FOUR ALTERNATIVE PRAYERS
FOR NON-JEWISH FAMILY MEMBERS

Source of all knowledge, Teacher of all humanity, you reveal yourself to us in the order an 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 preceded it. Now, as ______________ steps forward to affirm his/her commitment to the ideals of goodness he/she has been taught, our souls are joyful and our minds are at peace.

We pray that this day’s service may long echo in ______________’s memory. May it engrave on the tablet of his/her 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.