



**The  
Compassionate  
Friends**  
Supporting Family After a Child Dies

## Worldwide Candle Lighting Poem Ideas

### **Five Candles**

*We light these five candles in honor of our Loved Ones: One for our Grief, one for our Courage, one for our Memories, one for our Love, and one for our Hope...*

#### **First Candle:**

*The First Candle represents our Grief. The pain of losing you is as intense as our love for you*

#### **Second Candle:**

*The second candle represents the courage to confront our sorrow, to comfort each other, and to change our lives...*

#### **Third Candle:**

*The third candle we light in your memory; the times we laughed, the times we cried, the times we were angry towards each other, the silly things you did, and the caring and joy you gave us.*

#### **Fourth Candle:**

*The fourth candle we light for our love. As we enter the holiday season and share this night of remembrance, we light this candle that your light may always shine...*

#### **Fifth Candle:**

*The fifth candle we light for Hope; that you, will live on through us, never to be erased from our memory; that your lives continue to make a difference in the world. That you are proud of us, and that we will be together again. We love you, we remember you...*

*When the time comes  
for lighting festive candles,  
let them remind you  
not only of what you lost  
but also of what you had.*

**by Sascha Wagner**

### ***The Candle***

*A candle's but a simple thing,  
It starts with just a bit of string.  
Yet dipped and dipped  
With patient hand,  
It gathers wax upon the strand  
Until, complete and snowy white,  
It gives at last a lovely light.*

*Life is so like that bit of string,  
Each day we do a simple thing,  
Yet day by day if on life's strand  
We work with patient heart and hand  
It gathers joy,  
Makes dark days bright,  
And gives at last a lovely light.*

**by Clara B. Thurston**

### ***I Will Light Candles This Holiday***

*Candles of joy  
despite all the sadness,  
Candles of hope  
where despair keeps watch,  
Candles of courage  
for fears ever present,  
Candles of peace  
for tempest tossed days,  
Candles of grace  
to ease heavy burdens,*

*Candles of love  
to inspire all my living,  
Candles that will burn  
all the year long.*

**TCF Portland, Oregon**

## ***The Circle of Love***

*Together, we shall join hearts and hands across the earth and decorate the world with hope and healing and remembered laughter. We shall remain forever linked through the love of our absent children, parents, husbands and wives, siblings, grandparents, friends — all of our loved ones who dance across the rainbows ahead of us.*

*WE ARE A FAMILY CIRCLE —*

*BROKEN BY DEATH, MENDED BY LOVE!*

*May this day, and every day, be days for us to laugh and sing, to dance and dream. May this day, and every day, be days of celebration and the chance to give one more hug, to say one more, "I love you."*

*MAY LOVE BE WHAT YOU REMEMBER MOST!*

**by Darcie Sims**

## **We Remember Them**

**Leader:** *in the rising of the sun and in its going down...*

**All:** *we remember them.*

**Leader:** *in the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter...*

**All:** *we remember them.*

**Leader:** *in the opening of buds and in the warmth of summer..*

**All:** *we remember them.*

**Leader:** *in the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn...*

**All:** *we remember them.*

*Leader: in the beginning of the year and when it ends...*

*All: we remember them.*

*Leader: when we are weary and in need of strength...*

*All: we remember them.*

*Leader: when we are lost and sick of heart...*

*All: we remember them.*

*Leader: when we have joys we yearn to share...*

*All: we remember them.*

*Leader: so long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us,*

*All: we remember them.*

**From Gates of Prayer**

**Reform Judaism Prayer book**

## ***Candles in the Dark***

*Blackness envelopes us and leaves us alone.*

*Then cool to the touch a candle is placed in our hands.*

*These hands which have held each of you, our children,*

*And which now hold each other.*

*One by one a light is borne.*

*One by one it flickers, flames.*

*And the glow warms our hearts, touches our souls,*

*And we remember love, we remember you.*

**by Karen Nelson - TCF Brigham City Utah**