

As humans it is inevitable that we feel a loss and pain when a loved one passes on from this life, but as Christian believers our faith compels us to rejoice with them because of their graduation to glory in the presence of Jesus.

So, whether you feel like shedding a tear or shouting hallelujah – go ahead – as both are appropriate, as we gather here today to celebrate the memory, the life, and the God of _____.

Heavenly Father, we welcome your presence here. I ask You to bring peace and comfort to our hearts. I pray for everyone in this room, that it may be said of each of us when we pass from this life, as it can be said of _____, that God had first place in our lives. Thank You. Amen.

1 . . . "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine.

3 For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; . . . (ISAIAH 43:1,3 NKJ)

12 "I, even I, am He who comforts you. . . . (ISAIAH 51:12 NKJ)

10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you' (ISAIAH 41:10 NKJ)

27 "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. (JOHN 14:27 NKJ)

5 . . . For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." (HEBREWS 13:5 NKJ)

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. (JOHN 11:25 NKJ)

34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,

39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to

separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (ROMANS 8:34-35,37-39 NKJ)

25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, . . .

26 and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, (JOB 19:25-26 NKJ)

21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

23 For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. (PHILIPPIANS 1:21,23 NKJ)

1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.

8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. (2 CORINTHIANS 5:1,6,8 NKJ)

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, . . . (PHILIPPIANS 3:20-21 NKJ)

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore comfort one another with these words. (1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 NKJ)

1 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.

2 "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (JOHN 14:1-3 NKJ)

GRAVESIDE

(1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-55,57 NKJ)

51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed--

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

This day we commit his/her body to the ground, "looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body . . . (Titus 2:13, Philippians 3:21)

Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make his face shine upon you: and be gracious to you: the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26) Amen.