

The following pages contain suggested Hebrew Readings (Old Testament Readings), you may consider for your loved one's funeral liturgy.

Optional readings include:

<i>Scripture Passage</i>	<i>Church Reference Number</i>
Daniel 12:1-3	OT-1
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	OT-2 (short)
Isaiah 43:1-4	OT-4
Proverbs 31:10-31	OT-5 (long)
Psalms 23:1-6	OT-6
Sirach 6:14-17	OT-7
Sirach 44:1-15	OT-8
Wisdom 3:1-6, 9	OT-10 (short)
Wisdom 4:7-15	OT-11 (long)

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to be born, and a time to die:
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh:
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.

He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done. I recognized that there is nothing better than to be glad and to do well during life. For every man, moreover, to eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of all his labor is a gift of God.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples,
The web that is woven over all nations;

He will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces;

The reproach of his people he will remove from the
whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the Lord for whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

Who can find the perfect wife and mother?

Her worth is far beyond the price of fine pearls.

Her husband puts confidence in her and is not disappointed.

She gets up before daylight to prepare food for her family and
to organize her household.

She is always busy and looks after her family's needs.

She is strong, respected, and unafraid of the future.

She speaks with a gentle wisdom and offers good counsel.

She reaches out to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

Her children show their appreciation and her husband praises her.

Charm is deceptive and beauty disappears,

But the woman who honors God is praised for many generations.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Sirach

The Lord honors a father and gives him wisdom
to teach his children.

He upholds the rights of a mother over her children.

Those who respect their father atone for their faults,
and those who honor their mother are like those who amass a fortune.

Those who respect their father will be happy when they have
children of their own, and they shall be heard in heaven on the days
that they pray.

Eternal life comes to those who honor their father
and who set their mother at ease through obedience.

My children, support your father when he ages and
do not grieve him during his life.

Even if he should fail, show him sympathy and be his strength.

Kindness to a father shall not be forgotten,
but will serve as reparation for your mistakes.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if before men, indeed, they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality;

Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

In the time of their visitation they shall shine,
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;

They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
and the Lord shall be their King forever.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with his elect.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die young, shall be at peace.

For an honorable age comes not with the passing of time;

It cannot be measured in terms of years....

He who pleased God was loved;

He who lived in this painful world was taken away....

Having been perfected in a short while,

He reached the fullness of a long life

For his soul was pleasing to God and

he has been taken out of the midst of this world.

But the people left behind did not understand,

Nor did they take this into account.

The Word of the Lord.