

## Matulaitis Home Remembers

"God so loved the world
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in Him
should not perish
but have everlasting life."

John 3:16



A Memorial Prayer Service was celebrated at Matulaitis Home during which all residents who passed into eternal life this winter were remembered and honored. As with so many things affected by the pandemic, we were unable to invite you to join us for this service, but we want you to know that your loved one is remembered by all of us to whom you lovingly entrusted their care, and they were included among those named during our Memorial Prayer Service on February 11th. We continue to pray for them and for you.

For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, anniversaries and holidays — especially the first of each after a death — can be particularly hard to experience. As we journey through our goodbyes, and then those moments that remind us again of our loss, poignantly stirring up our grief afresh, we are also reminded that love endures and goes on, despite all the feelings of grief inside us. We go on, trusting in the promise and hope of the Resurrection, even as we bear our sorrow and grief, the ache of our loss.

The human spirit is astounding in its resiliency and its ability to recover hope. We recall these words of Scripture that give voice to a heart in grief: "My soul is downcast. But this I will call to mind, therefore I will hope: the Lord's acts of mercy are not exhausted, God's compassion is not spent; they are renewed each morning – great is Your faithfulness! The Lord is my portion, I tell myself, therefore I will hope in the Lord." Lamentations 3:20-24





Nothing can make these moments easy, but prayer can offer a path to walk through these days with greater peace and opportunities for healing and hope. We pray together with you as you pass through this season of grief.

God of Mercy, God of Hope,
Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by Your command we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end. We pray in hope for our families, relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to you alone.

In company with Christ,
Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom.
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family
to sing Your praise
forever and ever. Amen.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.







## "A Litany of Remembrance"

by Rabbis Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer

In the rising of the sun and 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 the 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.

