

**THE WATCH in CELEBRATION of the LIFE AND DEATH of (THE NAME HERE)**

|  |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                  |  |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|----------------------------------|--|
| THE<br>HOURS<br>OF<br>PREPARATION                    | <b>THE HOURS OF THE WATCH</b>   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | THE<br>HOURS<br>OF<br>PROCESSION |  |
|  | <b>VIGIL OF MEDITATION</b>  | <b>VIGIL OF CONTEMPLATION</b>   | <b>VIGIL OF PRAYER</b>  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                  |  |
|  | THE RECOLLECTION<br>OF THE EVENTS AND<br>EXPERIENCES FROM<br><br>FRANK'S LIFE | THE REFLECTION<br><br>ON HOW THE<br>MYSTERY WAS<br><br>AND IS<br>BEING REVEALED<br><br>IN FRANK'S<br>LIFE AND DEATH | THE CLAIMING<br><br>OF THE PROMISE<br><br>OF THE<br>COMPLETEDNESS<br>AND ENDLESSNESS<br><br>OF FRANK'S LIFE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                  |  |
| — — — — Create a tape of these conversations — — — — |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                  |  |

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|-----------|----------|--------|------------|-------|-------|------|------|---------|-----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|---|
| First Day |          |        | Second Day |       |       |      |      |         | Third Day |        |       |       |       |      |      |   |
| 6         | 9        | 12     | 3          | 6     | 9     | 12   | 3    | 6       | 9         | 12     | 3     | 6     | 9     | 12   | 3    | 6 |
| Vespers   | Compline | Matins | Lauds      | Prime | Terce | Sext | None | Vespers | Compline  | Matins | Lauds | Prime | Terce | Sext | None |   |

# THE WATCH in CELEBRATION of the COMPLETED LIFE of ROBERT FRANK KNUTSON

## THE CONTEXTUAL STATEMENT

The Church has participated in the Watch throughout its history. The night of wakeful watching is most dramatically presented in the scripture in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus went aside to pray, or to watch through the night. The church has always known that the night is not just for sleeping, but for looking into the dark where things seem still—to perceive the moving of the spirit. The Watch of the Church is for the coming of the Spirit and the return of the Word.

## THE DESIGN OF THE JOURNAL

**WRITING IN THE JOURNAL** is done under the rubrics of meditation, contemplation, and prayer.

**MEDITATION:** Recalling experiences and events from Frank's life.

When was the first time you remember encountering Frank?

When did Frank surprise you?

When did Frank make you angry?

What humorous experiences do you remember?

When did you see weakness in Frank that pointed to his humanity?

When do you remember being addressed my Frank's life?

**CONTEMPLATION:** Reflecting on how the mystery was and is being revealed in Frank's life and death.

Where did you encounter the mystery in the midst of his life?

Where did you encounter the mystery in the event of his death?

**PRAYER:** Claiming the promise of the completedness and the endlessness of Frank's life.

Prayers for resignation

Prayers for comfort

Prayers for grace

## THE READING OF THE WATCH

### MY ELECTION

Your own trial and tribulation are not the external problem. Watch for the fact that you are the person who has closed their eyes to the quivering, pulsating life all around you; you are blinder than anyone—you are visionless as the next person. Afraid you are not going to make it through the night, not going to keep the vision, not make the march.

Watching and waking reveals that from birth I have had my eyes closed, experience myself as blind, but then I see too, see the need and hear the call. My whole life has been a rhythm of watching and waking.

—But any suffering brought to you is not for your own sake, but for the sake of the unsynonymous—your suffering is not given for you but for the sake of history. For instance, you see one man taken, another not taken; that addresses you—**BUT YOU PASS IT ON BY—THEN THE INSIGHT COMES: THIS IS A HORRIBLE WORLD—NEVERTHELESS, IT IS GOOD: HUMANNES IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT SUFFERING.**

“Sow to the Wind, you reap the Whirlwind.” If you don’t keep the lams lighted, history is erupted! One realizes You must keep the oil in the lamps.

### INNER SUFFERING

Inner suffering cannot be compared with any physical suffering. For it is the experience of one’s whole life as constant agony.

The experience of lostness, fogginess, floating is the eternal rack of objectless doubt. Now is the time of uncertainty: yet you feel a sense of driving onward.

The experience of purposelessness, unclarity and no vision is the eternal rack of objectless blindness. Now is the time of fainting on the way, yet grasp a strong feeling of belonging.

The experience of rage, fire, and antagonism is the time of apostasy and our irritation is the motivation for turning matter into spirit as we watch for the word.

Jesus had no answer or authority for the problem of having to deal with his own spirit struggle and simultaneously with the individuals who intruded and occasion his struggle. This period of external calm and quiet is also the time of intense inner suffering.

## THE READING OF THE WATCH

### ULTIMATE BETRAYAL

—Jesus went to watch three hours. In the first hour his response was “Let this hour pass . . .Not my will but thine be done.”

—Then he thought he would go back to the disciples, but found them sleeping. “The spirit truly is ready but the flesh is weak,” was his reply.

—Then he thought he would just go and march into the betrayer’s hand, “Take your rest, I must go on.”

—Then Jesus decided I am the man and proceeded with the vision of the “Son of man sitting on the right hand of power and coming in the clouds of heaven.”

Watching flushes the real tempter out into the open. It takes all of one’s struggles and focuses them before the Lord. The only betrayal is to refuse to be the Son of Man. Only have one temptation before the Lord. You can really handle all other temptations. The only struggle is with being the son of God, being the called one.

### RELEASING CONSCIOUSNESS

Do you feel like you could go on for the remainder of the night? Watching is a sustained push against the mystery, allowing conscious responses to flow from within. It is now one can grasp a single focus, including and encompassing all your images. The one is prepared as the wise virgins for the great occasion.

In the watch the awareness of the tomb is exposed. One could go on or do anything but for the fact of the grave. One could go on for 24 hours except for the habit of sleeping and resting for 8 hours. In the watch the tomb is there, but is the reality over against which authentic participation in life possible.

Now one can concentrate and centralize their life. One realizes they can move out. One can forge the singleness of vocation. Everything you need is at hand. The night is transformed.