

## Vigil for Pastor Harlyn Matson

*"Jesus wept."*

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### **Jesus and Lazarus**

**John 11:30–37 (ESV)** — **30** Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. **31** When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. **32** Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." **33** When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. **34** And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." **35 Jesus wept.** **36** So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" **37** But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

***Who does Jesus grieve for? Who are you grieving for?***

**Notes:**

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**Matthew 26:38 (ESV)** — **38** Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." — **We are not to grieve alone**

**Philippians 4:6–7 (ESV)** — **6** do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **7** And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. — **We are pray together**

***What do need prayer for?***

**Notes:**

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**John 17:20–23 (ESV)** — **20** "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **21** that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. **22** The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, **23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one**, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. — **We grieve in unity**

## **God's Seven Permissions of Grief**

### **1: God gives us permission to be mad at him.**

*"Therefore I will not restrain my mouth;  
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;  
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul."  
Job 7:11 (ESV)*

### **2: God gives us permission to question him.**

*"Will the Lord spurn forever,  
and never again be favorable?  
Has his steadfast love forever ceased?  
Are his promises at an end for all time?  
Has God forgotten to be gracious?  
Has he in anger shut up his compassion?"  
Psalm 77:7-9 (ESV)*

### **3: God gives us permission to cry.**

*"Jesus wept." John 11:35 (ESV)*

### **4: God gives us permission to give our worries over to Him.**

*"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God  
so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your  
anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7  
(ESV)*

### **5: God gives us permission to grieve with others.**

*"Then [Jesus] said to them, 'My soul is very sorrowful, even to  
death; remain here, and watch with me.'" Matt 26:38 (ESV)*

### **6: God gives us permission to pray for peace, healing, and relief from our grief.**

*"[D]o not be anxious about anything, but in everything by  
prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be  
made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses  
all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in  
Christ Jesus."  
Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)*

### **7: God gives us permission to believe in Him and find hope in Heaven.**

*"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall  
be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor  
pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." Rev.  
21:4 (ESV)*