

## MEMORIAL SERVICE – 2

Good afternoon and welcome. I thank you for filling this room with so much love and light for our mutual friend and loved one, . I'm sure his presence is here with us today bringing peace to our hearts and minds as we honor the life

shared with us.

lived and opened a door and it opened inward — and we call it birth. Now another door has opened, and it has opened outward and has stepped through — and we call it death. It is but an event in life. A transition from this plain of existence to a greater one.

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is meeting a new experience on his pathway of continued life. We are here gathered today because the love in our hearts fills us with a desire to share in some way in one of life's greatest mysteries.

Let us now open our hearts to receiving the blessings of the Holy Spirit while we listen to: "Sheep may Safely Graze" by Organist Gene Turner.

The Bible tells us in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:44-54, "There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. For this corruptible must put on the incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory."

And in Romans 7:23 we are told "The gift of God is eternal life."

laid aside the familiar garment of the flesh to be clothed anew in the shining radiance of the joy that is now. We know that has also been met by loved ones who have gone on before. As well as, by a wonderful spiritual being of light to guide in \_\_\_\_ next experience.

This mysterious experience of death, this event in life is much like the story of "The Ship" by Luther Beecher:

"I am standing upon the sea shore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of strength and beauty, and I stand and watch her until she is only a ribbon of white cloud where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says, "There! She's gone!" Gone? Gone Where? Gone from sight, that's all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and just as able to bear her precious freight to the place of destination.

Her diminished appearance is in me, not in her. And at the very moment when someone at my side says, "There! She's gone!" other voices shout with gladness, "Here she

comes!” And that is death. Death is only a horizon, and a horizon is the limit of our sight.”

Soloist

Individual life is a glorious, wonderful unfolding from the great heart of Infinite Love. It is necessary for mankind to develop through self-expression. We come to earth, we live, we love, we meet experiences of various kinds, and we give of ourselves in many ways — our best mental power, our warmest friendships, our deepest love.

This self expression is the purpose of earth life. We are here to gain a fuller awareness of love for God, mankind, and all life. When our time here is finished, we advance to other plains of experiences. As the scripture promises in John 14:2, “In my Father’s mansion are many rooms. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.”

Poem: read by Suzy Sullivan “Rose beyond the Wall”

“Near shady wall a rose once grew,

Budded and blossomed in God’s free light,

Watered and fed by morning dew,

Shedding its sweetness day and night.

As it grew and blossomed fair and tall,

Slowly rising to loftier height,

It came to a crevice in the wall

Through which there shone a beam of light.

Onward it crept with added strength

With never a thought of fear or pride,

It followed the light through the crevice’s length

And unfolded itself on the other side.

The light, the dew, the broadening view

Were found the same as they were before,

And it lost itself in beauties new,

Breathing its fragrance more and more.

Shall claim of death cause us to grieve

And make our courage faint and fall?

Nay! Let us faith and hope receive --

The rose still grows beyond the wall,

Scattering fragrance far and wide

Just as it did in days of yore,

Just as it did on the other side,

Just as it will forevermore.”

Soloist: A brief account of life.

We will now open this part of the service to those that have special memories and thoughts they would like to share. (Usually arrange for someone to start)

At this time I would like us to take a few moments in silence to bring closure. We know his spirit can hear our thoughts and receive our love. If there is anything that needs to be healed, or something you wish you had said, this is the time to do so...

Now fill your heart and mind with love. We send this love forth to as he continues his ascent home... Now release & not to say good bye, but until we meet again.

**Solo:**

Let us Pray: Father, Mother God, in the transition of our beloved one, we commit to your care and keeping the soul we love. We bless in \_\_\_ journey forward, and we loose \_\_\_ and let \_\_\_\_\_ go. We know that You are with us as we go about our daily experiences and know that the life that we shared with our loved one and friend has made us richer and better. We thank You God the all loving presence for giving us the strength and light to help us on our way. Amen.

This concludes the service. This has been a privilege, I thank you!