

# Selichot Book

Prayers for the New Year



congregation Beth shalom  
3433 walters, northbrook, il 60062

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### **Mahzor for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur**

Edited by Rabbi Jules Harlow  
The Rabbinical Assembly

### **Siddur Sim Shalom for Shabbat and Festivals**

The Rabbinical Assembly and The United  
Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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Edited and translated by Rabbi Ronald Aigen

### **Mahzor for the High Holy Days**

The Rabbinical Assembly

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The Prayer Book Press of Media Judaica, Inc.

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Temple Sinai, Dresher, PA

### **Selihot**

The Rabbinical Assembly

### **Mahzor for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur**

Edited by Rabbi Jules Harlow  
The Rabbinical Assembly

## הברלה

אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַנְּבִיא, אֱלֹהֵינוּ  
הַתְּשׁוּבָה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ,  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַגְּלֻעָדִי.

בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ יָבוֹא אֱלֵינוּ  
עִם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד,  
עִם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד.

הִנֵּה אֵל יְשׁוּעָתִי, אֶבְטַח וְלֹא אֶפְחָד.  
כִּי עָזִי וְזַמְרַת יְהוָה יְהוּה, וַיְהִי לִי לִישׁוּעָה.  
וּשְׂאֵבֹתֶם מִיָּמִים בְּשִׁשׁוֹן מִמַּעַיְנֵי הַיְשׁוּעָה.  
לִיהוּה הַיְשׁוּעָה עַל עַמֶּךָ בְּרִכְתֶּךָ סְלָה.  
יְהוּה צְבָאוֹת עִמָּנוּ, מִשְׁגֵּב לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, סְלָה.  
יְהוּה צְבָאוֹת, אֲשֶׁר־י אָדָם בְּטַח בְּךָ.  
יְהוּה הוֹשִׁיעָה, הַמְּלַךְ יַעֲנֵנוּ בַיּוֹם קָרְאָנוּ.

*All recite together, then the leader repeats:*

לְיְהוּדִים הֵיטָה אֹרְחָה וְשִׂמְחָה וְשִׁשׁוֹן וִיקָר. בֶּן תְּהִיָּה לָנוּ.

כּוֹס יְשׁוּעוֹת אֶשָּׂא וּבִשְׁמֵי יְהוּה אֶקְרָא.

*Raise the cup of wine and recite:*

סִבְרֵי מָרְגָן וּרְבִבָּן וּרְבוּתֵי:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוּה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

*Put down the wine without drinking.*

*Hold the spicebox and recite:*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוּה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מִיְנֵי בְשָׂמִים.

*Inhale the spices.*

*Extend your hands toward the Havdalah candle:*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוּה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאוּרֵי הָאֵשׁ:

*Raise the cup of wine once more:*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוּה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמְּבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ  
לְחוֹל, בֵּין אֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ, בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים, בֵּין יוֹם  
הַשְּׁבִיעִי לְשֶׁשֶׁת יָמֵי הַמַּעֲשָׂה. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוּה הַמְּבַדִּיל  
בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחוֹל.

## HAVDALAH

*Eliyahu Hanavi, Eliyahu Hatishbi, Eliyahu, Eliyahu, Eliyahu  
Ha'Giladi.*

*Bimheira v'yameinu yavo eileinu, im Mashiach ben David, im  
Mashiach ben David.*

May the Prophet Elijah come soon, in our time, with  
Messiah, son of David.

Behold, God is my deliverance; I am confident  
and unafraid. Adonai is my strength, my might,  
my deliverance. With joy shall you draw water from the  
wells of deliverance. Deliverance is Adonai's; may You bless  
Your people. Adonai Tze'va'ot is with us; the God of Jacob is  
our Refuge. Adonai Tze'va'ot blessed is the one who trusts in  
You. Help us, Adonai; answer us, O Sovereign, when we call.

*All recite together, then the leader repeats:*

*La'Yehudim hay'tah orah v'simcha v'sason vikar. Kein  
tih'yeh lanu.*

Grant us the blessings of light, gladness, joy, and honor,  
which the miracle of deliverance brought to our ancestors.  
I lift the cup of deliverance and call upon Adonai.

*Bracha over wine*

Praised are You Adonai our God, who rules the universe,  
creating the fruit of the vine.

*Bracha over spices*

Praised are You Adonai our God, who rules the universe,  
creating fragrant spices.

*Bracha over the flame of the Havdalah Candle*

Praised are You Adonai our God, who rules the universe  
creating the lights of fire.

Praised are You Adonai our God, who rules the universe,  
endowing all creation with distinctive qualities,  
distinguishing between the sacred and the secular, between  
light and darkness, between the people Israel and others,  
between the seventh day and the six working days of the  
week. Praised are You Adonai, who differentiates the sacred  
from the secular.

## MEDITATION

We are gathered together this night, embraced by the peace of this sanctuary, away from the clamor and glare of the world, away from its confusions and terrors, grateful for the opportunity to meditate upon the year that has gone, and to pray for the year to come.

We face not only a new year but a changing world, where new knowledge and continual upheavals threaten all life everywhere.

Our lives are burdened with failure with wrongdoing. Our hearts are torn by jealousies and hates. Prejudice confuses our thoughts, sin distorts our lives. We are ridden by fears, tormented by frustrations, by loneliness and by endless desires.

Too often straying like shepherdless sheep, we seek direction on our way.

Our God and God of our ancestors, we pray that the light of Your Presence dispel the plague of darkness which threatens to overwhelm us.

May this service of penitence help us express the noblest yearnings of our souls, that we may meet the New Year with the best of years and mind with which You, O Lord, have endowed us.

We have come to offer our fervent plea for forgiveness, for the divine gift to recognize evil and for the will to overcome it. We pray for the ability to recognize what is good, and for the will to promote it. We seek the joy of attaining lives that are good in Your sight, O Lord.

Help us, O Lord, to bridge the gap between our conscience and our conduct, between what we believe and what we do. We plead for the assurance You so graciously gave to our ancestors of old: "I will pardon, even as you ask." Amen.

## NOT GUILTY

As I read the sins for which I ask forgiveness,  
I glance at the listings, hurry through them.  
And say, "No-that is not true;  
I am not guilty."  
"Hardening our hearts?" – No. I gave.  
But did I give as much as I could?  
Did I give not only money, but also of myself?  
No? Mark: Guilty!  
"Sinful speech" slander" "deceit"-  
Did you not curse, blaspheme, lie ...?  
Oh yes, even once is enough. Well then, mark: Guilty!  
"Sinful thoughts,"  
"Spurning teachers and parents,"  
"Violence," "Evil inclination."  
Check them out. Did you wish your colleague ill?  
Did you wish someone dead, even for a second?  
If so, mark: Guilty!  
"Haughty eyes"-as you passed a one-time friend;  
"Effrontery"-as you cut in too sharply as a learned one spoke.  
"Stubbornness"-did you create a quarrel where one need not have been?  
"Envy"-you never said "why him or her-and not me?"  
The list is long.  
And now, after the glance.  
The long look, the steady eye.  
I mark: Guilty!  
No-I did not commit "violence" or "treachery."  
I did not "ensnare my neighbor."  
But then there is that "sinful thought."  
Yes, yes, I thought of violence  
And the short list of other offenses I did not count-  
And so, "sinful meditation"  
Makes me mark: Guilty!  
And I am now repentant  
And will repair what damage I have done,  
Repay the debts I owe,  
And pray to wipe the word "Guilty" from the book,  
And ask again this year  
That my name be inscribed in the Book of Life.  
Then, when next year the list is read again,  
Perhaps somewhere-some one place, at least-  
I can say "not guilty"-no repentance due.

תהלים פ"ד:ה, קמ"ד:ט"ו

אֲשֶׁרִי יוֹשְׁבֵי בֵיתְךָ, עוֹד יִהְלֹךְ סֶלֶה.  
אֲשֶׁרִי הָעַם שְׂכֻכָה לוֹ, אֲשֶׁרִי הָעַם שְׁיִהוּוּה אֱלֹהָיו.

תהלים קמ"ה, קט"ו:י"ח

תְּהַלֵּה לְדָוִד.

אֲרוּמָמָה אֱלֹהֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְאַבְרָכָה שְׁמָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.  
בְּכָל־יּוֹם אַבְרָכְךָ, וְאַהֲלֵלָה שְׁמָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

גְּדוֹל יְהוָה וּמִהֲלָל מְאֹד, וְלִגְדֹלְתוֹ אֵין חֶקֶר.  
דוֹר לְדוֹר יִשְׁבַּח מִעֲשֵׂיךָ, וּגְבוּרֹתֶיךָ יִגְדִּדוּ.

הִדְר כְּבוֹד הַדָּוָה, וְדַבְרֵי נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ אֲשִׁיחָה.  
וְעוֹזוֹ נוֹרְאוֹתֶיךָ יֹאמְרוּ, וּגְדֹלְתְךָ אֲסַפְּרָנָה.

זָכַר רַב־טוֹבָךָ יִבְיַעוּ, וְצַדִּיקְתְּךָ יִרְנְנוּ.  
חֲנוּן וְרַחוּם יְהוָה, אֶרְךָ אַפַּיִם וּגְדֹל־חַסֶּד.

טוֹב יְהוָה לְכָל, וְרַחֲמָיו עַל־כָּל־מַעֲשָׂיו.  
יִדְוֶךָ יְהוָה כָּל־מַעֲשֵׂיךָ, וְחַסִּידֶיךָ יְבָרְכוּכָה.

כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתְךָ יֹאמְרוּ, וּגְבוּרֹתֶיךָ יִדְבְּרוּ.  
לְהוֹדִיעַ לְבַנְי הָאָדָם גְּבוּרֹתָיו, וּכְבוֹד הִדְר מַלְכוּתוֹ.

מַלְכוּתְךָ מַלְכוּת כָּל־עֲלָמִים, וּמִמְשַׁלְתְּךָ בְּכָל־דוֹר וָדָר.  
סוֹמֵךְ יְהוָה לְכָל־הַנִּפְלָאִים, וְזוֹקֵף לְכָל־הַכְּפוּפִים.

עֵינַי־כָּל אֵלֶיךָ יִשְׁפְּרוּ, וְאַתָּה נוֹתֵן לָהֶם אֶת־אֲכָלָם בְּעֵתוֹ.  
פּוֹתֵחַ אֶת־יְדֶיךָ, וּמִשְׁבִּיעַ לְכָל־חַי רְצוֹן.

PSALM 84:5; 144:15

Blessed are they who dwell in Your house;  
They shall praise You forever.

*Blessed the people who are so favored;  
Blessed the people whose God is Adonai.*

PSALM 145; 115:18  
*A Psalm of David.*

I glorify You, my God, my Sovereign;  
I praise You throughout all time.

*Every day do I praise You, exalting Your glory forever.*

Great is Adonai, and praiseworthy;  
God's greatness exceeds definition.

*One generation lauds Your works to another,  
acclaiming Your mighty deeds.*

They tell of Your wonders and Your glorious splendor.  
They speak of Your greatness and Your awesome power.

*They recall Your goodness; they sing of Your  
faithfulness.*

Adonai is gracious and compassionate;  
Patient, and abounding in love.

*Adonai is good to all; God's compassion embraces all.*

All of Your creatures shall praise You;  
the faithful shall continually bless You,

*recounting Your glorious sovereignty,  
telling tales of Your might.*

And everyone will know of Your power,  
the awesome radiance of Your dominion.

*Your sovereignty is everlasting;  
Your dominion endures for all generations.*

Adonai supports all who stumble,  
and uplifts all who are bowed down.

*The eyes of all look hopefully to You,  
and You provide their food in due time.*

You open Your hand; Your favor sustains all the living.



צָדִיק יְהוּה בְּכָל־דְּרָכָיו, וְחָסִיד בְּכָל־מַעֲשָׂיו.  
קָרוֹב יְהוּה לְכָל־קָרְאָיו, לְכָל אֲשֶׁר יִקְרָאֵהוּ בְּאֵמֶת.

רְצוֹן יִרְאִיו יַעֲשֶׂה, וְאֶת־שׁוֹעֲתָם יִשְׁמַע וְיוֹשִׁיעֵם.  
שׁוֹמֵר יְהוּה אֶת־כָּל־אֲהַבָּיו, וְאֶת כָּל־הַרְשָׁעִים יִשְׁמִיד.

□ תִּהְלֵת יְהוּה יְדַבֵּר־פִּי,  
וַיִּבְרַךְ כָּל־בָּשָׂר שֵׁם קְדוֹשׁוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.  
וְאִנְחָנוּ נְבָרַךְ יְהוּה, מִעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם, הַלְלוּיָהּ.

## חצי קריש

*Hazzan:*

וַיִּתְגַּדַּל וַיִּתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא, בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְרָא, פְּרַעוּתָהּ,  
וַיִּמְלִיךָ מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל־בֵּית  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעַגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן.

*Congregation and Hazzan:*

יְהוּה שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעַלְמֵי וְלְעַלְמֵי עֵלְמֵיָא.

*Hazzan:*

יִתְבָּרַךְ וַיִּשְׁתַּבַּח וַיִּתְפָּאֵר וַיִּתְרוֹמַם וַיִּתְנַשֵּׂא וַיִּתְהַדָּר  
וַיִּתְעַלֶּה וַיִּתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקַדְשָׁא, בְּרִיךְ הוּא \*לְעַלְמֵי  
מִן כָּל־בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמַתָּא דְּאִמְרִין  
בְּעֵלְמָא, וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן.

*Adonai is just in all His ways,  
loving in all His deeds.*

Adonai is near to all who call,  
to all who call to God with integrity.

*God fulfills the desire of those who are faithful;  
God hears their cry and delivers them.*

Adonai preserves all who love Him,  
while marking the wicked for destruction.

*My mouth shall praise Adonai.  
Let all flesh praise God's name throughout all time.*

We shall praise Adonai now and always. Halleluyah!

## HATZI KADDISH

*Reader:*

May God's name be exalted and hallowed throughout the world that He created, as is God's wish. May God's sovereignty soon be accepted, during our life and the life of all Israel.

And let us say: Amen.

*Congregation and Reader:*

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varakh l'alam u-'almei almayá.  
May God's great name be praised throughout all time.

*Reader:*

Glorified and celebrated, lauded and worshiped, exalted and honored, extolled and acclaimed may the Holy One be, praised beyond all song and psalm, beyond all tributes that mortals can utter.

And let us say: Amen.

## REDEMPTION: INTERPRETIVE READING

Once more Selichot has come.

All pretense gone, naked heart revealed to the hiding self, we stand on holy ground, between the day that was and the one that must be. We tremble. Will the errors in our past teach us to walk in straighter paths?

May we still dream of a time when love and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall embrace?

Hope of Israel: In our weakness, give us strength. In our blindness, be our guide. When we falter, hold our hand.

Make consistent our impulse for good; let us know the joy of walking in Your ways, as the children of Israel once were able to do at the sea.

May we sing like them: *Mi khamokha ba'elim Adonai*, Who is like You among the mighty?

*Richard Levy, adapted*

לְכוּ גְרוּנְגָה לַיְי, גְּרִיעָה לְצוּר יִשְׁעָנוּ.  
 וְקִדְמָה פָּנָיו בְּתוֹדָה, בְּזִמְרוֹת גְּרִיעַ לוֹ.  
 אָדָּק וּמִשְׁפָּט מְכוֹן כְּסֵאָךְ, חֹסֵד וְאַמֶּת יִקְדְּמוּ פָּנֶיךָ.  
 אֲשֶׁר יִחַדּוּ וַיִּמְתִּיק סוּד, בְּבַיִת אֱלֹהִים נִהְלַךְ בְּרִגְשׁוֹ.  
 אֲשֶׁר לוֹ הַיָּם וְהוּא עָשָׂהוּ, וַיִּבְשֶׁת יַדָיו יַצְרוּ.  
 אֲשֶׁר בִּידּוֹ נִפְשׁ כָּל חַי, וְרוּחַ כָּל בֶּשֶׂר אִישׁ.

הַנְּשֵׁמָה לךְ

הַנְּשֵׁמָה לָךְ וְהַגּוֹרֵף פָּעַלְךָ. חוֹסֵה עַל עֲמֻלְךָ.  
 הַנְּשֵׁמָה לָךְ וְהַגּוֹרֵף שְׁלָךְ. יְי, עֲשֵׂה לְמַעַן שְׁמֶךָ.

אֲתַאֲנוּ עַל שְׁמֶךָ, יְי, עֲשֵׂה לְמַעַן שְׁמֶךָ.  
 בַּעֲבוּר כְּבוֹד שְׁמֶךָ, כִּי אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנוּן שְׁמֶךָ.  
 לְמַעַן שְׁמֶךָ יְי, וְסִלַּחַת לְעוֹנֵינוּ, כִּי רַב הוּא.

סִלַּח לָנוּ אֲבִינוּ, כִּי בָרַב אִוְלַתְנוּ שָׁגִינוּ.  
 מַחֵל לָנוּ מִלְּכִנוּ, כִּי רַבּוּ עוֹנֵינוּ.

Come, let us sing to the Lord,  
acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

*Let us approach Him with thanksgiving.  
Let us acclaim Him with joyous psalms.*

Righteousness and justice sustain His throne.  
Love and truth are His constant attendants.

*Come, let us join in fellowship,  
let us throng to the house of God.*

The sea is His, for He made it;  
His hands fashioned the dry land.

*The soul of all life is in His hand,  
the spirit of all human flesh.*

The soul is Yours, the body is Your creation.  
Lord, have compassion upon Your handiwork.

*The soul is Yours, the body is Yours.  
Deal with us according to Your name.*

We come before You relying on Your name.  
According to Your glorious name, help us.

*Your name is "gracious, compassionate God."  
Forgive, then, our sin, though it is great.*

*Forgive us, our Father!  
With great folly have we gone astray.  
Pardon us, our King!  
Our sins have overwhelmed us.*

אָב גָּדוֹל וְקָדוֹשׁ, אָבִי כָּל-בָּאֵי עוֹלָם:  
 אַתָּה בּוֹרָא אֶת-עוֹלָמָךְ בְּנֵה, בְּנֵיהַּ בְּכֹל-מְעוֹף עֵץ.  
 אִם כְּהֶרֶף עֵץ תִּסִּיר אֶת-חֲסֵד יִצִּירְתָּךְ וְהָיָה הַכֹּל אֵין וְאָפֶס.  
 אַבְל אַתָּה מְרִיק עַל יִצִּירֶיךָ-בְּנֵיהַּ צְנוּרֵי בְּרַכָּה בְּכֹל-רִנָּע וְרִנָּע.

וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יוֹפִיעוּ כּוֹכְבֵי שָׁמַר וְשָׂרוּ שִׁירַת אַהֲבָה לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יֵצֵא שֶׁמֶשׁ בְּגִבּוֹרְתּוֹ וְשָׂר שִׁירַת אוֹר לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יִשְׂרוּ מִלְּאָכִים שִׁירַת קֹדֶשׁ לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם תִּשְׁרָנָה גִּשְׁמוֹת שִׁירַת צְמֵאוֹן לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יִשְׂרוּ עֲשָׂבֵי שָׂדֶה שִׁירַת גְּעוּגוּעִים לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם תִּשְׁרָנָה צְפָרִים שִׁירַת גִּיל לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יִשְׂרוּ אֶפְרוֹחִים עֲזוּבִים שִׁירַת יְתוּמִים לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יִלְחַשׁ מֵעַן אֶת-תְּפִלָּתוֹ.

וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם יַעֲטוֹף עֲנִי וְשִׁפָּךְ אֶת-שִׁיחוֹ לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם גִּשְׁמָתוֹ-תְּפִלָּתוֹ בּוֹקֵעַת רְקִיעֶךָ-שְׁחֻקֶיךָ  
 בְּעֵלוֹתָהּ לְפָנֶיךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם פְּרוֹר יִתְפּוֹרֵר גּוֹו מְאִימַת כְּבוֹדֶךָ  
 וְעוֹד הַפְּעַם עֵינָו נִשְׁוֹאָה אֵלֶיךָ.

רַק קִו אֶחָד מְאוֹרֶךְ וְהִיִּיתִי חֲדוּר אוֹרָה.  
 רַק דְּבַר אֶחָד מִדְּבָרֶיךָ וְקִמַּמְתִּי לְתַחֲתֶיךָ.  
 רַק תְּנוּעָה אַחַת מִמֵּי נִצְחָךְ וְהִיִּיתִי רוּוִי טַל יְלֵדוֹת.

הֲלֹא אַתָּה בּוֹרָא הַכֹּל-מִמְחֲדָשׁ, בְּרָא נָא אָבִי אוֹתִי, יְלָדֶךָ, מִמְחֲדָשׁ:  
 נִשּׁוּם בִּי מִנְשַׁמַּת אִפְךָ וְתִיִּיתִי חַיִּים חַדְשִׁים, מֵיִי יְלֵדוֹת חֲדָשָׁה.

## CREATE US ANEW

Great and holy Creator of all,  
You create Your child, the world, every instant.

*If for an instant You withdrew  
The gift of Your creation,  
Emptiness would replace it.*

But You shower Your children  
With blessing every moment.

*Once again the morning stars appear,  
Singing a song of love to You.*

Once again the sun bursts forth,  
Singing a song of light to You.

*Once again angels sing of holiness to You;  
Once again souls sing of yearning to You.*

And once again grass sings of longing to You.

*Once again birds sing a song of joy to You,  
Once again orphaned nestlings sing of loneliness to You.*

And once again a brook whispers its prayer.

*Once again the afflicted pour out their complaints to You,  
Once again soul-prayers split Your heavens.*

Once again we tremble in awe of Your glory  
And once again we hopefully await You.

*One ray of Your light and we are immersed in light,  
One word from You and we are reborn.*

One hint of Your eternal Presence  
And I am refreshed with the dew of youth.

*For You create everything anew.  
At this midnight hour again create us, Your children.*

Breathe into us Your spirit  
That we may begin life anew.

רבונו של עולם הרני מוחל לכל מי שהכעיס והקניס  
 אותי או שחטא כנגדי בין בגופי בין בממוני בין  
 בכבודי בין בכל אשר לי בין באוניס בין ברצון בין  
 בשוגג בין במזיד בין בדבור בין במעשה לכל בן אדם.  
 ולא יענש שום אדם בספתי. יהי רצון מלפניך יי  
 אלהי ואלהי אבותי שלא אחטא עוד ולא אחזור בהם  
 ולא אשוב עוד להכעסך ולא אעשה הרע בעיניך. ומה  
 שחטאתי לפניך מחוק ברחמיך הרבים אבל לא על  
 ידי יסורים והלים רעים יהיו לרצון אמרי פי והגיון  
 לבי לפניך יי צורי וגואלי.

אל ארך אפים אתה, ובעל הרחמים נקראת, ודרך תשובה  
 הורית. גדלת רחמיך וחסדיך תזכור היום ובכל יום לזרע  
 ידידיך. תפן אלינו ברחמים, כי אתה הוא בעל הרחמים.

בתחנון ובתפלה פניך נקדם, כהודעת לעניו מקדם. מתרון  
 אפך שוב, כמו בתורתך כתוב, ובצל כנפיך נחסה ונתלונן.  
 כיום וירד יי בענן. מעבור על פשע ותמחה אשם, כיום  
 ויתיצב עמו שם. תאזין שועתנו ותקשיב מגו מאמר, כיום  
 ויקרא בשם יי. ושם נאמר: ויעבר יי על פניו ויקרא:

יי יי, אל רחום וחנון, ארך אפים, ורב חסד ואמת, נצור  
 חסד לאלפים, נשא עון ופשע וחטאה, ונקה.

וסלחת לעוננו ולחטאתנו ונתלתנו.

סלח לנו אבינו כי חטאנו, מחל לנו מלכנו כי פשענו.  
 כי אתה, יי, טוב וסלח ורב חסד לכל קוראיך.

Ribono shel olam, I hereby forgive whoever has hurt me,  
And whoever has done me any wrong; whether deliberately or  
accidentally, whether by word or by deed.

May no one be punished on my account. May it be Your will, O  
Lord my God and God of my ancestors, that I sin no more, that I not  
revert to my old ways, that I not anger You any more with my  
actions, and that I not do that which is evil in Your sight.

Wipe away my sins – with Your great compassion rather than  
through sickness or suffering. May these words of my mouth and  
the prayers that are in my heart be acceptable before You, O Lord,  
my Rock and my Redeemer.

Most patient God, Master of mercy, You have shown us the path of  
repentance. This day and every day embrace with lovingkindness  
the descendants of Your beloved people. We seek Your Presence in  
supplication. Meet us with mercy, Master of mercy.

We come before You in prayer. Turn away wrath; shelter us, protect  
us. Forgive transgression, blot out sin, as on the day when You  
answered Moses who sought to understand You. Heed our cry as on  
the day of Your revelation, when You proclaimed to Moses:

*The covenant*

*Adonai Adonai El rachum v'chanun, erech apa'yim v'rav chesed  
v'emet, notzer chesed la'a'laphim no'se a'von va'feshah  
v'cha'ta'ah, v'na'keh.*

*V'sa'lachta la'a'vo'neinu ul'cha'toteinu, un'chaltanu.  
Slach lanu Avinu ki chatanu, mechal lanu Malkeinu ki fashanu.  
Ki Atah, Adonai, tov v'salach v'rav chesed l'chol kor'echah.*

The Lord, the Lord God is gracious and compassionate, patient,  
abounding in kindness and faithfulness, assuring love for a  
thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression and sin, and  
granting pardon.

Then Moses prayed: "Pardon our iniquity and our sin; claim us  
for Your own."

Forgive us, our Father, for we have sinned.  
Pardon us, our King, for we have transgressed.

You, O Lord, are generous and forgiving.  
Great is Your love for all who call to You.



כְּרַחֵם אֱבֹב עַל בְּנֵימ, כִּן תְּרַחֵם יי עֲלֵינוּ.  
 ליי הִישׁוּעָה, עַל עֲמִיד בְּרִכְתּוֹךָ סְלָה.  
 יי צְבָאוֹת עֲמֵנוּ, מְשֹׁבֵב לָנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב סְלָה.  
 יי צְבָאוֹת, אֲשֶׁרִי אָדָם בְּטַח בְּךָ.  
 יי הוֹשִׁיעָה, תְּמַלֵּךְ יַעֲנֵנוּ בְּיוֹם קִרְאָנוּ.

### Meditation

As an owl in the desert screams in the night, so I want to be heard, my God. As a thrush cries as danger nears its nest, so we plead that You attend us.

Like the eagle that You created circles round and round, higher and higher, to protect its young, so guard us from danger.

As a dove hovers constantly over its young, never tiring of its talk, so let me be nestled in Your care.

Spread Your wings, carry me, watch over me. Bring me to Your holy house on eagle's wings.

אַל מְלֶךְךָ, יוֹשֵׁב עַל כִּסֵּא רַחֲמִים, מִתְנַהֵג בְּחִסְדֹת, מוֹחֵל עֲזוֹת עֲמוֹ, מַעֲבִיר רֵאשׁוֹן רֵאשׁוֹן, מִרְבֵּה מְחִילָה לְחַטָּאִים, וְסִלִּיחָה לְפוֹשְׁעִים. עוֹשֶׂה צְדָקוֹת עִם כָּל בָּשָׂר וְרוּחַ, לֹא כְרַעַתְם תִּגְמַל.

אַל, הוֹרִיתָ לָנוּ לִזְמַר שְׁלֹשׁ עֶשְׂרֵה, זָכַר לָנוּ הַיּוֹם בְּרִית שְׁלֹשׁ עֶשְׂרֵה, כְּמוֹ שֶׁהוֹדַעְתָּ לְעֵינָיו מִקְדָּם, כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב: וַיִּרְדּוּ יי בְּעָנָן, וַיִּתְיַצֵּב עִמּוֹ שָׁם, וַיִּקְרָא בְּשֵׁם יי. וַיַּעֲבֵר יי עַל פְּנֵיו וַיִּקְרָא:

יי יי, אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנוּן, אֲרָךְ אַפַּיִם, וְרַב חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת, נֹצֵר חֶסֶד לְאַלְפִים, נִשְׂא עוֹן וְנִפְשַׁע וְחַטָּאת, וְנִקְיָה.

וְסִלַּחְתָּ לְעוֹנֵינוּ וּלְחַטָּאתֵינוּ וְנִחַלְתָּנוּ.

סִלַּח לָנוּ אֱבֹינֵנוּ כִּי חַטָּאנוּ, מַחֵל לָנוּ מִלְכּוֹנוּ כִּי פָשַׁעְנוּ. כִּי אַתָּה, יי, טוֹב וְסִלַּח וְרַב חֶסֶד לְכָל קוֹרְאֶיךָ.

Tender as a father with his children  
 Be tender with us, O Lord of deliverance.  
 Grant blessings to Your people.

O Lord of hosts, be with us;  
 O God of Jacob, be our stronghold!  
 Happy is the one who trusts in You.

O Lord of hosts, come to our help;  
 O King, answer the prayer we utter.

Our God and King, enthroned upon compassion, rules with lovingkindness, forgives the transgressions of His people, and repeatedly pardons. He generously forgives sin, and deals mercifully with all mortals.

You have taught us, Lord, to recite the words which You proclaimed to Moses, declaring Your attributes of mercy. Remember in our favor Your covenant of compassion which You then revealed. Thus it is written in Your Torah: The Lord descended in a cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed:

*The covenant*

*Adonai Adonai El rachum v'chanun, erech apa'yim v'rav chesed v'emet,  
 notzer chesed la'a'laphim no'se a'von va'feshah v'cha'ta'ah, v'na'keh.*

*V'sa'lachta la'a'vo'neinu ul'cha'toteinu, un'chaltanu.  
 Slach lanu Avinu ki chatanu, mechal lanu Malkeinu ki fashanu.  
 Ki Atah, Adonai, tov v'salach v'rav chesed l'chol kor'echah.*

The Lord, the Lord God is gracious and compassionate, patient, abounding in kindness and faithfulness, assuring love for a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression and sin, and granting pardon.

Then Moses prayed: "Pardon our iniquity and our sin; claim us for Your own."

Forgive us, our Father, for we have sinned.  
 Pardon us, our King, for we have transgressed.

You, O Lord, are generous and forgiving.  
 Great is Your love for all who call to You.

Let our yearning rise to You in the evening,  
Our exclamations come to You in the morning,  
Then wondrous joy shall appear by evening.

*Let our voices rise to You in the evening,  
Our unsung deeds come to You in the morning,  
So our true redemption shall appear by evening.*

Let our sufferings rise to You in the evening,  
Our remorse come to You in the morning,  
Then our pardon shall appear by evening.

*Let our outcries rise to You in the evening,  
Take note of them for Your sake in the morning,  
Pour Your mercy upon us by evening.*

Let our lament rise to You in the evening,  
And may You know the purity of our spirit in the morning,  
That the joy of forgiveness appear by evening.

*Let intimations of regret rise to You in the evening,  
And hopefulness in our gathering come to You in the morning,  
Then our glory, reflective of You, shall appear by evening.*

Let our fervent knocking at the gates rise to You in the evening,  
Our entreaties come to You in the morning,  
And Your forgiveness delight us by evening.

*Let our confession rise up to You in the evening,  
May it blaze across the skies in the morning,  
So the forgiveness of all appear by evening.*

All our secrets are known to You, Adonai, we cannot fool ourselves. Lying is a vain exercise; help us not even to try.

*How could we deceive You, within us, at once forming and knowing our most secret thoughts.*

We live in a world of illusion. Each of us thinks he or she is separate, alone, cut off, misunderstood, unwanted. We forget we are part of Your glory, each of us a unique ray of Your light.

*As we live our lives, rent asunder, each in his or her own small world, help us to remember what we often forget: We need one another; we each are part of the other; and some place, so well known, yet so secret, we may find our true solace in You.*

Ark is Open

בְּמוֹצָאֵי מְנוּחָה קִדְמֵנוּךָ תְּחִלָּה,  
הֵט אָזְנוֹךָ מִמָּרוֹם יוֹשֵׁב תְּהִלָּה,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

אֶת יָמִין עַו עוֹרְרָה לַעֲשׂוֹת חַיִּיל,  
בְּצִדְקַת גִּיעָקֵד, וְנִשְׁחַט תְּמוּרוֹ אֵיל,  
גָּנָן נָא גִזְעוּ בְּזַעֲקָם בְּעוֹד לַיִל,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

דְּרָשׁ נָא דוֹרְשֵׁיךָ בְּדַרְשֵׁם פְּגִידָה,  
הַדְּרָשׁ לָמוּ מִשְׁמֵי מַעֲוֹנָה,  
וּלְשׁוֹנֵעַת חַנוּנִים אֵל תַּעֲלֵם אָזְנוֹךָ,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

זוֹחֲלִים וְרוֹעֲדִים מִיּוֹם בּוֹאֵךָ,  
חָלִים כְּמִבְכִּירָה מַעֲבֵרַת מִשְׁאֵךְ,  
טְנוּפָם מְחַה נָא וַיּוֹדוּ פְּלִאֵיךָ,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

יוֹצֵר אֶתְּהָ לְכָל יְצִיר גּוֹצֵר,  
כוֹנֵנֶת מֵאֵז תִּרְף לְחִלְצָם מִמַּעֲצָר,  
לְחַנּוּם חָנָם מֵאוֹצֵר הַמְּנַצֵּר,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

מְרוֹם אִם עֲצָמוּ פִּשְׁעֵי קִתְּלָה,  
נָא שׁוֹנֵבִים מֵאוֹצֵר הַמוֹכֵן בְּזִבְוִלָה,  
עֲדִיךָ לְחוֹן חָנָם בְּאִים אֵלֶיךָ,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

Ark is Open

The Sabbath has ended, night has come;  
We come before You with earnest plea.  
O You who dwell in the heavens above,  
Bend low and hear our hymn of praise.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

Remember Isaac, bound for an offering,  
In whose stead the ram was slain.  
Shield his descendants praying this night;  
Kindle Your power; come to their aid.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

Receive all who see Your Presence;  
Let their plea reach Your heavenly abode.  
Do not refuse to hear their prayers,  
The fervent prayers which they offer.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

Trembling before You like a woman in travail  
Like a woman bringing forth her firstborn,  
They stand in awe before Your wonders,  
Before the wonder of Your forgiveness.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

You created every living being,  
Of old You rescued us from trouble.  
Bless us though we be not worthy.  
Grant us Your gift of forgiveness.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

Strengthen Your people, O Lord on high,  
Though their transgressions are so many.  
Bless them from Your heavenly treasure  
Though undeserving, they plead before You.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

פְּנֵה נָא אֶל הַתְּלָאוֹת וְאֵל לְחַטָּאוֹת,  
צַדִּיק צוֹעֵקִיךָ מִפְּלִיא פְּלָאוֹת,  
קָשָׁב נָא חֲנוּנִים אֱלֹהִים יְיָ צְבָאוֹת,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

רְצֵה עֲתִירְתֶּם בְּעַמְדָם בְּלֵילוֹת,  
שַׁעַה בְּרָצוֹן כְּקָרֵב בֶּן כְּלִיל וְעוֹלוֹת,  
תֵּרָאם נִסִּיךָ עוֹשֶׂה גְדוֹלוֹת,  
לְשִׁמְעַע אֶל הַרְגָה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה.

Ark is Closed

\* Repeat after Hazzan

\* שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, חוּס וְרַחֵם עָלֵינוּ,  
וְקַבֵּל בְּרַחֲמִים וּבְרָצוֹן אֶת תְּפִלָּתֵנוּ.  
\* הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנִשׁוּבָה, חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם.  
\* אֵל תִּשְׁלִיכֵנוּ מִלְּפָנֶיךָ, וְרוּחַ קִדְשְׁךָ אֵל תִּקַּח מִמֶּנּוּ.  
\* אֵל תִּשְׁלִיכֵנוּ לְעַת זְקֵנָה, כְּכֹלוֹת כַּחֲנוּנוֹ אֵל תַּעֲזֹבֵנוּ.

אֵל תַּעֲזֹבֵנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, אֵל תִּרְחַק מִמֶּנּוּ.  
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ אוֹת לְטוֹבָה, וְיִרְאוּ שׁוֹנְאֵינוּ וְיִבְשׁוּ,  
כִּי אַתָּה יְיָ עֲזַרְתָּנוּ וְנַחַמְתָּנוּ.  
אֲמַרְיֵנוּ הַאֲזִינָה יְיָ, בִּינָה הִגִּינוּ.

יְהִיו לְרָצוֹן אֲמַרְי פִּינוּ וְהִגִּינוּ לִבְנוֹ לְפָנֶיךָ, יְיָ צוּרֵנוּ וְגוֹאֲלֵנוּ.  
כִּי לָךְ יְיָ הוֹחֵלֵנוּ, אַתָּה תַּעֲנֶה, אֲדַנִּי אֱלֹהֵינוּ.

Consider our suffering, not our sins;  
 Vindicate those who plead before You.  
 You, who perform wonders, hear us;  
 Lord God of hosts, heed our plea.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

Once You received the Temple Sacrifices,  
 Now accept our petition for forgiveness.  
 Accept the plea we offer this night,  
 Reveal for us the wonder of Your deeds.

Hear our plea! Accept our prayer!

Ark is Closed

## SH'MA KOLEINU

\* Repeat after Cantor

- \* *Sh'ma koleinu, Adonai Eloheinu, chus v'rachem aleinu, v'kabel be'rachamim uv'ratzon et te'filateinu.*
- \* *Hashiveinu Adonai Eilecha ve'nashuva, chadesh ya'meinu kekedem.*
- \* *Al tash'licheinu milfanecha, v'ruach kod'shecha al tikach mi'menu.*
- \* *Al tash'licheinu le'eit zikna, kich'lot ko'cheinu al ta'azveinu.*

Hear our voice, Lord our God, pity us, save us,  
 Accept our prayer with compassion and kindness.

*Help us return to You, and we shall return;  
 Renew our lives as when we were young.*

Cast us not away from Your Presence,  
 Take not Your holy spirit from us.

*Cast us not away when we are old,  
 When our strength is gone do not abandon us.*

Do not abandon us, Lord our God, do not be far from us.

*Show us a sign of grace, in spite of our foes;  
 For You are our help and our comfort.*

Hear our words, O Lord, and consider our inmost thoughts.

*May the words of our mouth and the meditations of  
 our heart be acceptable to You, O Lord, our Rock  
 and our Redeemer.*

For You we wait, our God; You, O Lord, will answer.

*This confession of faith expresses the profound  
 contrast between God and man.*



אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, תָּבֵא לְפָנֶיךָ תְּפִלָּתֵנוּ, וְאֵל תַּתְּעַלֵּם  
מִתְחַנְתְּנוּ, שְׂאִין אֲנַחְנוּ עֲוֵי פָנִים וְקוֹשֵׁי עֲרָף לֹמַר לְפָנֶיךָ, יי  
אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, צְדִיקִים אֲנַחְנוּ וְלֹא חָטָאנוּ, אֲבָל  
אֲנַחְנוּ חָטָאנוּ.

*Congregation rises*

אֲשָׁמנוּ, בְּגִדְנוּ, גִּזְלָנוּ, דִּבְרָנוּ דָּפִי.  
הַעֲוִינוּ, וְהִרְשָׁענוּ, וְדָנוּ, חֲמָסָנוּ,  
טָפְלָנוּ שָׁקֵר. יַעֲצֹנוּ רָע, כּוֹזְבֵנוּ, לִצְנוּ,  
מְרִדְנוּ, וְאַצְנוּ, סָרְרָנוּ, עֲוִינוּ,  
פִּשְׁעָנוּ, צָרְרָנוּ, קִשְׁיָנוּ עֲרָף. רִשְׁעָנוּ,  
שַׁחַתְנוּ, תַּעֲבָנוּ, תַּעֲוִינוּ, תַּעֲתָעָנוּ.

סָרְנוּ מִמִּצְוֹתֶיךָ וּמִמְשַׁפְּטֶיךָ הַטּוֹבִים, וְלֹא שָׁוָה לָנוּ, וְאַתָּה  
צְדִיק עַל כָּל הַבָּא עָלֵינוּ, כִּי אָמַת עָשִׂיתָ וְאַנַּחְנוּ הִרְשָׁעָנוּ.

וְתַן בְּלִבְנוּ לַעֲזוֹב דְּרֹךְ רָשָׁע וְחַיֵּשׁ לָנוּ יֵשַׁע, כִּכְתוּב עַל  
יָד גְּבִיאָה: יַעֲזֹב רָשָׁע דְּרָכּוֹ, וְאִישׁ אֶן מִחֲשַׁבְתּוֹ, וְיָשֵׁב אֶל  
יְי וִירַחֲמֵהוּ, וְאֵל אֱלֹהֵינוּ כִּי יִרְבֶּה לְסִלּוֹת.

We are insolent, but You are gracious and compassionate. We are obstinate, but You are patient. We excel at sin, but You excel at mercy. Our days are a passing shadow, while You are eternal, Your years without end.

Hear our prayer; do not ignore our plea. We are neither so insolent nor so obstinate as to claim that we are righteous, without sin, for we have surely sinned.

## Vidui

*Congregation rises*

*Ashamnu, Bagadnu, Gazalnu, Dibarnu dofi.  
He'evinu, Vehirshanu, Zadnu, Chamasnu,  
Tafalnu shaker. Ya'atznu ra, Kizavnu, Latznu,  
Maradnu, Ni'atznu, Sararnu, Avinu,  
Pashanu, Tzararnu, Kishinu oref. Rashanu,  
Shihatnu, Ti'avnu, Ta'inu, Titarnu.*

We abuse, we betray, we are cruel.  
We destroy, we embitter, we falsify.  
We gossip, we hate, we insult.  
We jeer, we kill, we lie.  
We mock, we neglect, we oppress.  
We pervert, we quarrel, we rebel.  
We steal, we transgress, we are unkind.  
We are violent, we are wicked, we are xenophobic.  
We yield to evil, we are zealots for bad causes.

*Endow us with the will to forsake evil; save us now. This Your prophet declared: "Let the wicked forsake his path and the unrighteous man his plottings. Let him return to the Lord, who will have compassion upon him. Let him return to our God, who will surely forgive him."*

שומר ישראל

שומר ישראל, שמור שארית ישראל,  
ואל יאבד ישראל, האומרים שמע ישראל.

שומר גוי אחד, שמור שארית עם אחד,  
ואל יאבד גוי אחד, המיחדים שמך, יי אלהינו, יי אחד.

שומר גוי קדוש, שמור שארית עם קדוש,  
ואל יאבד גוי קדוש, המשלשים בשלש קדשות לקדוש.

מתרצה ברחמים ומתפייס בתחנונים,  
התרצה והתפייס לדור עני, כי אין עוזר.

אבינו מלכנו, חננו ועננו, כי אין בנו מעשים.  
עשה עמנו צדקה וחסד והושיענו.

## GUARDIAN OF ISRAEL

Guardian of Israel, guard the remnant of Israel,  
Let not disaster overcome Israel,  
Who daily proclaim: Hear, O Israel!

Guardian of a unique people, guard the remnant of this  
people. Let not disaster overcome this unique people,  
Who daily proclaim: The Lord is One!

Guardian of a holy people, guard the remnant of this people.  
Let not disaster overcome this holy people,  
Who daily proclaim: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!

O God, moved by prayer and reconciled by supplication,  
accept the prayers and supplications of our  
afflicted generation, for there is none else to help.

Our Father, our King be gracious to us and answer us.  
Though we are without good deeds, be merciful with  
us and save us.

## זאת תפילתי

זאת תפילתי לך, אל אלהי:  
 שמרני לבל אשט מנתיב חיי,  
 לבל ימק רוחי ולבל ידל  
 מצמאוננו לך ומן הטל  
 עליו הזלפת בעונני רך;

יהי לבי פתוח אל כל דרך,  
 אל כל יתום חיים, אל כל כושל  
 נפתל בסתר ומגשש בצל.

ברך עיני, וקני לראות  
 יפי אדם עולה בתבל זאת,  
 יהוד עמי בארצו גאולה  
 מרעיף ריחו על אדמה קלה.

ואת חושי בי העמק, הרחב  
 לספג עולם ירק, נצן ואב,  
 לקלט מהם סוד הלבוב בדמי.

חנני און לתת מיטב כל פרי,  
 תמצית חיי, בניב שקוי לשדי  
 מבלי צפות לגמול צפוי בעדי;

וכבוא יומי – לחמק לרשות הליל  
 בלי תבע מה מאיש וממה, אל.

## THIS IS MY PRAYER

This is my prayer to You, O my God:  
Let me not swerve from my life's path,  
Let not my spirit wither and shrivel  
In its thirst for You  
And lose the dew  
With which You sprinkled it  
When I was young.

Be my heart open  
To every broken thing,  
To orphaned life,  
To every stumbler  
Wandering unknown  
And groping in the shadow.

Bless my eyes, purify me to see  
Man's beauty rise in the world,  
And my people's grandeur  
In its land redeemed,  
Scattering its scent  
Over all the earth.

Deepen and broaden my senses  
To absorb a fresh  
Green, flowering world,  
To take from it the secret  
Of blossoming in silence.

Grant strength to yield fine fruits,  
Quintessence of my life,  
Steeped in my very being,  
Without expectation of reward.

And when my times comes –  
Let me slip into the night  
Demanding nothing, God, of man  
Or of You.

## קדיש שלם

*Hazzan:*

וַיִּתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא, בְּעֶלְמָא דֵּי בְרָא, בְּרַעוּתָהּ,  
וַיִּמְלִיךָ מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיִּיכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל-בֵּית  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעַגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

*Congregation and Hazzan:*

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמֵיָא.

*Hazzan:*

יִתְבָּרַךְ וַיִּשְׁתַּבַּח וַיִּתְפָּאֵר וַיִּתְרוֹמֵם וַיִּתְנַשֵּׂא וַיִּתְהַדָּר  
וַיִּתְעַלֶּה וַיִּתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקַדְשָׁא, בְּרִיךְ הוּא \*לְעֵלָא  
מִן כָּל-בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמַתָּא דְאֲמִירָן  
בְּעֶלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

תְּתַקַּבַּל צְלוֹתְהוֹן וּבְרַעוּתְהוֹן דְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל קָדָם אַבוּהוֹן  
דֵּי בְשַׁמְיָא, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמֵיָא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל  
כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

תקיעת שופר

## KADDISH SHALEM

*Reader:*

May God's name be exalted and hallowed throughout the world that He created, as is God's wish. May God's sovereignty soon be accepted, during our life and the life of all Israel.

And let us say: Amen.

*Congregation and Reader:*

*Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varakh l'alam u-l'almei almaya.  
May God's great name be praised throughout all time.*

*Reader:*

Glorified and celebrated, lauded and worshiped, exalted and honored, extolled and acclaimed may the Holy One be, praised beyond all song and psalm, beyond all tributes that mortals can utter. And let us say: Amen.

May the prayers and pleas of all the people Israel be accepted by our Guardian in heaven.

And let us say: Amen.

Let there be abundant peace from heaven, with life's goodness for us and for all Israel.

And let us say: Amen.

May the One who brings peace to His universe bring peace to us and to all Israel.

And let us say: Amen.

## Blowing of the Shofar



*[Faint, illegible text visible in the right margin, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

# Additional Readings

## AN INTERPRETIVE TRANSLATION OF ASHREI

ALEPH: People who feel close to God have a great happiness.

BET: Every day gives me a new reason to feel blessed.

GIMEL: The vastness of God's creation is mind-boggling.

DALET: One generation teaches the other about the mystery of existence.

HEH: I notice the beauty of Your works and I want to talk about it!

VAV: I feel agitated by the wonder of it all. It helps me to express myself in words.

ZAYIN: Your fairness makes me happy.

CHET: God puts up with our weaknesses and shortcomings.

TET: God's blessings nourish and sustain everything.

YOD: We sense what we receive from You, and we feel moved to give back.

KAF: Your power is obvious throughout creation.

LAMED: We remind each other that it is Your power we see in creation.

MEM: Natural laws govern all space and all time.

SAMECH: God provides support for all our weak moments.

AYIN: Every living thing relies on the Oneness for all its needs.

PEH: God's open hand provides food for all.

TZADE: Things turn out fairly in the end.

KUF: God is present in every moment for those who seek.

RESH: God is a partner with people who are willing to do good work.

SHIN: People who work for the good feel God's protection and partnership.

## PRONOUNS

The Lord said,  
"Say, 'We' ";  
But I shook my head,  
Hid my hands tight behind my back, and said,  
Stubbornly,  
"I."

The Lord said,  
"Say, 'We' ";  
But I looked upon them, grimy and all awry.  
Myself in all those twisted shapes? Ah, no!  
Distastefully I turned my head away,  
Persisting,  
"They."

The Lord said,  
"Say, 'We' ";  
And I  
At last  
Richer by a hoard of years.  
And tears,  
Looked in their eyes and found the heavy word  
That bent my neck and bowed my head:  
Like a shamed schoolboy then I mumbled low,  
"We, Lord."

## IN PRAISE OF ANOTHER YEAR

In heaven and on earth,  
In a clap of thunder, in a whisper of the soul,  
In praise on yellowed parchment in an ancient tongue,  
In yearnings of the heart, in a child not yet born,  
*Blessed be He.*

Taste of tears and wine, sight of starry skies,  
Old men's voices warping the chant, children singing,  
Scientists asking, artists proclaiming.  
*Blessed be He.*

All the web of creation shining in His bright sunlight.  
The dew that has gathered in darkness,  
Transfixes the light of day.  
*Blessed be He.*

I am afraid of my suffering, and ashamed,  
But He made it. May I be worthy of His bitter gifts.  
Who but the living can know its agonies?  
The aged draw breath slowly from long-drawing pain.  
*Blessed be He.*

Children extinguished, futures lost as broken promises;  
But to have lived one moment is that much glory.  
God's warm sun, God's soul-searching fire,  
And moments when our only pride,  
Is that we have turned from nothing.  
*Blessed be He.*

Inform us in self-knowledge, Lord Creator  
One and together;  
Inform us in the hunger for peace,  
Between men and nations.

Grant us another year in the Book of Life,  
With its peril, injustice,  
And the good daylight.

*Amen. Amen.*

## AS CLAY IN A POTTER'S HAND

As clay takes form in a potter's hand,  
so do we in Yours.

*Mold us into human form.  
You are the potter;  
we are but clay.*

As words are shaped by a poet's hand,  
so are we by Yours.

*Make us Your song.  
You are the singer,  
We are Your work.*

As a ship takes its course from a sailor's hand,  
So do we from Yours.  
Set us on Your chosen course.  
You are the sailor; we are Your ship.

*As threads are patterned by a weaver's hand,  
So are we by Yours.  
Weave us into Your plan, O God.  
We are Your people;  
You are our King!*

## THE PERSON I WAS FORMED TO BE

My God,  
Before I was formed I was as nothing.  
As I consider all the thoughtless, selfish acts  
I have performed  
It is as though I were as nothing now.

So short have I fallen  
Of the person I would like to be.  
I am as dust  
Even though I am alive.  
Saying this in front of You  
Fills me with shame.

May it be Your will  
That I do no selfish act again.  
May it be your will  
That I do no thoughtless act again.

Like all human beings,  
I shall probably repeat those acts,  
Yet I should like to believe  
That I could overcome them.

As I have been strong enough  
To confess my errors in front of You  
So may You now help me  
In my resolve for better deeds,  
To feel forgiven,  
To feel the special worth of my life.

Help me to feel that I can become  
The person I was formed to be.

May the words of my mouth,  
These difficult and painful words,  
Be acceptable in front of You,  
My Rock,  
My Redeemer.

## FOR THE 'LITTLE' SINS WE COMMIT

For pushing in queues.  
For stealing telephone calls.  
For saying "It's not my business."

For passing the blame.  
For tricking ourselves and others.  
For saying, "It's not fair."

For interfering with other people's souls.  
For ignoring the needs of their bodies.  
For saying, "Am I my brother's keeper?"

For paying our taxes by conjecture.  
For petty theft and cheating.  
For saying, "Why me?"

For letting other people down.  
For running away from difficulties.  
For saying, "Who cares?"

For not taking responsibility.  
For pretending to be good.  
For saying, "Who will ever know?"

*From Agnon, Forms of Prayer*



## THE LAST SHABBAT OF THE YEAR

The last Shabbat of the year is ended.  
In the brief time left we bring You our praises.  
Though You seem so distant, beyond all praise we can offer,  
Hear our songs and the private prayers within them.

We recall Isaac, willingly offered as a sacrifice to You.  
The ram took his place and we too ask to be saved.  
Shield us with Your strength when we cry in the  
darkness of night.  
Hear our songs and the private prayers within them.

We have come to seek You though You seem so far away.  
Seek us out on our way and let us find You.  
Do not close Your ears to our pleading.  
Hear our songs and the private prayers within them.

Yet we are frightened to meet You, fearing Your judgment.  
Trembling and uncertain like a mother giving birth.  
Unless You remove our sins, how can we face Your wonders?  
Hear our songs and the private prayers within them.

## GRANT US, O GOD

Grant us, O God, Your merciful protection,  
And in protection give us strength;

And in our strength grant us wise discretion,  
And in discretion make us ever just;

And with our justice may we mingle love,  
And with our love, O God, the love of You;  
And with the love of You, the love of all.

*Amen.*

## LISTEN

Judaism begins with the commandment: Hear O Israel,  
But what does it really mean to hear?

*The person who attends a concert with his mind on  
business,  
Hears – but does not really hear.*

The person who walks amidst the songs of birds  
And thinks only of what he will have for dinner,  
Hears – but does not really hear.

*The man who listens to the words of his friends,  
Or his wife or his child,  
And does not catch the note of urgency:  
“Notice me, help me, care about me,”  
Hears – but does not really hear.*

The man who listens to the news  
and thinks only of how it will affect the stock market,  
Hears – but does not really hear.

*The person who stifles the sound of his conscience  
And tells himself he has done enough already,  
Hears – but does not really hear.*

The person who hears the Hazzan pray  
And does not feel the call to join with him,  
Hears – but does not really hear.

*The person who listens to the rabbi's sermon  
And thinks that someone else is being addressed,  
Hears – but does not really hear.*

The person who hears the Shofar sound  
And does not feel the need to change his ways,  
Hears – but does not really hear.

*As the new year begins, O Lord,  
Strengthen our ability to hear.*

May we hear the music of the world,  
And the infant's cry, and the lover's sigh.

*May we hear the call for help of the lonely soul,  
And the sound of the breaking heart.*

May we hear the words of our friends,  
And also their unspoken pleas and dreams.

*May we hear within ourselves the yearnings  
That are struggling for expression.*

May we hear You, O God,

*For only if we hear You  
Do we have the right to hope  
That you will hear us.*

Hear the promises we make to You this day, O God –  
And may we hear them too.

## NOW IS THE TIME FOR TURNING

To everything there is a season.  
And there is an appointed time for every purpose  
Under heaven.

*Now is the time for turning.*

The leaves are beginning to turn  
From green to red and orange.

*The birds are beginning to turn  
And are heading once more towards the South.*

The animals are beginning to turn  
To storing their food for the winter.

*For leaves, birds, and animals  
Turning comes instinctively.  
But for us turning does not come so easily.*

It takes an act of will  
For us to make a turn.

*It means breaking with old habits.  
It means admitting that we have been wrong;  
And this is never easy.*

It means losing face; It means starting all over again;  
And this is always painful.

*It means saying: "I am sorry."  
It means admitting that we have the ability to change;  
And this is always embarrassing.*

These things are terribly hard to do.  
 But unless we turn, we will be trapped forever  
 In yesterday's ways.

*Lord, help us turn –*

From callousness to sensitivity,  
 From hostility to love,

*From pettiness to purpose,  
 From envy to contentment,*

From carelessness to discipline,  
 From fear to faith.

*Turn us around, O Lord, and bring us back towards You.  
 Revive our lives, as at the beginning.*

And turn us towards each other, Lord,  
 For in isolation there is no life.

## FORGIVENESS

My heart was heavy, for its trust had been  
 Abused, its kindness answered with foul wrong;  
 So, turning gloomily from my fellowmen,  
 One summer Sabbath day I strolled among  
 The green mounds of the village burial-place;  
 Where pondering how all human love and hate  
 Find one sad level; and how, soon or late,  
 Wrong and wrongdoer, each with meekened face,  
 And cold hands folded over a still heart,  
 Pass the green threshold of our common grave,  
 Whither all footsteps tend, whence none depart,  
 Awed for myself, and pitying my race,  
 Our common sorrow, like a mighty wave  
 Swept all my pride away, and trembling I forgave!

## FOOTNOTE TO A ROSH HASHANAH PRAYER

Like the rays of the late afternoon sun  
Slanting through the trees, shining on each separate leaf,  
You shine upon us, Lord God,  
And like the leaves we reflect Your light.

I thank You with all my heart  
For the presence of Your spirit, which is life.  
I pray You not to withdraw from me,  
I pray You not to depart from me, though I am unworthy,  
I pray You let me pray to Thee.

How can I love You, who is afar off?  
How can I know You, whose face I have not seen?  
How can I approach You, when I am laden with guilt?

I can love some of Your creatures, and so love something of  
You.

I can know some of Your world, and so know something of  
You.

I can approach You with repentance and prayer and  
righteous deeds,  
But I can do none of these, Lord God, without Your help.

Help me to love You and know You and pray to You  
That this my existence may become a life,  
A life that like a leaf in the afternoon sun  
Reflects Your great and golden light.

## WHAT ARE WE WITHOUT YOU?

What are we without You, my God?  
A game of chance?  
Cells perfectly placed  
By the hazards of chance?  
Chances due to the tides,  
To fear  
To hunger?  
Man, a mere monster  
Different by chance?  
A result of the unpredictable,  
The unwishing,  
The thoughtless?  
Creatures who toil  
And kill one another  
Supremely ridiculous  
Because they call themselves  
Masters of the world?

Without You  
This world,  
This world of ours,  
Is but the pretense of creation.  
And we?  
No longer Your creatures  
But an illusion,  
A whim, a grimace  
Of chaos  
Which, by mere chance,  
Yearns, suffers and loves.  
It becomes man  
To have God in his heart.



## HARD QUESTIONS

Let us ask ourselves hard questions  
For this is the time for truth.

*How much time did we waste  
In the year that is now gone?*

Did we fill our days with life  
Or were they dull and empty?

*Was there love inside our home,  
Or was the affectionate word left unsaid?*

Was there real companionship within our family,  
Or was there a living together and a growing apart?

*Were we a help to our mates  
Or did we take them for granted?*

How was it with our friends:  
Were we there when they needed us or not?

*The kind deed: did we perform it or postpone it?  
The unnecessary gibe: did we say it or hold it back?*

Did we live by false values?  
Did we deceive others?  
Did we deceive ourselves?

*Were we sensitive to the rights and feelings  
Of those who worked for us?*

Did we acquire only possessions  
Or did we acquire new insights as well?

*Did we fear what the crowd would say  
And keep quiet when we should have spoken out?*

Did we mind only our own business  
Or did we feel the heartbreak of others?

*Did we live right,  
And if not,  
Then have we learned and will we change?*

## IF YOU LOOK AT THE STARS AND YAWN

Praise Me, says God, and I will know that you love Me.  
Curse Me, says God, and I will know that you love Me.  
Praise Me or curse Me  
And I will know that you love Me.

*Sing out My graces, says God,  
Raise your fist against Me and revile, says God.  
Sing out graces or revile,  
Reviling is also a kind of praise, says God.*

But if you sit fenced off in your apathy, says God,  
If you sit entrenched in: I don't give a hang," says God,  
If you look at the stars and yawn,  
If you see suffering and don't cry out,  
If you don't praise and you don't revile,  
Then I created you in vain, says God.

## THE STORY OF ZUSYA

Every person born into this world represents something new, something that never existed before, something original and unique...Everyone's foremost task is the actualization of his or her unique, unprecedented and never recurring potentialities, and not the repetition of something that another, be it even the greatest, has already achieved.

Rabbi Zusya said, a short while before his death: "In the world to come I shall not be asked: 'Why were you not Moses?' I shall be asked: 'Why were You not Zusya?'"

## A KAVANAH

All our secrets are known to You, O God.  
We cannot even fool ourselves.  
Lying is a vain exercise; help us not even to try.

How could we deceive You, within us,  
at once forming and knowing  
our most secret thoughts?

We live in a world of illusion.  
Each of us thinks we are separate, alone,  
cut off, misunderstood, unwanted.  
We forget we are part of Your glory,  
each of us a unique ray of Your infinite light.

As we live our lives, rent asunder,  
each in his own small world,  
help us to remember what we often forget;  
we need one another, we each are part of the other,  
and someplace, so well known yet so secret,  
we may find our true solace in You.

*Arthur Green and Andre Ungar*

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## THIS PLACE IN THE WAYS

Having come to this place  
I set out once again  
On the dark and marvelous way  
From where I began:  
Belief in the love of the world,  
Woman, spirit, and man.

Having failed in all things  
I enter a new age  
Seeing the old ways as toys,  
The houses of a stage  
Painted and long forgot;  
And I find love and rage.

Rage for the world as it is  
But for what it may be  
More love now than last year.  
And always less self-pity  
Since I know in a clearer light  
The strength of the mystery.

And at this place in the ways  
I wait for song,  
My poem-hand still, on the paper,  
All night long.  
Poems in throat and hand asleep,  
And my storm beating strong!

*Muriel Rukeyser*

## WHO ARE WE

Emotions ebb and flow  
throughout these holy  
days. Paradoxes swim in  
the stream of prayer. At  
one moment, we believe  
our deeds to be of such  
import that the world  
stands still so that we  
may take account of them.  
At another moment, we  
imagine ourselves so small,  
So insignificant that our  
lives are like a passing  
breath. We are great; we  
are small, We are the  
center of the universe;  
we are nothing at all. And  
yet, no matter how large  
we imagine our sins to be,  
and no matter how puny  
we imagine ourselves to  
be, God will never forsake  
us. We can always speak  
to God, one on One.

*Nina Beth Cardin*