loved one, I will never forget you.

The Memorial Prayer

El Malei Rachamim - O God, full of compassion, exalted God, grant perfect rest under the wings of Your presence to our loved ones who have gone to their eternal home. Merciful God, grant them Your protection for ever and let their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life. The Eternal One is their inheritance. May they rest in peace, and let us say: *Amen*.

Mourners' Kaddish - קְדִישׁ יְתוֹם

*Yit'gadal v'yit'kadash sh'meih raba.
B'alma di-v'ra chir'uteih, v'yam'lich
mal'chuteih b'chayeichon uv'yomeichon
uv'chayei d'chol beit Yisrael, ba-agala
uviz'man kariv, v'im'ru: Amen.*

*Y'hei sh'meih raba m'varach l'alam
ul'almei al'maya.*

*Yit'barach v'yish'tabach v'yit'pa-ar
v'yit'romam v'yit'nasei v'yit'hadar
v'yit'aleh v'yit'halal sh'meih d'kud'sha,
B'rich Hu, l'eila min-kol-bir'chata v'shirata
tush'b'chata v'nechemata da-amiran
b'alma, v'imru: Amen.*

*Y'hei sh'lama raba min-sh'maya v'chayim
aleinu v'al-kol-Yisrael, v'im'ru: Amen.*

*Oseh shalom bim'romav, Hu ya-aseh
shalom aleinu v'al-kol-Yisrael, v-al-kol-
b'nei-adam, v'imru: Amen*

יִתְגַּדֵּל וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי
בְּרָא כְרַעוּתֵיהּ, וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵיהּ בְּחַיֵּינוּ
וּבְיוֹמֵינוּ וּבְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל.
בְּעֵגְלָא וּבְזִמַּן קָרִיב וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהִי שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרָךְ לְעַלְמֵי
עֲלְמֵיָא:

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמַם
וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ
דְּקֻדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא לְעַלְמָא מִן כָּל
בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא, תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמָתָא,
דְּאִמְרוּן בְּעֵלְמָא, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהִי שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

עֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם
עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְעַל כָּל בְּנֵי אָדָם,
וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Magnified and sanctified be the great name of the One by whose will the world was created.
May God's rule become effective in your lives, and in the life of the whole House of Israel.
May it be so soon, and let us say: Amen.

May God's great name be praised to all eternity.

Blessed and praised; glorified, exalted and extolled; lauded, honoured and acclaimed be the
name of the Holy One, who is ever to be praised, though far above the eulogies and songs
of praise and consolation that human beings can utter; and let us say: Amen.

May great peace descend from heaven, and abundant life be granted, to us and all Israel;
and let us say: Amen.

May the Most High, Source of perfect peace, grant peace to us, to all Israel, and to all
humanity, and let us say: Amen.

The Rabbis and Cantors of Liberal Judaism wish you:

הַמָּקוֹם יְנַחֵם אֶתְכֶם בְּתוֹךְ שְׂאֵר הָאֲבֵלִים.

May the Eternal One comfort you and all who mourn.