

1.11 English Readings for a Family Member Who is Not Jewish

(Please Choose One Reading)

Source of all knowledge, teacher of all humanity, you reveal yourself to us in the order and beauty of nature, in the call of conscience, and in the greatness of moments such as this. The hearts and minds of children sense your presence, as it is written: "Out of the mouths of the young You have established your strength." We thank you for the blessing of life and growth; of learning and knowledge. May they bring us to greater deeds of goodness in the years to come.

Humbly do we give thanks for this day and for the years of growth and learning that have preceded it. Now as _____ steps forward to affirm his/her commitment to the ideals and goodness she/he has been taught, our souls are joyful and our minds at peace.

We pray that this day's service may long echo in _____ memory. May it be engraved on the tablet of her/his heart the understanding that this day initiates a life more firmly dedicated to his/her heritage, to deeds of justice and kindness, and to faithful membership in the community of all humanity.

O God, make each of us a worthy example to the next generation. Let nothing estrange us from them and from you, the source of all goodness and compassion. Help us, again and again, to renew our attachment to all people, to walk hand-in-hand with _____ toward a life of meaning and righteousness.