

**Hospice Sabbath**  
*Additional Suggested Readings – 2004*

**Reading 1**

**We never know where God has hidden His streams. We see a large stone and have no idea that it covers the source of a spring. We see a rocky area and never imagine that it is hiding a fountain.**

**I said, “The desert is so wide!”  
I said, “The desert is so bare!”  
What springs to quench my thirst are there?  
Where will I from the tempest hide?**

**I said, “The desert is so lone!  
No gentle voice, nor loving face  
To brighten any smallest space.”  
I paused before my cry was done!**

**I heard the flow of hidden springs;  
Before me palms rose green and fair;  
The birds were singing; all the air  
Was filled and stirred with angels’ wings!  
And One asked so softly, “Why, indeed,  
Take overanxious thought for what  
Tomorrow brings you? See you not  
The Father knows just what you need?”**

**God leads me into hard and difficult places, and it is there I realize I am where eternal streams abide.**

**READING 2**

**Believe and trust; through stars and suns,  
Through life and death, through soul and sense,  
His wise, paternal purpose runs;  
The darkness of His Providence  
Is starlit with Divine intents.**

**When nothing on which to lean remains,  
When strongholds crumble to dust;  
When nothing is sure but that God still reigns,  
That is just the time to trust.**

**It's better to walk by faith than sight,  
In this path of yours and mine;  
And the darkest night, when there's no outer light  
Is the time for faith to shine.**

***--L.B. Cowman***

**READING 3**

**The Uneven Path**

**Don't try to destroy a beautiful  
part of your life because  
remembering hurts.  
As children of today and tomorrow,  
we are also children of yesterday.  
The past still travels with us  
and what is has been  
makes us what we are.**

--Rabbi Dr. Earl A. Grollman

**READING 4**

**In Memoriam**

**Our loved ones . . .  
are the saints among us . . .  
whose memory we share . . .  
whose absence we mourn . . .  
whose new life we celebrate.**

**Young...old...just beginning life . . .  
and in the prime of life  
when they left us,  
They had spouses...and children  
to love . . .  
Boyfriends...and grandchildren . . .  
they adored . . .  
Dreams...hopes...plans...**

**Caught up in a greater plan, they rest now in the silent  
heart of God . . .  
and in a parting act of trust, leave the ones they love  
To us . . .**

**We remember . . .We mourn . . .We keep  
Their love alive...as we journey on our way**

**READING 5**

**A Gaelic Blessing**

**Deep peace of the running wave to you;  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you;  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you;  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you;  
Deep peace of the gentle night to you,  
Moon and stars pour out their healing light on you;  
Deep peace to you, the light of the world to you,  
Deep peace to you.**