

Space for God No More Death

PREPARATION

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
The Lord gives both death and life; he brings some down to the grave but raises others up.
1 Samuel 2:6

WORSHIP

I will fulfill my vows to you, O God, and will offer a sacrifice of thanks for your help.
For you have rescued me from death; you have kept my feet from slipping. So now I can walk in your presence, O God, in your life-giving light.
Psalm 56:12-13

CONFESSION

Now hear my prayer; listen to my cry.
For my life is full of troubles, and death draws near.
I am as good as dead, like a strong man with no strength left.
Psalm 88:2-4

MEDITATION John 11:1-45*

11-20 When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask."
Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."
"Yes," Martha said, "he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day."
Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?"

32-34 When Mary arrived and saw Jesus, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."
When Jesus saw her weeping and saw the other people wailing with her, a deep anger welled up within him, and he was deeply troubled. "Where have you put him?" he asked them.

38-43 Jesus was still angry as he arrived at the tomb, a cave with a stone rolled across its entrance. "Roll the stone aside," Jesus told them.
But Martha, the dead man's sister, protested, "Lord, he has been dead for four days. The smell will be terrible."

IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God's healing and renewal.

Jesus responded, "Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe?" So they rolled the stone aside. Then Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. You always hear me, but I said it out loud for the sake of all these people standing here, so that they will believe you sent me." Then Jesus shouted, "Lazarus, come out!"

ANCHORING PRAYER

I live in You and believe in You.

REVIEW OF THE HEART

*When was I most spiritually alive?
In what situation was I expecting God to intervene?*

WISDOM

Why does it seem incredible to any of you that God can raise the dead?
Acts 26:8

In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead.
2 Corinthians 1:9

"We must meet the uncertainties of this world with the certainty of the world to come."
—A.W. Tozer

TESTIMONY *What is God saying to me?*

INTERCESSION *Prayers for the Church, for others, and for me.*

BENEDICTION

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people.
God himself will be with them.
**You will wipe every tear from our eyes,
and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain.**
All these things will be gone forever."
Amen
Revelation 21:3-4 (adapted)

SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.
Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.
Speak and act from a listening heart.
Actively serve in community with others.

PermaneSED (Abide) Kurt D. Peters. **Bold** portions to be read in unison. *Lectionary, Year A
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