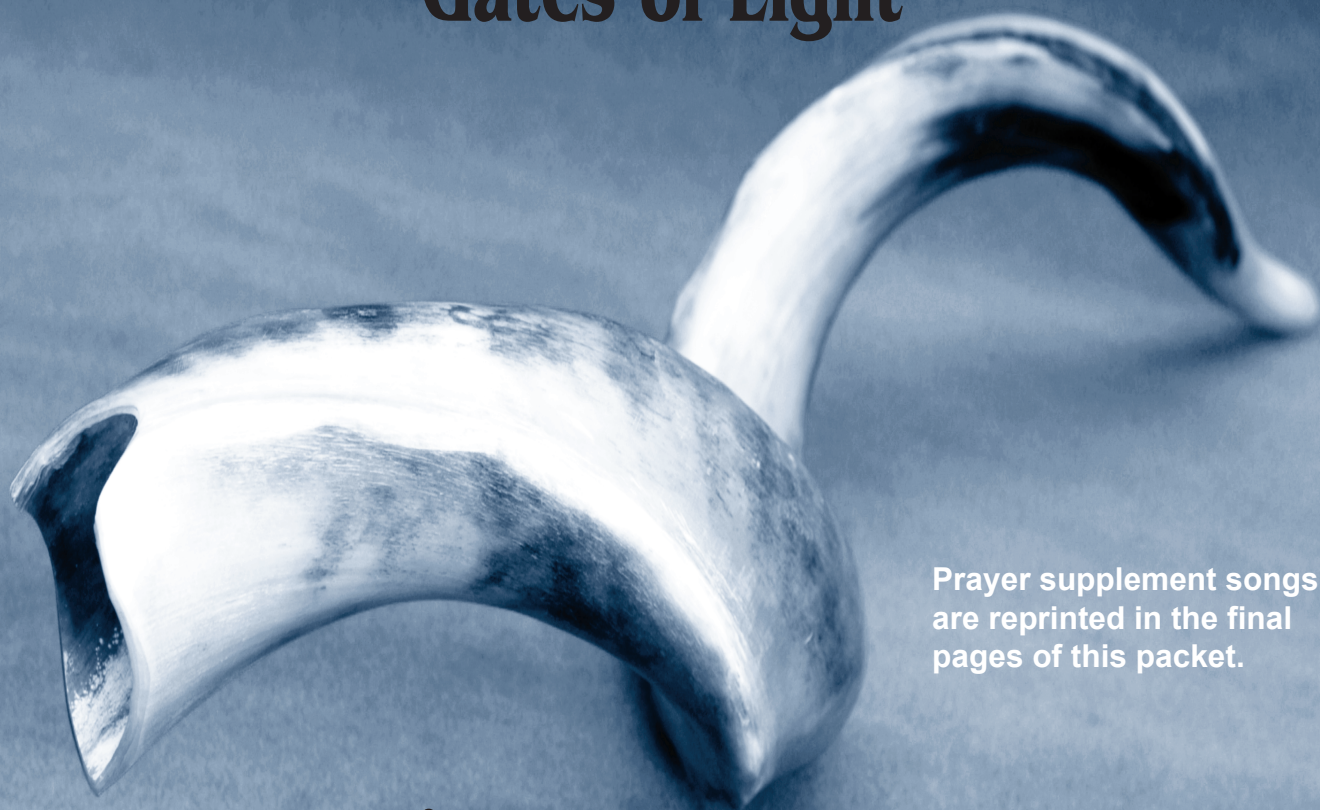


שַׁעְרֵי אֹר

# Sha'arei Or Gates of Light



Prayer supplement songs  
are reprinted in the final  
pages of this packet.

**Services for  
Rosh Hashanah  
and Yom Kippur**

## Service for Erev Yom Kippur

סֶלַח נָא לְעוֹן הָעָם הַזֶּה כְּגֹדֶל חַסְדְּךָ.

“Forgive the sin of this people, for great is Your kindness.” (Num.14:19)

Once more Yom Kippur has come, all pretense gone. With naked heart revealed to the hiding self and to God, we stand in holy time, between the day that was and the one that might be; and we tremble. Toward what did we aim? How did we stumble? What did we take, and what did we give? To what were we blind? If last year’s confession came easily to our lips, will this one come from deep within our hearts? On this Yom Kippur, we have come together to pray, to praise, to turn inward, and to probe ourselves.

\* \* \*

In the Jewish tradition we kindle lights on the eve of holy days and festivals to symbolize the coming of a new day with its message of hope and renewal. These Yom Kippur lights are only flickering flames, yet they illuminate our faltering steps. These flames remind us of years long past, of the beauty and happiness that have delighted our hearts. May these flickering candles inspire us to use the year ahead for kindness and compassion, for blessing and goodness, for justice and peace.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ  
לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל [שַׁבָּת וְשֶׁל] יוֹם הַכִּפּוּרִים.

Ba-ruch A-tah, Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, Me-lech ha-o-lam,  
a-sheer ki-d'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav, v'tzi-va-nu  
l'had-lik neir shel (Shabbat v'shel) Yom Ha-Kippurim.

Blessed is our God, Guide of the Universe, who hallows us with mitzvot,  
and commands us to kindle the lights of (Shabbat and) the Day of Atonement.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחְיָנוּ, וְקִיַּמְנוּ, וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

Baruch A-tah, Adonai, E-lo-hei-nu, Me-lech ha-o-lam,  
she-he-che-yanu, ve-ki-y'ma-nu, ve-hi-gi-a-nu laz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed is Adonai our God, Guide of space and time,  
for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

The year gone by has faded with the sunset as we move always forward into life.

*This night, which borders past and future, summons us to this sanctuary.*

It summons us to account for the gift of life.

*On this sacred night we join as one congregation with repentance on our lips  
and with resolve in our hearts that our repentance be reflected in our deeds.*

We seek forgiveness from ourselves, from others, and from God.

*We seek atonement; to be at one with ourselves, with others, and with God.*

Shine a light for us, O Source of light, that we may see the way into a new and better year.

אֹרֶךְ יָמֶיךָ וְלִישָׁרֵי לֵב שִׁמְךָ.

Or za-ru-ah la-tza-dik u-l'yish-rei leiv sim-cha.

Light is sown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart. (Psalm 97:11)

\* \* \*

There is a light. What makes it shine?  
When I do right, it becomes mine.  
Straight from the heart, happiness grows.  
Where there's a light, life overflows.

There is a seed. What makes it grow?  
Where it will lead, there I must go.  
Straight from the heart, the truth never fails.  
Where there's a light, justice prevails.

\* \* \*

God of all generations, make us honest enough to recognize our transgressions, big enough to admit them, and strong enough to forsake them.

*Humble us by showing us what we are; exalt us with a vision of what we may yet grow to be.*

Keep us ever mindful of our dependence upon You, and help us to understand Your desires for us.

*United with You in a holy partnership, may we dedicate our lives to the repair of Your world.*

Help us create homes filled with joy and harmony, and to labor for peace among communities and nations.

*On this sacred night, grant us atonement, and help us to find serenity within ourselves.*

Kindle within us the fires of faith, and set aglow our courage to live the words we pray.

\* \* \*

In this spirit, eight hundred years ago, Rabbi Meir of Rothenberg transformed his congregation into a legal body on Yom Kippur. So, too, do we come together on this night as a holy community, transforming our sanctuary into a court for the Jewish soul.

בִּישׁוּבָהּ שֶׁל מַעֲלָה וּבִישׁוּבָהּ שֶׁל מַטָּה,  
עַל יְדַעַת הַמָּקוֹם וְעַל יְדַעַת הַקָּהָל,  
אָנוּ מַתִּירִין לְהִתְפַּלֵּל עִם הָעֲבָרִיִּים.

*By the authority of the heavenly court, and by the authority of the earthly court, with the knowledge of the ever-present God, and with the knowledge of this congregation, we welcome all to pray with our community and declare it proper to pray with others who have wronged either God or other human beings.*



All vows, promises, and commitments we made since last Yom Kippur and in the years before – may we be given strength to keep them.

Our marriage vows:

*May they endure through dark days and dull days, through fatigue and anger.  
May our love and trust prove strong enough to last.*

Our vows for good health, to exercise, to diet:

*May we take our own lives seriously enough to heed them;  
caring for our bodies in the midst of the pressures of our daily lives.*

The promises we make to expand our minds and nourish our spirits:

*May we be strong enough to let this year be a year of study and of prayer.*

Our commitments to family and to friends, pledges of *tzedakah*; vows to work for others:

*May we be as compassionate and generous as our tradition  
teaches we should be.*

Our God, and God of our ancestors, we mean in all seriousness the vows we make to You, and to ourselves.

*But even as we vow, we are conscious of how last time we failed. The guilt of  
our failures weighs heavily upon us. We have sinned, we have transgressed, we  
have acted deceitfully.*

כָּל נִדְרֵי וְאֶסְרֵי וְחַרְמֵי וְקוֹנָמִי וְכַנּוּיִי, וְקִנּוּסֵי וְשְׁבוּעוֹת, דִּנְדָּרָנָא  
וְדִאֲשְׁתַּבְּעָנָא, וְדִאֲחַרְמָנָא וְדִאֲסִרָנָא עַל נַפְשִׁתָנָא, מִיּוֹם כְּפָרִים זֶה עַד יוֹם  
כְּפָרִים הָבָא עָלֵינוּ לְטוֹבָה, כְּלָהוֹן אֲחֶרְטָנָא בְּהוֹן. כְּלָהוֹן יְהוֹן שָׂרוֹן, שְׁבִיקִין  
שְׁבִיתִין, בְּטָלִין וּמִבְטָלִין, לֹא שְׁרִירִין וְלֹא קִיּמִין. נִדְרָנָא לֹא נִדְרֵי, וְאֶסְרָנָא  
לֹא אֶסְרֵי, וְשְׁבוּעָתָנָא לֹא שְׁבוּעוֹת.

Ba-ruch A-tah Adonai, E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher bi-d'varo ma-a-riv a-ra-vim. B'choch-ma po-tei-ach sh'a-rim, u-vit'vu-na m'sha-neh i-tim, u-ma-cha-lif et haz'ma-nim, u-m'sa-deir et ha-ko-cha-vim b'mish-m'ro-tei-hem ba-ra-ki-a kir-tso-no. Bo-rei yom va-lai-la, go-leil or mi-p'nei cho-shech, v'cho-shech mi-p'nei or, u-ma-a-vir yom u-mei-vi lai-la, u-mav-dil bein yom u-vein lai-la, Adonai tz'va-ot sh'mo. Eil chai v'ka-yam, ta-mid yim-loch a-lei-nu, l'o-lam va'ed. Ba-ruch A-tah Adonai, ha-ma-a-riv a-ra-vim.

In the beginning, You made a simple world: day and night, water and earth, plants and animals. But now You create galaxies beyond systems in the unending curve of space. Now we know You create with subtlety the invisible atom with its secret heart of power. You create, with delicacy, the cell; splitting, becoming life. Filled with joy, You make a human being; a whole world, mysterious, delicate, and violent.

Overflowing with joy, You create myriads of people, fling galaxies across space, sowing them with countless kinds of life. Your love - massive, cosmic, joyful - explodes around us, as in the beginning, in a burst of light, a rush of waters, in the cry of birth, and in ourselves.

\* \* \*

If you're lost, you feel afraid, and you don't know what to say, then listen, listen to our God. Is there a question on your mind? Is the answer hard to find? Then listen, listen to our God.

Listen with all your heart and soul, and with all your might; write them and learn them and teach them well. Every morning and night; close your eyes and listen.

Quiet yourself; there's nothing to say, stop all the chatter that gets in the way, and listen, listen to our God.

When the wind and the thunder finally disappear, there's still a voice that you can hear, if you listen, listen to our God.

You can hear it from the top of the highest hill, or from the valley below. It can come from the edge of the universe; it can come from within your soul. Close your eyes and listen.

\* \* \*

Loving life and its mysterious Source  
with all our heart and all our spirit,  
all our senses and strength,  
we take upon ourselves and into ourselves these promises:  
To care for the earth and those who live upon it.  
To pursue justice and peace.  
To love kindness and compassion.  
We will teach this to our children  
throughout the passage of the day  
as we dwell in our homes, and as we go on our journeys,  
from the time we rise until we fall asleep.  
May our actions be faithful to our words  
that our children's children may live to know  
that truth and kindness have embraced,  
and that peace and justice have kissed, and are one.

\* \* \*

Yom Kippur punctuates our lives like a semi-colon, forboding a full stop – tomorrow, or years from now.

*Has a year already passed? Are we where we were before?  
Have we failed again?*

It seems that, but yesterday, we stood before You. Errors and sins we humbly acknowledged; numbly we admitted our faults.

*Yesterdays are many; tomorrows, now, fewer;  
so many opportunities have passed.*

And now we face Your judgment. We can bear it, God, because of Your great mercy. “You know how we are made. You remember we are dust.”

*But if last year we hoped for transformation, then it's time to judge ourselves.*

Your judgment we can bear; it is our own that frightens us. No punishment is greater, Eternal One, than what we give ourselves.

*Arm us against self-hatred. Remove our bitterness of spirit. Help us to forgive ourselves for having failed again.*

\* \* \*

We believe that the world is beautiful and worth singing about.

*We believe that the world is full of kindness and of faith, that the success of evil-doers, of bigots and tyrants is only temporary and that the righteous will strike deep roots growing in stature and in power.*

We believe that being Jewish means being godly; that being godly means being just. This is our goal and our destiny.

*We believe that the life of the Jew has been a struggle for freedom; that the triumph of freedom is a most wondrous miracle. We remember at all times and at all places God's greatest claim on our loyalty: "I am the Eternal your God Who took you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." And so we are commanded to remember God, and never to bow down to Pharaoh.*

מִי כְמוֹכָה בָּאֵלִים יְיָ, מִי כְמוֹכָה נֶאֱדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ, נוֹרָא תְהִילָת, עֹשֶׂה פֶלֶא.  
מְלֻכּוֹתֶיךָ רָאוּ בְנִיךָ, בּוֹקֵעַ יָם לִפְנֵי מֹשֶׁה, זֶה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאָמְרוּ. יְיָ יִמְלֹךְ  
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. וְנֹאמַר: כִּי פָדָה יְיָ אֶת יַעֲקֹב, וּגְאָלוֹ מִיַּד חֹזֶק מִמֶּנּוּ. בְּרוּךְ  
אַתָּה יְיָ גֹּאֲלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:

Mi cha-mo-cha ba-ei-lim A-do-nai. Mi ka-mo-cha ne-dar ba-ko-desh.  
No-ra t'hi-lot o-sei feh-leh. Mal-chu-t'cha ra-u va-ne-cha, bo-kei-a yam  
lif-nei Mo-she, zeh Ei-li a-nu, v'a-m'ru: A-do-nai yim-loch l'o-lam va-ed.

V'ne-e-mar: Ki fa-da Adonai et Yaakov, u'g'a-lo mi-yad cha-zak  
mi-me-nu. Ba-ruch A-tah Adonai, ga'al Yisrael.

Who is like You, Eternal One, among the gods that are worshipped? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders? In their escape from the sea, Your children saw Your sovereign might displayed. "This is my God!" they cried. "The Eternal will reign for ever and ever!" Blessed are You, Adonai, Redeemer of Israel.

\* \* \*

Shelter us in the cool shade of Your wings,  
for You are the God who protects us and shields us.

God our Guide,  
Compassionate and Forgiving are You.

Protect our going forth and our coming home  
into life and peace  
from this moment until the end of time.

Spread over us a sukkah  
filled with Your peace.

\* \* \*

O Mentor of Israel, on this Yom Kippur eve help us acquire the priceless knowledge of how to make amends when we have wronged others. When our pride will not allow us to seek forgiveness, then let us learn that in Your sight, contrition is a mitzvah far above pride. Help us to learn, also, that merely to be sorry for our errors and shortcomings is not enough. We must discipline ourselves by repeated mitzvot, to repair whatever damage we may have done to others.

May we act to make restitution for the precious things which we robbed from our neighbors, be it belongings, happiness, or sleep. May we be strong enough to face someone and say, by word or by deed, "I repent of the wrong that I have done you."

\* \* \*

*Source of all being, we turn to You as did our people in ancient days. They beheld You in the heavens; they felt You in their hearts; they sought You in their lives. Their quest is ours. Help us to see the wonder of being. Give us the courage to search for truth. Teach us the path to a better life. May we, by our lives, our labors and our prayers, bring nearer the world we envision: a world of justice, freedom and peace.*



*Inspire us, Soul of our Souls, with a sense of the sacred.*

Too often we succumb to cynicism; too often we wallow in worthlessness.

*Inspire us, Holy One, with the blessings of Your truth.*

Too often we speak slander and violence; too often we falter in our faithfulness.

*Help us, Compassionate One, to help others. Protect us, Healer,  
from callousness.*

Inspire us, Merciful One, with kindness. Protect us, Eternal, from indifference.

*Help us to open our eyes to Your truth. Help us to open our hearts to  
Your Torah. Help us to open our lives to You.*

\* \* \*

מוֹדִים אֲנַחֲנוּ לָךְ, שְׂאֵתָהּ הוּא, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. צוּר  
חַיֵּינוּ, מִגֵּן יִשְׁעֵנוּ, אֵתָהּ הוּא לְדוֹר וָדוֹר. נוֹדָה לָךְ וְנִסְפָּר תְּהִלָּתְךָ. עַל חַיֵּינוּ  
הַמְּסוּרִים בְּיָדְךָ, וְעַל נִשְׁמוֹתֵינוּ הַפְּקוּדוֹת לָךְ, וְעַל נִסִּיךָ שֶׁבְּכָל יוֹם עִמָּנוּ,  
וְעַל נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְטוֹבוֹתֶיךָ שֶׁבְּכָל עֵת, עֲרֹב וּבִקֵּר וְצַהֲרִים, הַטּוֹב כִּי לֹא כָלוּ  
רַחֲמֶיךָ, וְהִמְרָחֵם כִּי לֹא תָמוּ חֲסִדֶיךָ מֵעוֹלָם קִוִּינוּ לָךְ.

Mo-dim a-nach-nu lach, sha-A-tah Hu, Adonai E-lo-hei-nu vei-lo-hei  
a-vo-tei-nu, l'o-lam va-ed. Tzur cha-yei-nu, ma-gein yish-ei-nu, A-tah  
Hu l'dor va-dor. No-de l'cha u-n'sa-peir t'hi-la-te-cha. Al cha-yei-nu,  
ha-m'su-rim b'ya-de-cha, v'al nish-mo-tei-nu ha-p'ku-dot Lach, v'al  
ni-se-cha she-b'chol yom i-ma-nu, v'al nif-lo-te-cha v'to-vo-te-cha  
she-b'chol eit, e-rev va-vo-ker v'tzo-ho-ra-yim. Ha-tov, ki lo cha-lu  
ra-cha-me-cha; v'ham-ra-cheim, ki lo tam-mu cha-sa-de-cha mei-o-lam  
ki-vi-nu Lach.

אֲשָׁמנוּ בַּגִּדְנוּ גַזְלָנוּ דִּבְרָנוּ דְּפִי. הָעֵינֵינוּ וְהִרְשָׁעֵנוּ וְדָנוּ חֲמִסָּנוּ טָפְלָנוּ  
שָׁקֵר. יַעֲצָנוּ רָע, כְּזָבְנוּ לָצֵנוּ מִרְדְּנוּ נֶאֱצָנוּ סָרְרָנוּ עֵינֵנוּ פִּשְׁעֵנוּ צָרְרָנוּ  
קִשְׁיֵנוּ עָרְף. רִשְׁעֵנוּ שְׁחָתָנוּ תַעֲבָנוּ תַעֲתִיעֵנוּ.

A-sham-nu, ba-gad-nu, ga-zal-nu, di-bar-nu do-fee. He-e-vi-nu, v'hir-shah-nu, zad-nu, cha-mas-nu, ta-fal-nu she-ker. Ya-atz-nu rah, ki-zav-nu, latz-nu, ma-rad-nu, ni-atz-nu, sa-rar-nu, ah-vi-nu, pa-sha-nu, tza-rar-nu, ki-shi-nu oh-ref. Ra-sha-nu, shi-chat-nu, ti-av-nu, ta-i-nu, ti-ta-nu.

*Of these things we have been guilty: we have **Acted** out of malice; we have **Back-bitten**; we have been **Contemptuous** of others; we have **Double-crossed**; we have given **Evil** advice; we **Falsified** the truth; we have **Gloated** over our achievements; we have **Hated** wrongdoers; we have been **Insolent**; we have **Jeered** convictions not our own; we have **Knifed** friends in the back; we have **Lost** our self-control; we have **Manipulated**; we have **Nullified** the humanity of others; we have **Oppressed** our brothers and sisters; we have told **Petty** lies; we have **Quietly** acquiesced in wrong; we have **Refused** to back down from positions we could see were incorrect; we have **Sneered** at serious matters; we have **Trifled** with other humans; we have **Usurped** others' positions; we have practiced **Violence**; we have **blindly** supported **War**; we have committed **X-number** of sins of which we have not been aware; we have said **Yes** when we should have cried out no; we have lacked the **Zeal** to struggle for our convictions.*

\* \* \*

We confess our moral failures:

For the sin which we have committed by spurning parents and teachers,

*Fearful that acceptance of their guidance and authority implies  
a lessening of our own worth.*

For the sin which we have committed by wronging our neighbors,

*Regarding them as tools to be used or strangers to be ignored,  
rather than as fellow-creatures.*

For the sin which we have committed by envy,

*Minimizing our own blessings while exaggerating the good fortune of others.*

For the sin which we have committed by hardening our hearts,

*Fearful of showing compassion lest others think of us as weaklings.*

For the sin which we have committed by denying and lying,

*Because we did not have the fortitude to acknowledge the truth.*

For the sin which we have committed by bribery,

*Trying to get special favors for ourselves or our children,  
regardless of the law or of the common good.*

For the sin which we have committed by slander and tale-bearing,

*Building up our own importance by belittling others and showing off.*

וְעַל כָּל־אֵלֶּה סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מְחַל לָנוּ, כַּפֶּר-לָנוּ.

V'al ku-lam E-lo-ha s'li-chot, s'lach la-nu, m'chal la-nu, ka-per la-nu.

For all these sins, whether committed inadvertently or with intent, may we seek forgiveness and may we be forgiven.

\* \* \*

שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, חוּס וְרַחֵם עָלֵינוּ, וְקַבֵּל בְּרַחֲמִים וּבְרָצוֹן אֶת  
תְּפִלָּתֵנוּ. הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה. חַדֵּשׁ יָמֵינוּ בְּקֶדֶם.

Sh'ma ko-le-inu, Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, chus v'ra-cheim a-lei-nu, v'ka-beil  
b'ra-cha-mim u'v'ra-tzon et t'fi-la-tei-nu. Ha-shi-vei-nu, Adonai,  
ei-le-cha, v'na-shu-va. Cha-deish ya-mei-nu k'ke-dem.

Hear our voice, Eternal One. Have compassion upon us and, with that compassion, accept our prayer. Help us to return to You; then truly shall we return. Renew our days as in the past.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, hear our plea.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חָטֵאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, we have sinned before You.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חַמוּל עָלֵינוּ וְעַל עוֹלָלֵנוּ וְטַפֵּנוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, have mercy upon us and our children.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כִּלֵּה דֶבֶר וְחָרֵב וְרָעָב מֵעַלֵּינוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, help us to diminish pestilence, war and famine.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כִּלֵּה כָּל צָר וּמִשְׁטֵיץ מֵעַלֵּינוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, inspire us to cause all hate and oppression to vanish from the earth.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כְּתִבְנוּ בְּסֵפֶר חַיִּים טוֹבִים.

*Avinu Malkeinu, enter us into the Book of Life.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חֲדָשׁ עָלֵינוּ שָׁנָה טוֹבָה.

*Avinu Malkeinu, renew our faith in the future that we may make the coming year truly a shanah tovah, a year of goodness.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חַנּוּנוּ וְעֲנֻנוּ, כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים,  
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, have compassion on us, for we are not perfect. Deal with us in both justice and mercy so we may be renewed.*

A-vi-nu Mal-kei-nu, cha-nei-nu, va'a-nei-nu,  
ki ein ba-nu ma'a-sim.  
A-sei i-ma-nu tz'da-ka v'che-sed v'ho-shi-ei-nu.

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא.  
בְּעֻלְמָא דִּי-בְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ, וְיִמְלִיךָ מַלְכוּתָהּ  
בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
בְּעֻגְלָא וּבְזֶמֶן קָרִיב, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וְלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא.  
יְתְבָרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא,  
וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקוּדְשָׁא, בְּרִיךְ הוּא.

לְעָלָא מִן כָּל-בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירָתָא,  
תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמָתָא דְאַמִּירָן בְּעֻלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

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

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם  
עָלֵינוּ וְעַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yit-ga-dal v'yit-ka-dash sh'mei ra-ba.  
B'al-ma di-v'ra chir-u-tei, v'yam-lich mal-chu-tei  
b'cha-yei-chon u'v'yo-mei-chon u'v'cha-yei d'chol beit Yisraeil,  
ba'a-ga-la u'viz-man ka-riv, v'im-ru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'mei ra-ba m'va-rach l'a-lam ul'al-mei al'ma-ya.

Yit'ba-rach v'yish-ta-bach v'yit-pa-ar, v'yit-ro-mam, v'yit-na-sei,  
v'yit-ha-dar v'yit-a-leh, v'yit-ha-lal sh'mei d'Ku-d'sha, b'rich Hu.  
L'ei-la min kol bir-cha-ta v'shi-ra-ta,  
tush-b'cha-ta v'ne-che-ma-ta  
da'a-mi-ran b'al-ma, v'im-ru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'la-ma raba min sh'ma-ya v'cha-yim  
a-lei-nu v'al kol Yisraeil, v'im'ru: Amen.

O-seh sh-alom bim-ro-mav, hu ya'a-seh sha-lom  
a-lei-nu v'al kol Yisraeil, v'im-ru: Amen.



Flood us with Your light, let Your Torah seize our hearts, and unite us to revere Your name. Infuse our deeds with holiness, radiant with passion for life. May Your mercy ever sustain us with the wisdom of Torah. O Holy One, we bless You, for Your blessed gift of love.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ הַבּוֹחֵר בְּעַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאַהֲבָה.

Ba-ruch A-tah Adonai, ha-bo-cheir b'a-mo Yisraeil b'a-ha-va.

\* \* \*

Listen! Because I know You will hear me as I fear this unknown I must enter,  
surrendering my self, my authority, if only for a brief while.

Listen! Because I know You will hear as I praise You now.

Listen! Because I know You are there: hearing me, warming me, renewing me, leading  
me through this time to a place of health and vigor.

\* \* \*

If you're lost, you feel afraid, and you don't know what to say,  
Then listen, listen to our God.

Is there a question on your mind? Is the answer hard to find?  
Then listen, listen to our God.

Listen with all your heart and soul, and with all your might;  
Write them and learn them and teach them well every morning and night.  
Close your eyes and listen.

Quiet yourself; there's nothing to say, stop all the chatter that gets in the way;  
And listen, listen to our God.

When the wind and the thunder finally disappear,  
There's still a voice that you can hear, if you listen, listen to our God.

You can hear it from the top of the highest hill, or from the valley below.  
It can come from the edge of the universe; it can come from within your soul.  
Close your eyes and listen.

אֲדֹנָי שְׁפָתַי תִּפְתָּח וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ:

Adonai, s'fa-tai tif-tach, u-fi ya-gid t'hi-la-te-cha.

Eternal God, open up my lips, that my mouth may declare Your glory.

שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה.

Sh'ma ko-lei-nu v'na-shu-va.

Hear our voices and we will return to You.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם, אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק, וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, אֱלֹהֵי שָׂרָה, אֱלֹהֵי רַבֵּקָה, אֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה, וְאֱלֹהֵי רָחֵל. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֶלְיוֹן, גּוֹמֵל חַסְדִּים טוֹבִים, וְקוֹנֵה הַכֹּל, וְזוֹכֵר חַסְדֵי אֲבוֹת וְאֲמָהוֹת, וּמֵבִיא גְּאֻלָּה לְבָנֵי בְּנֵיהֶם לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה:

Ba-ruch Atah Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, vei-lo-hei a-vo-tei-nu v'i-mo-tei-nu.  
E-lo-hei Avraham, E-lo-hei Yitzchak, vei-lo-hei Yaakov, E-lo-hei Sara,  
E-lo-hei Rivka, E-lo-hei Leah, vei-lo-hei Rachel. Ha-Eil ha-ga-dol  
ha-gi-bor v'ha-no-rah, Eil eil-yon, go-meil cha-sa-dim to-vim v'ko-nei  
ha-kol v'zo-cheir chas-dei a-vot v'i-ma-hot, u'mei-vi g'u-lah liv-nei  
v'nei-hem l'ma-an sh'mo b'a-ha-vah.

זָכְרֵנוּ לְחַיִּים, מֶלֶךְ חַפֵּץ בְּחַיִּים,  
וְכַתְּבֵנוּ בְּסֵפֶר הַחַיִּים, לְמַעַן אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים.

Zoch-rei-nu l'cha-yim, Me-lech cha-feitz ba-cha-yim.  
V'chot-vei-nu b'Sei-fer ha-Cha-yim, l'ma'an-cha, E-lo-him chayim.

מֶלֶךְ עוֹזֵר וּמוֹשִׁיעַ וּמַגֵּן:  
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מֶגֶן אַבְרָהָם וְעִזְרַת שָׂרָה.

Me-lech o-zeir u'mo-shi-a u-ma-gein.  
Ba-ruch A-tah Adonai, ma-gein Avraham, v'ez-rat Sara.

וַיִּתְּנָה הַקֹּדֶשׁ הַיּוֹם, כִּי הוּא נִזְרָא וְאִיוֹם: וְבוֹ תִּנְשָׂא מַלְכוּתָהּ, וַיִּכּוֹן  
בַּחֲסֵד כְּסָאָהּ, וַתֵּשֶׁב עָלָיו בְּאַמֶּת. אָמֶת כִּי אַתָּה הוּא דִין וּמוֹכִיחַ, וַיִּוֹדַע  
וַעֲד, וְכוֹתֵב וְחוֹתֵם. וְסוֹפֵר וּמוֹנֶה, וַתִּזְכּוֹר כָּל הַנִּשְׁכָּחוֹתַי וַתִּפְתַּח אֶת סֵפֶר  
הַזְכָּרוֹנוֹת, וַיִּמְאֲלֵנוּ יְקָרָא, וְחוֹתֵם יָד כָּל אָדָם בּוֹ.

\* \* \*

בְּרֹאשׁ הַשָּׁנָה יִכְתְּבוּן, וּבַיּוֹם צוֹם כְּפוּר יִחְתַּמּוּן.

B'Rosh Ha-sha-nah yi-ka-tei-vun, u'v'Yom Tzom Ki-pur yei-cha-tei-mun.

כְּמָה יַעֲבִרוּן, וְכְמָה יִבְרֹאוּן. מִי יִחְיֶה, וּמִי יָמוּת. מִי בִקְצוֹ, וּמִי לֹא בִקְצוֹ. מִי  
בְּאֵשׁ, וּמִי בַּמַּיִם. מִי בַחֲרִיב, וּמִי בַחֲיָה. מִי בִרְעֵב, וּמִי בַצָּמָא. מִי בִרְעָשׁ, וּמִי  
בַּמִּגָּפָה. מִי בַחֲנִיקָה, וּמִי בַסְּקִילָה. מִי יָנוּחַ, וּמִי יָנוּעַ. מִי יִשְׁקֹט, וּמִי יִטְרֹף.  
מִי יִשְׁלֹחַ, וּמִי יִתְּיָסֵר. מִי יַעֲנֶה, וּמִי יַעֲשֶׂר. מִי יִשְׁפֹּל, וּמִי יָרוּם.  
וַתִּשׁוּבָה וַתִּפְלֶה וַצִּדְקָה מַעֲבִירִין אֶת רֵעַ הַגִּזְרָה.

U't'shu-va u't'fi-la u'tz'da-ka ma'a-vi-rin et ro-a ha-g'zei-ra.

But *teshuvah*, *tefilah*, and *tzedakah* make it easier to face the world, make it easier to  
confront what life holds in store, and make it easier to face ourselves.

Teshuvah: Repentance.

*To look within ourselves, to change what can be changed, to repair what can be  
repaired, to reconcile what can be reconciled, to let go.*

Tefilah: Prayer.

*Developing our awareness of the Source of all life by knowing the blessings of  
life and sharing those blessings with each other, asking for forgiveness,  
proclaiming our aspirations for wholeness, singing when it's right to sing,  
crying when we need to cry, and reflecting regularly.*

Al chet shechatanu l'fanecha... For the sin we have sinned before You...

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּגִלּוּי וּבְסֵתֶר,

...ba-ga-lu-ee u'va-sah-ter.

*For the sin we have sinned openly or secretly.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּדַעַת וּבְמִרְמָה,

...b'da'at u'v'mir-mah.

*For the sin we have sinned knowingly and deceitfully.*

וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּכַחַשׁ וּבְכַזָּב.

...b'cha-chash u'v-cha-zav

*And for the sin we have sinned by denying and lying.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּלִצּוֹן,

...b'la-tzon.

*For the sin we have sinned by expanding our rights and diminishing our duties.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּלִשּׁוֹן הָרַע,

...bil-shon ha-rah.

*For the sin we have sinned by slander.*

וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּמִשָּׁא וּבְמִתָּן.

...b'ma-sah u'v'-ma-tan.

*And for the sin we have sinned in business.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּנִטְיַת גָּרוֹן,

...bin-ti-yat ga-ron.

*For the sin we have sinned by an arrogant attitude.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּזִלְזוּל הוֹרִים וּמוֹרִים,

...b'zil-zul ho-rim u'mo-rim.

*For the sin we have sinned by disrespect for parents and teachers.*

וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּצַדִּית רָע.

...bitz-di-yat rei-ah.

*And for the sin we have sinned by failing to welcome converts into the household of Israel.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּצָרוּת עֵין,

...b'tza-rut a-yin.

*For the sin we have sinned by envy.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּזִדּוֹן וּבְשִׁגְגָה,

...b'za-don u'vish-ga-ga.

*For the sin we have sinned under compulsion or by free will.*

וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּחִלּוּל הַשֵּׁם.

...b'chi-lul ha-shem.

*And for the sin we have sinned by disgracing the Jewish people, our beliefs and heritage.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּרִכְלִיּוֹת,

...bir-chi-lut.

*For the sin we have sinned by gossip and tale-bearing.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּשִׁנְאָת חֲנָם,

...b'sin-at chi-nam.

*For the sin we have sinned by groundless hatred.*



עַל חַטָּאת שֶׁחָטֵאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּמֵאֲכָל וּבְמִשְׁתֵּה,

...b'ma-a-chal u'v'mish-teh.

*For the sin we have sinned by over-eating and drinking.*

וְעַל כָּל־אֵלֶּה, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מַחֲל לָנוּ, כַּפֵּר-לָנוּ.

V'al ku-lam E-lo-ha s'li-chot, s'lach la-nu, me-chal la-nu, ka-per la-nu.

For all these sins, O God of compassion, forgive us, pardon us, restore us.

\* \* \*

In these ways we diminish ourselves and harm others:

*Through fraud and falsehood,  
Through dishonesty, however good the excuse,  
Through the breach of trust,  
Through saying much and doing little,  
Through envy and through the hatred it breeds.*

In these ways we diminish ourselves and harm others:

*By pretending emotions we do not feel,  
By using the sins of others to excuse our own,  
By denying our responsibility for our own misfortunes,  
By refusing to admit our share in the troubles of others.*

In these ways we diminish ourselves and harm others:

*By condemning in our children the faults we tolerate in ourselves,  
By condemning in our parents the faults we tolerate in ourselves,  
By remembering the price of things and forgetting their value,  
By sacrificing the truth to protect our egos,  
By desiring to be served rather than serving others,  
By feeling Jewish and doing so little about it.*

In these ways we diminish ourselves and harm others:

*By lying to gain advantage,  
By using people as stepping-stones to our own needs,  
By manipulating those we claim to love.*

In these ways we diminish ourselves and harm others:

*By treating with arrogance those who are vulnerable,  
By seeking out those we can feel superior to,  
By diluting our Jewish heritage so that it cannot be passed on,  
By erecting borders and finding them satisfying,  
By remaining silent in the face of evil.*

וְעַל כָּלֵם, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מַחֲל לָנוּ, כַּפֵּר-לָנוּ.

V'al ku-lam E-lo-ha s'li-chot, s'lach la-nu, me-chal la-nu, ka-per la-nu.

For all these sins, O God of compassion, forgive us, pardon us, restore us.

\* \* \*

שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, חוּס וְרַחֵם עָלֵינוּ, וְקַבֵּל בְּרַחֲמִים וּבְרָצוֹן אֶת  
תְּפִלָּתֵנוּ. הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנִשְׁוֶבָה, חֲדַשׁ יָמֵינוּ בְּקֶדֶם.

Sh'ma ko-le-inu, Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, chus v'ra-cheim a-lei-nu, v'ka-beil  
b'ra-cha-mim u'v'ra-tzon et t'fi-la-tei-nu. Ha-shi-vei-nu, Adonai, ei-le-cha,  
v'na-shu-va. Cha-deish ya-mei-nu k'ke-dem.

Hear our voice, Eternal One. Have compassion upon us and, with that compassion,  
accept our prayer. Help us to return to You; then truly shall we return. Renew our days  
as in the past.

\* \* \*

Avinu Malkeinu, we pray for life. Bless us, once more, with a year of life so that we may be privileged to complete the year we have just begun.

Despite the burdens and the heartbreaks, the pains and perils, we want to live; we ask to be sealed in the Book of Life.

*But even as we pray that years may be added to our lives, we ask that true life may be added to our years.*

May the New Year be for us a time for enhancing the quality of our lives, enriching their content, deepening their meaning.

*Help us to keep our minds alive. May we be open to new ideas, entertain challenging doubts, re-examine long-held opinions, nurture a lively curiosity, and strive to add to our knowledge.*

Help us to keep our hearts alive. May we develop greater compassion, be receptive to new friendships, and grow more sensitive to those who surround us.

*Help us to keep our souls alive. May we be more responsive to the needs of others, less vulnerable to consuming greed, more attentive to the craving for fellowship, and more devoted to truth.*

Help us to keep our spirits alive. May we face the future with confidence, knowing that every age has its unique joys and satisfactions, each period in our lives a glory of its own.

*Help us keep our faith alive. May we be sustained by the knowledge that You have planted within us life eternal and have given us the power to live beyond our years.*

Whether our years be few or many, help us to link our lives to the life of our people and to our eternal faith.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, hear our plea.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, we have sinned before You.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חַמּוּל עָלֵינוּ וְעַל עוֹלָלֵנוּ וְטַפֵּנוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, have mercy upon us and our children.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כִּלֵּה דָבָר וְחָרָב וְרָעָב מֵעָלֵינוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, help us to diminish pestilence, war and famine.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כִּלֵּה כָּל צָר וּמִשְׁטֵיץ מֵעָלֵינוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, inspire us to cause all hate and oppression to vanish from the earth.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כְּתִבְנוּ בְּסֵפֶר חַיִּים טוֹבִים.

*Avinu Malkeinu, enter us into the Book of Life.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חֲדָשׁ עָלֵינוּ שָׁנָה טוֹבָה.

*Avinu Malkeinu, renew our faith in the future that we may make the coming year truly a Shanah Tovah, a year of goodness.*

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חַנּוּנוּ וְעֲנֻנוּ, כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים,  
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

*Avinu Malkeinu, though we may be unworthy, do not give up on us. Inspire and encourage us, for You are both just and loving.*

A-vi-nu Mal-kei-nu, cha-nei-nu, va'a-nei-nu,  
ki ein ba-nu ma'a-sim.  
A-sei i-ma-nu tz'da-ka v'che-sed v'ho-shi-ei-nu.

כִּי מִצִּיּוֹן תֵּצֵא תּוֹרָה וְדִבַּר יְהוָה מִירוּשָׁלַיִם.  
בָּרוּךְ שֶׁנָּתַן תּוֹרָה לְעַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּקִדְשָׁתוֹ.

Ki Mi-Tzi-yon tei-tzei To-rah u'd'var Adonai mi-ru-sha-la-yim.  
Ba-ruch she-na-tan To-rah l'a-mo Yisraeil bi-k'du-sha-to.

From out of Zion shall come forth Torah, and the word of the Eternal from Jerusalem.  
Blessed be the One who gave the holy Torah to Your people, Israel.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.  
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ, גָּדוֹל אֲדוֹנֵנוּ, קְדוֹשׁ שְׁמוֹ.

Sh'ma Yisraeil, Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, Adonai E-chad!  
E-chad E-lo-hei-nu, ga-dol A-do-nei-nu, ka-dosh sh'mo.

Hear O Israel, the Eternal our God, the Eternal is One!  
Our God is One, the Eternal is great, holy is God's name.

גָּדְלוֹ לַיְי אֱתִי, וְנִרְמְמָה שְׁמוֹ יַחְדָּו.

Gad-lu l'Adonai i-ti, u'n-ro-m'ma sh-mo yach-dav.

Let us praise God and exalt God's name, together.

לְךָ יְיָ הַגְּדֹלָה וְהַגְּבוּרָה וְהַתְּפָאֶרֶת וְהַנִּצָּח וְהַהוֹד, כִּי כָל בְּשָׁמַיִם  
וּבָאָרֶץ: לְךָ יְיָ הַמְּמֻלָּכָה וְהַמְּתִנַּשֵּׁא לְכָל לְרֹאשׁ:

L'cha, Adonai, ha-g'du-la v'ha-g'vu-ra v'ha-tif-e-ret v'ha-nei-tzach v'ha-hod.  
Ki chol ba-sha-ma-yim u'va-a-retz.  
L'cha, Adonai, ha-mam-la-cha v'ha-mit-na-seh l'chol l'rosh.

Yours, Eternal, is the greatness, the power, the harmony, the victory, and the glory. For  
all that is in heaven and earth is Yours. To You, Eternal, is the reign; You are supreme  
over all.



רוֹמְמוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וְהִשְׁתַּחוּ לְהַר קָדְשׁ, כִּי קָדוֹשׁ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ:

Ro-m'mu Adonai E-lo-heinu, v'hish-ta-cha-vu l'har kod-sho,  
ki ka-dosh Adonai E-lo-heinu.

Exalt the Eternal our God, and bow down before the holy mountain, for holy is the  
Eternal our God.

### Blessing Before the Reading of the Torah

Bar-chu et Adonai ha-m'vo-rach!

בְּרַכּוּ אֶת יְיָ הַמְּבֹרָךְ.

*Ba-ruch Adonai ha-m'vo-rach l'o-lam va-ed!*

בָּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Ba-ruch Adonai ha-m'vo-rach l'o-lam va-ed!

בָּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Ba-ruch A-tah, Adonai E-lo-hei-nu,

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ

Me-lech ha-o-lam,

מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם

a-sheer ba-char ba-nu mi-kol ha'a-mim,

אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר בָּנוּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים

v'na-tan la-nu et To-ra-to.

וְנָתַן לָנוּ אֶת תּוֹרָתוֹ.

Ba-ruch A-tah, Adonai, no-tein ha-To-rah.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

Let us bless the Eternal One Who is to be blessed.

Blessed is the Eternal One Who is blessed now and forever.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, Who has chosen us from  
among the peoples, giving us this Teaching. Blessed are You, Eternal One, who gives  
the Torah.

## דברים כט:ט-יד, ל:א-כ

ט אתם נצבים היום כלכם לפני יהוה אלהיכם ראשיכם שבייכם זקניכם ושוטריכם כל איש ישראל: י טפכם נשיכם וגרף אשר בקרב מחנהך מחטב עציך עד שאב מימך: יא לעברך בברית יהוה אלהיך ובאלתו אשר יהוה אלהיך כרת עמך היום: יב למען הקים אתך היום | לו לעם והוא יהיה לך לאלהים כאשר וברוך וקאשר נשבע לאבותיך לאברהם ליצחק וליעקב: יג ולא אתכם לבדכם אנכי כרת אתי הברית הזאת ואתי האלה הזאת: יד כי את אשר ישנו פה עמנו עמד היום לפני יהוה אלהינו ואת אשר איננו פה עמנו היום: יא כי המצוה הזאת אשר אנכי מצוה היום לא נפלאה הוא ממך ולא ירחקה הוא: יב לא בשמים הוא לאמר מי יעלה לנו השמימה ויסקה לנו וישמענו אתה ונעשנה: יג ולא מעבר לים הוא לאמר מי יעבר לנו אליעבר הים ויסקה לנו וישמענו אתה ונעשנה: יד כי קרוב אליך הדבר מאד בפניך ובלבבך לעשותו: טו ראה נתתי לפניך היום אתי החיים ואתי הטוב ואתי המוות ואתי הרע: טז אשר אנכי מצוה היום לאהבה אתי יהוה אלהיך ללכת בדרךיו ולשמר מצותיו וחקתיו ומשפטייו וחניית ורביית וברכת יהוה אלהיך בארץ אשר אתה בא שמה לרשתה: יז ואם יפנה לבבך ולא תשמע ונדהת והשתחית לאלהים אחרים ועבדתם: יח הגדתי לכם היום כי אבד תאבדון לאיתאריכן ימים עליהאדמה אשר אתה עבר אתי הירדן לבוא שמה לרשתה: יט העדתי בכם היום אתי השמים ואתי הארץ החיים והמוות נתתי לפניך הברכה והקללה ובחרת בחיים למען תחיה אתה וזרעך: כ לאהבה אתי יהוה אלהיך לשמע בקלו ולדבקה בו כי הוא חייך וארך ימך לשוב עליהאדמה אשר נשבע יהוה לאבותיך לאברהם ליצחק וליעקב לתת להם:

## ***Deuteronomy 29:9-14, 30:11-20***

<sup>9</sup>You stand this day, all of you, before the ETERNAL your God—your tribal heads, your elders and your officials, all the people of Israel, <sup>10</sup>your children, your spouses, even the stranger within your camp, from woodchopper to waterdrawer—<sup>11</sup>to enter into the covenant of the ETERNAL your God, which the ETERNAL your God is concluding with you this day, with its sanctions; <sup>12</sup>to the end that God may establish you this day as God’s people and be your God, as the ETERNAL promised you and as the ETERNAL swore to your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. <sup>13</sup>I make this covenant, with its sanctions, not with you alone, <sup>14</sup>but both with those who are standing here with us this day before the ETERNAL our God and with those who are not with us here this day.

<sup>11</sup>Surely, this Instruction which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond reach. <sup>12</sup>It is not in the heavens, that you should say, “Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?” <sup>13</sup>Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?” <sup>14</sup>No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.

<sup>15</sup>See, I set before you this day life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>For I command you this day, to love the ETERNAL your God, to walk in God’s ways, and to keep God’s commandments, God’s laws, and God’s rules, that you may thrive and increase, and that the ETERNAL your God may bless you in the land that you are about to enter and possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you give no heed, and are lured into the worship and service of other gods, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you this day that you shall certainly perish; you shall not long endure on the soil that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life—if you and your offspring would live—<sup>20</sup>by loving the ETERNAL your God, heeding God’s commands, and holding fast to God. For thereby you shall have life and shall long endure upon the soil that the ETERNAL swore to your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give to them.

## Blessing After the Reading of the Torah

Ba-ruch A-tah, Adonai, E-lo-hei-nu,  
Me-lech ha-o-lam,  
a-sheer na-tan la-nu To-rat e-met,  
v'cha-yei o-lam na-ta b'to-chei-nu.  
Ba-ruch A-ta, Adonai, no-tein ha-To-rah.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם  
אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָנוּ תּוֹרַת אֱמֶת  
וְחַיֵּי עוֹלָם נָטַע בְּתוֹכָנוּ.  
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has given us a teaching of truth, implanting within us eternal life. Blessed are You, Eternal One, who gives the Torah.

\* \* \*

מִי שֶׁבֵּרַךְ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מִקּוֹר הַבְּרָכָה לְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ

Mi she-bei-rach a-vo-tei-nu m'kor ha-b'ra-cha l'i-mo-tei-nu

May the source of strength who blessed the ones before us, help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing. And let us say: Amen.

מִי שֶׁבֵּרַךְ אֲמוֹתֵינוּ מִקּוֹר הַבְּרָכָה לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ

Mi she-bei-rach i-mo-tei-nu m'kor ha-b'ra-cha la-a-vo-tei-nu

Bless those in need of healing with *r'fu-a sh'lei-ma*, the renewal of body, the renewal of spirit. And let us say: Amen.

\* \* \*

וְזֹאת הַתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר שָׂם מֹשֶׁה לִפְנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל פִּי יְיָ בְּיַד מֹשֶׁה:

V'zot ha-Torah a-sheer sam Moshe lif-nei B'nei Yisraeil  
al pi Adonai b'yad Moshe.

This is the Teaching, which Moses placed before the children of Israel; God's word through the hand of Moses.

## Service for Yom Kippur Afternoon

אך בעשור לחודש השביעי הזה יום הכפרים הוא מקראת קדש יהיה לכם  
ועניתם את נפשותיכם והקרבתם אשה ליהוה.

“The tenth day of the seventh month will be for you a day of repentance; a holy assembly.  
You shall afflict your souls and draw near to your God.” (Lev. 23:27)

On this Day of Atonement, we pray: sustain us and strengthen us.

*Keep us mindful of the meaning of the prayers we utter; make us sensitive to the purposes of the fast we have begun.*

Keep us hungry for Torah, and give us the will to study it.

*Keep us hungry for justice, and give us courage to pursue it.*

Keep us hungry for peace, and give us the strength to work for it.

*Keep us hungry for righteousness, and give us the determination to live for it.*

Keep us hungry for love, and give us understanding to earn it.

*Keep us hungry for reconciliation, and give us the wisdom to obtain it.*

Keep us hungry for Your forgiveness, and give us the humility  
to ask for it.

*On this Yom Kippur, O God, may our hunger provide us with food for our souls.*

We are hungry for food today because we have chosen to fast. Yet we hunger for other things throughout the year. We hunger for love and affection. We hunger for other people to need us. We hunger to know that we are important to others. We hunger for dignity and self-respect. We hunger for a sense of purpose. We hunger to see good things in the world: courage, faith, kindness and love. Sustainer of Israel, help us to satisfy our hungers physically and spiritually, enable us to nourish others by giving of ourselves.

Be with us, O God of Israel, as we gather here in prayer on this Day of Atonement. Help us to be at one with You and with our neighbors. Help us, above all, to be at one with ourselves so that these precious days are not lost to pretense and self-deception.

*Give us the strength to speak out honestly in prayer, and to know ourselves as we are: human beings sinned against and sinning. Keep us from blaming others or blaming You. Help us, instead, to accept the responsibilities of our lives so that we may grow in spirituality and goodness according to Your will.*

אֲדֹנָי שְׁפֹתַי תִּפְתָּח וּפִי יִגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ:

Adonai s'fa-tai tif-tach, u-fi ya-gid t'hi-la-te-cha.

Eternal God, open up my lips, that my mouth may declare Your glory.

שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה.

Sh'ma ko-lei-nu v'na-shu-va.

Hear our voices and we will return to You.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵי אַבְרָהָם, אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק, וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, אֱלֹהֵי שָׂרָה, אֱלֹהֵי רִבְקָה, אֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה, וְאֱלֹהֵי רָחֵל. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֲלִיּוֹן, גּוֹמֵל חַסְדִּים טוֹבִים, וְקוֹנֵה הַכֹּל, וְזוֹכֵר חַסְדֵי אֲבוֹת וְאֲמָהוֹת, וּמְבִיא גְאֻלָּה לְבָנֵי בְנֵיהֶם לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה.

Ba-ruch Atah Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, vei-lo-hei a-vo-tei-nu v'i-mo-tei-nu. E-lo-hei Avraham, E-lo-hei Yitzchak, vei-lo-hei Yaakov, E-lo-hei Sara, E-lo-hei Rivka, E-lo-hei Leah, vei-lo-hei Rachel. Ha-Eil ha-ga-dol ha-gi-bor v'ha-no-rah, Eil eil-yon, go-meil cha-sa-dim to-vim v'ko-nei ha-kol v'zo-cheir chas-dei a-vot v'i-ma-hot, u'mei-vi g'u-lah liv-nei v'nei-hem l'ma-an sh'mo b'a-ha-vah.

זָכְרֵנוּ לְחַיִּים, מֶלֶךְ חַפֵּץ בְּחַיִּים, וְכֹתֵבֵנוּ בְּסֵפֶר הַחַיִּים, לְמַעַן אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים.

Zoch-rei-nu l'cha-yim, Me-lech cha-feitz ba-cha-yim, v'chot-vei-nu b'Sei-fer ha-Cha-yim, l'ma'an-cha, E-lo-him chayim.

מִי כְמוֹךָ אֵב הַרְחָמִים, זֹכֵר יְצוּרֵי לְחַיִּים בְּרַחֲמִים.

Mi cha-mo-cha, Av ha-ra-cha-mim, zo-cheir y'tzu-rav l'cha-yim b'ra-cha-mim?

וְנֶאֱמַן אַתָּה לְהַחְיֹת הַכֹּל. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל.

V'neh-eh-man A-tah l'ha-cha-yot ha-kol. Ba-ruch A-tah Adonai, m'cha-yei ha-kol.

Adonai is forever mighty;  
Restoring life to those marked out for death;  
Liberating peoples once destined for defeat;  
Banishing despair through the loving acts of human beings;  
Reviving barren hopes within the womb of weary dreamers;  
Cutting loose the fetters of the victims fallen underneath the sickness of our days;  
Remembering those obscured by the dust of time.

May You extend Your power to us;  
Restoring us;  
Banishing our despair;  
That from the dust of our uncaring age  
we bring to bloom those loving acts that make us human.

Blessed are You, Eternal One, Who renews all life.

\* \* \*

God's gift to us is the power and the freedom to choose. Humans are not angels nor are we robots. We are forever faced with choices of good and evil, blessings and curses. The struggle is ceaseless; the choice is ours.

*We have been created with minds able to think good thoughts and hearts capable of good intentions. Often we fail to fulfill this capacity, to live up to the promise of God's pure gift.*

We have been created with eyes, the blessing of sight, to see the world's beauty and the holiness of all its creatures.

*Often we squander God's gift and look without seeing. Often we contaminate it, and let our eyes lead us astray.*

We have been created with ears to hear sacred words, to hear sounds of wisdom, beauty and love.

*Often we squander God's gift, and hear without listening. Often we debase it, by listening to gossip, obscenities and words of hatred.*

We have been created with mouths and tongues, with the gift of speech that God gave to no other creature. With words we try to pray. With words we speak, with love, to God and human beings.

*But malice, pettiness, falsehood and slander have sullied our speech. With words we have mocked God's gift, shaming neighbor and stranger, cursing, laughing at the pain of others, uttering false oaths, insincere pledges and vain promises.*

We have been created with hands, the ability to sense creation through touch, the capacity to transmit tenderness.

*Sometimes we have veered toward violence, using our hands to injure or destroy.*

We have been given legs to walk in God's path, to pursue God's commandments.

*Instead of walking always in the ways of Godliness, often we have rushed to do unworthy deeds. We have walked away from Torah and from people.*

We have been blessed with life and with the ability to share and transmit joy.

*Infidelity and disloyalty have sometimes corrupted this pure gift.*

All that we are, body and soul, are bared before God and before our own examination. We are burdened by the bad choices we have made. We have marred the pure beauty of our souls through our misdeeds.

*May we find the courage to renew our lives, to change at least part of what should be changed. May Yom Kippur lead us to reconciliation with ourselves, with those whom we have hurt and offended and, by doing so, lead us to reconciliation with God.*

\* \* \*



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 blessing or were they dull and empty?

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

Was there real companionship or were we living together and growing apart?

*Were we a help to our loved ones or did we take them for granted?*

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?*

Did we acquire only possessions or did we acquire new insights, as well?

*Did we fear what the crowd would say and kept 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, what have we learned and will we change?*

\* \* \*

Al chet she-cha-ta-nu l'fa-ne-cha...

עַל יְחַטָּא שְׁחַטְאֵנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ...

For all these sins, we ask God and each other, to give us the strength to forgive ourselves and one another:

For pretending to have emotions we do not feel;

*For using the sins of others to excuse our own;*

For giving up our dreams;

*For closing our eyes to reality;*

For false pride;

*For no pride;*

For self-contempt;

*For over-inflated egos;*

For withholding the helping hand.

*For making martyrs of ourselves;*

For demanding instant gratification;

*For expecting constant gratification;*

For expecting too much;

*For settling for too little;*

For cooperating with self-destructive behavior in others or in ourselves;

*For not supporting each other as we attempt to change;*

For trying to possess and control those we love;

*For withholding love and support;*

For doubting our ability to love or to receive love from others;

*For fearing commitment with another.*

וְעַל כָּלֵם, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מְחַל לָנוּ, כַּפֵּר-לָנוּ.

V'al ku-lam, E-lo-ha s'li-chot, s'lach la-nu, me-chal la-nu, ka-per la-nu.

*For all these sins, O God of compassion, forgive us, pardon us, restore us.*

\* \* \*

We examine not only our personal lives but also our responsibilities as part of our community, our people, and our nation. We seek forgiveness....

*For the sins of ignoring the dangers facing our Jewish brothers and sisters in foreign lands;*

And for the sins we have committed by not publicly supporting the Jewish people and Israel when they are being treated or criticized unfairly.

*For the sins of being critical of Jewish life from a distance rather than from personal involvement and commitment;*

And for the sins of not spending more time engaged in learning Jewish tradition and studying Jewish history, literature and holy texts.

*For the sins of not giving enough time to building the kind of Jewish community we desire, but instead expecting things to happen without contributing to make them happen.*

\* \* \*

We sin against You when we sin against ourselves. For our failures of justice, O God, we ask forgiveness for us and all humanity:

*For worshipping money.  
For ignoring the problems in our society.  
For not acknowledging the human rights of others.  
For not addressing injustice.  
For turning away from the plight of the hungry.  
For turning away from the victims of oppression.  
For tolerating racism.  
For tolerating discrimination of any group.  
For dismissing the disenfranchised.*

וְעַל כָּלֵם, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מְחַל לָנוּ, כַּפֵּר-לָנוּ.

V'al ku-lam, E-lo-ha s'li-chot, s'lach la-nu, me-chal la-nu, ka-per la-nu.

*For all these sins, O God of compassion, forgive us, pardon us, restore us.*

\* \* \*

*For the sin which we have committed by dividing our cities into slums  
and gated communities;*

*For the sin of threatening the survival of species on this planet;*

*For the sin of filling the common air with poisons;*

*For the sin of making our waters unfit to drink and unsafe for marine life;*

*For the sin of pouring noxious chemicals upon trees and soil;*

*For the sin we have committed by appeasing aggressors;*

*For the sin which we have committed before You by not working for peace.*

וְעַל כָּלֵם, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מְחַל לָנוּ, כַּפֵּר-לָנוּ.

V'al ku-lam, E-lo-ha s'li-chot, s'lach la-nu, me-chal la-nu, ka-per la-nu.

*For all these sins, O God of compassion, forgive us, pardon us, restore us.*

\* \* \*

We thank You, O Mentor of Israel, for our family and for what we mean and bring to one another. We are grateful for the bonds of loyalty and affection which sustain us, and which keep us close to one another no matter how far apart we may be. We thank You for implanting within us a deep need for each other, for giving us the capacity to love and to care, and for enabling us to share our simchas and our tzuris together.

*Help us to be modest in our demands of one another, but generous in our giving to each other. May we never measure how much love or encouragement we offer; may we never count the times we forgive. Rather, may we always be grateful that we have one another and that we are able to express our love in acts of kindness.*

Keep us gentle in our speech. When we offer words of criticism, may they be chosen with care and spoken softly. May we waste no opportunity to speak words of sympathy, of appreciation and of praise.

*Bless our families with health, happiness and contentment. Above all, grant us the wisdom to build a joyous and peaceful home in which the spirit of Jewish tradition, and pride in the heritage of Israel, will always abide. O Source of peace, bless the whole family of Israel with peace.*

שִׁים שְׁלוֹם טוֹבָה וּבִרְכָּה, חֵן וְחֶסֶד וִרְחֻמִּים, עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל עִמָּךְ.  
בְּרַכְנוּ, אָבֵינוּ, כְּלָנוּ כְּאַחַד בְּאוֹר פְּנִיךָ, כִּי בְאוֹר פְּנִיךָ נִתְּתָ לָנוּ, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ,  
תּוֹרַת חַיִּים וְאַהֲבַת חֶסֶד, וְצִדְקָה וּבִרְכָּה וִרְחֻמִּים וְחַיִּים וְשְׁלוֹם. וְטוֹב  
בְּעִינֶיךָ לְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמְּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּכָל עֵת וּבְכָל שָׁעָה בְּשָׁלוֹמְךָ.

בְּסִפּוֹר חַיִּים, בְּרְכָה וְשְׁלוֹם וּפְרִינָסָה טוֹבָה, נִזְכֵּר וְנִכְתֵּב לְפָנֶיךָ, אֲנִיחָנוּ וְכָל  
עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים וְלְשְׁלוֹם. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הַמְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ  
יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשָׁלוֹם.

Sim sha-lom to-va u'v'ra-cha chein va-che-sed v'ra-cha-mim  
a-lei-nu v'al kol Yisraeil, amecha.

We dream of Shalom; to be whole, one, and complete.  
At peace and at home with neighbor and nature,  
the beast of the field, and the air we breathe.

We praise You, God the Creator,  
God the Sustainer,  
God the Teacher, Who has taught us the way of shalom  
and has taught us that shalom is the way.

## Yizkor Service

We have come for Yizkor, to remember: To recall, as individuals, those whose lives were intertwined with ours in a personal bond, and to remember as a community those whose lives were ended because they were Jews. We, as individuals and as Jews, neither live nor die in isolation. We are part of a Jewish community; we are members of the Jewish people. Before we mourn our personal losses, we turn to the encompassing losses suffered by our people.

*Every age has its martyrs: teachers, students, simple men and women whose faith gives strength to the weak and hope to the despairing. They live in us and in all the generations to come. They form a golden chain in history.*

The destruction of six million of our people is not only a human tragedy, it is also a divine tragedy. The faith we had in humanity, the trust we had for the future, our confidence in culture and civilization – all these were also destroyed during the *Shoah*.

*They lie in nameless graves in far off forests and abandoned fields; their ashes comingled at Auschwitz and Buchenwald, Bergen-Belsen and Babi-Yar, at Treblinka and Terezin. Yet they must not be forgotten. We shall remember them in their pain and their agony. We shall remember them as our own.*

We remember them because the world would like to forget them. To forget how they cried for help and the nations overlooked them; how they tried to escape and the nations excluded them; how they died in the camps and the nations ignored them. And not just the victims of the Shoah. In every generation, Jews have died *al Kiddush HaShem*, for the sanctification of your Holy Name, just because they were Jews. Just because they believed in You.

\* \* \*

What can we say? What can we do? How bear the unbearable, or accept what life has brought to our people? All who are born must die, but how shall we compare the slow passage of our days with the callous slaughter of the innocent, cut off before their time? They lived with faith, not all, but many, and surely many died with faith: faith in God, in life, in the goodness that even flames cannot destroy. May we find a way to the strength of that faith, that sure sense that life and soul endure beyond this body's death.

*They have left their lives to us. Let a million prayers rise whenever Jews worship; let a million candles glow against the darkness of these unfinished lives.*

We pray, O Source of Life, that Your Torah to which these, Your children, have borne witness in life and in death, sheds a renewed light in the hearts of all people, that all of them – nameless to us but known to You – shall not have suffered in vain.

אָנִי מֵאֲמִין בְּאַמוּנָה שְׁלֵמָה בְּבִיאַת הַמָּשִׁיחַ.  
וְאֵף עַל פִּי שְׂתִתְמַהֲמָה עִם כָּל זֶה אָנִי מֵאֲמִין,  
עִם כָּל זֶה אֶחָכָה לוֹ בְּכָל יוֹם שְׂיָבוֹא אָנִי מֵאֲמִין.

A-ni ma'a-min b'e-mu-na sh'lei-ma b'vi-at ha-ma-shi-ach.  
V'af al pi sheh-yit-ma-mei-ah im kol zeh a-ni ma'a-min;  
im kol zeh a-cha-keh lo be-chol yom sheh-ya-vo ani ma'a-min.

I believe with perfect faith in the coming of a better world. And even if the Messianic Age be delayed, still I believe. Through all of this, I will wait for it; every day I believe it will come.

\* \* \*

We mourn for the suffering and the loss of our people even as we now turn our thoughts to those members of our own family and our congregational family whose loss is our loss.

O God, this hour revives in us memories of loved ones who are no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us! What joy when, loving and loved, we lived our lives together!

*Their memory is a blessing forever.*

Months or years may have passed, yet we feel near to them. Our hearts yearn for them. Though the bitter grief has softened, duller pain abides, for the place where once they stood is empty now, forever. The links of life are broken. But the links of love and longing remain forever.

*Their souls are bound up with ours forever.*

We see them now with the eye of memory: their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude and bless their names.

*Their memory is a blessing forever.*

As we reflect upon those whose memory moves us this day, we seek consolation; we pray for the strength and the insight born of faith.

\* \* \*

The eye is never satisfied with seeing; endless are the desires of the heart. We devise new schemes on the graves of a thousand disappointed hopes. Like Moses on Mount Nebo, we behold the Promised Land from afar but may not enter it. Our life, at its best, is an endless effort for a goal we never attain. Death finally terminates the struggle, and joy and grief, success and failure, all are ended. Like children falling asleep over their toys, we relinquish our grasp on earthly possessions only when death overtakes us. Master and servant, rich and poor, strong and feeble, wise and simple, all are equal in death. The grave levels all distinctions, and makes the whole world kin.

\* \* \*

Adonai, what are we human beings that You should know about us, we children of the flesh that You should take account of us? A person is like vapor, our days as quickly passing as a shadow. In the morning we flourish and grow tall; in the evening we are cut down, dried up. You turn us to contrition saying, "Do teshuvah, children of the flesh!" Would that we were wise, and understood what will happen to us in the end, for when we die we take nothing away. Our glory will not descend along with us.

\* \* \*



If I was one of those cut off too soon, after my death say this about me:

*There are people who die before their time,  
leaving their poetry,  
their song of life, unfinished.  
What a shame!  
There was another song to sing,  
and now it's gone, gone forever!*

They had a harp -  
A soul expressive and alive, and the poet within them  
used all its strings to tell private thoughts, yet kept one secret hidden.  
Round and round their fingers played, but  
one string was mute to the end, silent to the very end.

*So the pain is very, very great!  
There are people who die before their time  
leaving a song unfinished.  
There was another song to sing,  
and now it's gone, gone forever!*

\* \* \*

To the living, death is a wound. Its name is grief.  
Its companion is loneliness.  
Whenever it comes - whatever its guise,  
even when there are no tears - death is a wound.

*But death belongs to life -  
as night belongs to day  
as darkness belongs to light  
as shadows belong to substance  
as the fallen leaf to the tree  
death belongs to life.*

It is not our purpose to live forever.  
It is only our purpose to live.

*It is no great mitzvah that one lives long.  
It is a mitzvah only that a person's life was good.*

The light of life is a finite flame. Like the *Yahrtzeit* candle, life is kindled and it glows. But soon it fades; its substance is consumed, and it is no more.

*In light we see; in light we are seen. The flame dances and our lives are full.  
But as night follows day, the candle of our life burns down and sputters. There  
is an end to the flame. We see no more, and are no more seen.*

Yet we should not despair, for we are more than a memory slowly fading into the darkness. With our lives, we give life.

*Something of us can never die; we move in the eternal cycle of darkness and  
death, of light and life.*

### Psalm 23

מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד יְהוָה רֹעִי לֹא אֶחְסָר. בְּנֵאוֹת דָּשָׁא יִרְבִּיצֵנִי עַל־מִי מְנַחֹת  
יִנְהַלֵּנִי. נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבֵב יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְלֵי־צֶדֶק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ. גַּם כִּי־אֵלֶךְ בְּגִיא  
צַלְמוֹת לֹא־אִירָא רָע כִּי־אֲתָה עִמָּדִי שִׁבְטְךָ וּמִשְׁעֶנְתְּךָ הִפָּה יִנְחֵמֵנִי.  
תַּעֲרֹךְ לִפְנֵי שְׁלָחַן נֹגֵד צִרְרֵי דִשְׁנֶת בְּשֹׁמֵן רֹאשִׁי כּוֹסֵי רוּיָהּ. אֵף טוֹב וְחָסֵד  
יִרְדְּפוּנִי כָּל־יְמֵי חַיִּי וְשִׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית־יְהוָה לְאָרְךָ יָמִים.

*Adonai is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.  
You make me lie down in green pastures;  
You lead me beside the still waters;  
You restore my soul.  
You lead me in straight paths for Your name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death,  
I fear no evil, for You are with me.  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.  
You set a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.  
And I shall dwell in the house of the Eternal forever.*

\* \* \*

## In Memory of a Spouse

It was better when you were here, better when we could share. Now I walk our familiar ways expecting to see you; forgetful of what is. I cannot but sigh when I remember. There remains a place in me emptied by your loss, only partly filled by your memory. It is better to share, harder to be alone. Part of you will stay with me, hand and hand, still sharing, still caring, always.

## In Memory of a Loved One or Friend

The days when we were together in happy companionship seem as yesterday. Yet my life continues to unfold while yours does not. Your loving friendship was my delight and support. It can never be replaced. Your warmth and your compassion abide with me still. I know by the way I live my life that part of you is in me, and will be always.

אֵל מָלֵא רַחֲמִים שׁוֹכֵן בַּמְרוֹמִים. הַמֵּצֵא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כְּנָפֵי הַשְּׁכִינָה  
עִם קְדוּשִׁים וְטְהוּרִים כְּזֹהֵר הָרָקִיעַ מְזַהְרִים אֶת נִשְׁמוֹת יִקְרִינוּ שְׁהֲלָכוּ  
לְעוֹלָמָם. בְּעַל הָרַחֲמִים יִסְתִּירָם בְּסֶתֶר כְּנָפָיו לְעוֹלָמִים וְיִצְרֹר בְּצִרּוֹר  
הַחַיִּים אֶת נִשְׁמָתָם. יְיָ הוּא נִחְלָתָם. וְיִנּוּחוּ בְּשָׁלוֹם עַל מִשְׁכְּבָם. וְנֹאמַר:  
אָמֵן.

O God full of compassion, Eternal Spirit of the universe, grant perfect rest under the wings of Your *Shechinah* to our loved ones who have entered eternity. Master of Mercy, wrap them in Your holy presence, and may their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life. The Eternal God is their inheritance. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

It is a fearful thing to love what death can touch.

*A fearful thing to love and then to lose.*

A thing for fools, this.

Yet, *kadosh*, a holy thing, a holy thing to love.

*For your life has lived in me. Your laugh once lifted me. Your word was gift to me. To remember this brings painful joy.*

‘Tis a human thing, love; a holy thing to say *Kaddish*, to love what death has touched.

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא.  
 בְּעֶלְמָא דִּי-בְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ, וְיִמְלִיךָ מַלְכוּתָהּ  
 בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
 בְּעִגְלָא וּבְזֶמֶן קָרִיב, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלַם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא.  
 יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא,  
 וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקוּדְשָׁא, בְּרִיךְ הוּא.

לְעֵלָא מִן כָּל-בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא,  
 תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנִחְמַתָּא דְאֲמִירָן בְּעֶלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

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

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלֹום בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלֹום  
 עָלֵינוּ וְעַל-כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yit-ga-dal v'yit-ka-dash sh'mei ra-ba.  
 B'al-ma di-v'ra chir-u-tei, v'yam-lich mal-chu-tei  
 b'cha-yei-chon u'v'yo-mei-chon u'v'cha-yei d'chol beit Yisraeil,  
 ba'a-ga-la u'viz-man ka-riv, v'im-ru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'mei ra-ba m'va-rach l'a-lam ul'al-mei al'ma-ya.

Yit'ba-rach v'yish-tabach v'yit-pa-ar, v'yit-ro-mam, v'yit-na-sei,  
 v'yit-ha-dar v'yit-a-leh, v'yit-ha-lal sh'mei d'Ku-d'sha, b'rich Hu.  
 L'ei-la min kol bir-cha-ta v'shi-ra-ta,  
 tush-b'cha-ta v'ne-che-ma-ta  
 da'a-mi-ran b'al-ma, v'im-ru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'ma-ya v'cha-yim  
 a-lei-nu v'al kol Yisraeil, v'im'ru: Amen.

O-seh sh-alom bim-ro-mav, hu ya'a-seh sha-lom  
 a-lei-nu v'al kol Yisraeil, v'im-ru: Amen.

## Neilah: The Closing of the Gates

The dusk draws closer. The close of the day is symbolic of the close of life. In all the calendar of Judaism, there is no moment more poignant than this one. All through the day, the flood of prayer has ebbed and flowed. Now, as the sun sinks low, as the shadows of the night draw near, we feel a new pitch of intensity.

We live only once. Do we not want to live fully? The corridor of life stretches before us. Each of us must walk down its stately length. The gates do not stand open forever. As we walk down the corridor, they shut behind us, one by one. At the end they are all closed.

This is the meaning of *Neilah*, the *Closing of the Gates*. Before it is too late, let us enter the gates that lead to Torah and mitzvot. Let us enter the gates to those things in life which abide eternally.... Before the gates swing shut. Before the doors are closed.

\* \* \*

Everlasting God, we turn now to You once more on this High Holy Day to cry out our longing and the longing of all men and women for a beginning of that wholeness we call peace. Ever and again, we now admit, we have turned our backs on You, and on our sisters and brothers: forsaking Your Torah, denying Your truth, ignoring Your will, defacing Your beauty. The intelligence You have implanted within us we have applied to the arts of war; with the skill we have from You we make engines of terror and pain.

*We have prayed for peace, even as we laughed at truth; for blessing, but did not care to do Your will; for mercy, and have shown none to others. We have prayed for impossible things: peace without justice, forgiveness without restitution, love without sacrifice.*

But You, our Maker, abound in grace: so now again we turn to You, to attach ourselves to Your purpose, to set ourselves on the paths that lead to the coming of peace and right, freedom and joy for Israel and all the world.

*Again, as the shadows fall, we ask forgiveness, and again, we praise You, O God, Source of peace.*

\* \* \*

O Mentor of Israel, be with this congregation and with all our members, their families and their households; prosper them in their various callings and occupations, help them in their needs, and guide them in their difficulties.

*Hear the prayers of all who worship here, comfort the sorrowing and cheer the silent sufferers.*

Bless those who guide and who serve this congregation, and those who so often contribute to its strength.

*Reward with the joy of goodness the charitable and the merciful who aid the poor, care for the sick, teach the ignorant, and extend a helping hand to those who have lost their way in the world.*

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.

*Help us to bridge the gap between our conscience and our conduct, between what we believe and what we do.*

\* \* \*

We Jews are linked by a covenant we are not free to break. We are part of a covenant people whose ancestors heard God's voice, whose prophets beheld the Almighty in visions.

We have been compared to a lamb, torn by wolves, and to a lion, unafraid to walk alone among the peoples. We Jews are linked by a covenant we are not free to break.

Let not egotism, personal or national, seal our ears to the cry for compassion - tzedakah, or the voice of commandment - mitzvah. Therefore, let us commit our hearts and souls and might to accept in love the covenant of Sinai, to do that which is expected of us, to live day and night the covenant between God and Israel.

\* \* \*

Avinu Malkeinu, we pray for life. Bless us, once more, with a year of life so that we may be privileged to complete the year we have just begun. Despite the burdens and the heartbreaks, the pains and perils, we want to live; we ask to be sealed in the Book of Life.

*But even as we pray that years may be added to our lives, we ask, that true life may be added to our years.*

May the New Year be for us a time for enhancing the quality of our lives, enriching their content, deepening their meaning.

*Help us to keep our minds alive. May we be open to new ideas, entertain challenging doubts, reexamine long-held opinions, nurture a lively curiosity, and strive to add to our knowledge.*

Help us to keep our hearts alive. May we develop greater compassion, be receptive to new friendships and grow more sensitive to those who surround us.

*Help us to keep our souls alive. May we be more responsive to the needs of others, less vulnerable to consuming greed, more attentive to the craving for fellowship, and more devoted to truth.*

Help us to keep our spirits alive. May we face the future with confidence, knowing that every age has its unique joys and satisfactions, each period in our lives a glory of its own.

*Help us keep our faith alive. May we be sustained by the knowledge that You have planted within us eternal life and have given us the power to live beyond our years.*

Whether our years be few or many, help us to link our lives to the life of our people and to our eternal faith.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חַנּוּנוּ וְעֲנּוּנוּ, כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים,  
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

A-vi-nu Mal-kei-nu, cha-nei-nu va'a-nei-nu,  
ki ein ba-nu ma'a-sim.  
A-sei i-ma-nu tz'da-ka v'che-sed v'ho-shi-ei-nu.

Avinu Malkeinu, have compassion on us, for we are not perfect. Deal with us in both justice and mercy so we may be renewed.

\* \* \*

Day softly tiptoes out through the western horizon.

*Soon night will encompass our hearts.*

Can we hear the chorus of the hosts on high?

*Not words, but God's soft spoken plea is heard:  
"Keep open your gate! Keep open your gate!  
Close not your last remaining hope."*

O Guardian of Israel, who performed wonders for our ancestors and led them out of ignorance and darkness into knowledge and light, perform a wonder in us too. Lead us step by step into goodness, holiness, peace and togetherness in the year to come.

\* \* \*

Whether by birth or by choice, we are the heirs of a covenant, a partnership entered into at Mount Sinai thirty-two centuries ago. There we learned:

*There is a God Who can and will help us. There is a guidebook that can and will lead us. There is a holy community that can and will spiritually elevate us.*

If we want to live more, we must love more. If we want to have more direction and purpose in our lives, we must study more Torah.

*If we want to live healthier and holier lives, we must do more mitzvot.*

If we want to live in a more compassionate world, we must give more tzedakah and multiply our deeds of kindness. Today is the day to begin anew. With God's help, we open the doors to go forth into a New Year of life.

\* \* \*

For twenty-five hours we have prayed out our hearts and minds on this Yom Kippur. As evening comes and the long fast draws to a close, tens of thousands of words have been spoken and sung. And yet, there are further unspoken feelings buried within us. So, we muster our remaining physical and spiritual resources and make one last desperate effort to descend into the human depths and to climb to the divine heights.



We cry out “Shema Yisrael.” We repeat “Baruch Shem Kavod” three times. We stammer, seven times, each time at a higher and more urgent pitch: “Adonai Hu haElohim: Adonai is God.” No longer is it the meaning of the words but rather their rhythm, their insistent repetition, in which we place our hope. And, finally, we abandon the human voice and verbal expression altogether. We reach for the shofar and through its one long, piercing cry: *Tekiah Gedolah*, our hearts’ desires reach the heavens.

וַאֲנַחֲנוּ כּוֹרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים וּמוֹדִים, לִפְנֵי מֶלֶךְ, מַלְכֵי הַמְּלָכִים, הַקְדוֹשׁ  
בָּרוּךְ הוּא.

Va-a-nach-nu kor-im u-mish-ta-cha-vim u-mo-dim lif-nei Me-lech,  
Mal-chei ha-m'la-chim, Ha-Ka-dosh Ba-ruch Hu.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל: יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְהוָה אֶחָד!

Sh'ma Yisraeil: Adonai E-lo-hei-nu, Adonai e-chad!

Hear, O Israel: the Eternal One is our God, the Eternal God alone!

בָּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד!

Ba-ruch shem k'-vod mal-chu-to l'o-lam va-ed!

Praised be God's Sovereignty through all time.

יְיָ הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים

Adonai Hu ha-E-lo-him.

Adonai is God.

תְּקִיעַה גְּדוֹלָה

Tekiah Gedolah.

\* \* \*

#### 4 The Climb / Esa Einai

by Jessi Alexander and Jon Mabe;  
and by Doug Cotler

Esa einai el heharim  
M'ayin yavo ezri  
I look to the mountains  
The source of my help

I can almost see it  
That dream I'm dreaming but  
There's a voice inside my head  
sayin,  
You'll never reach it,

Every step I'm taking,  
Every move I make feels  
Lost with no direction My faith  
is shaking  
but I got to keep trying  
Got to keep my head held high

There's always going to be  
another mountain  
I'm always going to want to make  
it move  
Always going to be an uphill battle,  
Sometimes you going to have  
to lose,  
Ain't about how fast I get there,  
Ain't about what's waiting on the  
other side  
It's the climb

The struggles I'm facing,  
The chances I'm taking  
Sometimes they knock me down  
but No, I'm not breaking  
I may not know it,  
But these are the moments that  
I'm going to remember most  
yeah

Just got to keep going  
And I, I got to be strong  
Just keep pushing on

Esa einai el heharim - I look to  
the mountains

There's always going to be  
another mountain

I'm always going to want to make  
it move  
Always going to be an uphill  
battle,  
Sometimes you going to have  
to lose,

M'ayin yavo ezri - The source of  
my help

Ain't about how fast I get there,  
Ain't about what's waiting on the  
other side  
It's the climb!

#### 5 Please Heal Us

by Sheryl Braunstein and Paul Kipnes

For those in need of healing  
For all in need of strength  
For all whose hearts are grieving  
For all those feeling pain

Holy One, the Source of blessing  
Shower us with your love  
Fulfill our dreams of healing  
Send us hope from above

Mi shebeirach avoteinu  
Mi shebeirach imoteinu  
Hu yivareich et kulanu  
V'hacholim ha-y'kareinu  
Please heal us all

For those in need of comfort  
For those who've lost their way  
For those in need of wholeness  
For all those losing faith

Holy One, the Source of blessing  
Shower us with your love  
Fulfill our dreams of healing  
Send us hope from above

Mi shebeirach avoteinu  
Mi shebeirach imoteinu  
Hu yivareich et kulanu  
V'hacholim ha-y'kareinu

Please heal us all  
Please heal us all  
Amen

#### 6 Oseh Shalom

by Michael Hunter Ochs

Oseh shalom bimromav  
Hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu  
(repeats 3x)

Ya-aseh shalom  
Ya-aseh shalom  
Shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael  
(repeats 2x)

May the One who causes peace  
to reign in the high heavens,  
let peace descend on us,  
on all Israel, and all the world.

Oseh shalom bimromav  
Hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu  
(repeats 3 times)

Ya-aseh shalom  
Ya-aseh shalom  
Shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael  
(Repeats 8 times)

#### 7 From a Distance

by Julie Gold

From a distance the world  
looks blue and green  
And the snow capped  
mountains white  
From a distance the ocean  
meets the stream  
And the eagle takes to flight

From a distance there is harmony  
And it echoes thru the land  
It's the voice of hope.  
It's the voice of peace  
It's the voice of every woman  
and man

From a distance we all have  
enough  
And no one is in need  
There are no guns, no bombs,  
no disease  
No hungry mouths to feed

From a distance we are  
instruments  
Marching in a common band  
Playing songs of hope.  
Playing songs of peace  
They're the songs of every  
woman and man

God is watching us. God is  
watching us  
God is watching us, from a  
distance

From a distance you look like  
my friend  
Even though we are at war  
From a distance I can't  
comprehend  
What all this war is for  
From a distance there is harmony  
And it echoes thru the land

It's the hope of hopes.  
It's the love of loves  
It's the heart of every woman  
and man

God is watching us. God is  
watching us  
God is watching us, from a  
distance

#### 8 Am I Awake/Bar'chu

by Noah Aronson

Am I awake? Am I prepared?  
Are you listening to my prayer?  
Can you hear my voice?  
Can you understand?  
Am I awake? Am I prepared?

Ya di li-li-li (x2)

Am I awake? Am I prepared?  
Are you listening to my prayer?  
Can you hear my voice?  
Can you understand?  
Am I awake? Am I prepared?

Ya di li-li-li (x2)

## 9 B'Rosh Hashana

by Meir Finkelstein

B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun  
B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun

Kama yaavrun v'chama yibareion  
mi yichyeh  
Umi yamut mi v'kitzo umi lo  
v'kitzo

B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun  
B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun

Mi vaeish umi vamayim  
Mi vacherev umi vachaya  
Mi varaav umi vatzama  
Mi varaash umi vamageifa  
Mi vachanika umi vaskila

B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun  
B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun

Mi yanuach umiyanua  
Mi Yishkeit umiyitarif  
Mi yishleiv umiyityasa  
Mi yeiani umi yeiasheir  
Mi yishfell umi yarum

B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun  
B'rosh hashanah yikateivun  
uvyom tzom kipur yeichateimun

## 10 Birkat Kohanim/The Blessing

by Kari Jobe

Kein y'hee ratzon  
Kein y'hee ratzon

Y'varechecha Adonai  
v'yish'mirecha  
Yaer Adonai panav elecha  
v'chuneka  
Yisa Adonai panav elecha  
V'yaseim l'cha shalom

God bless you, and keep you  
God's face shine upon you and be  
gracious to you  
God's face, turn toward you, and  
grant you peace.

Amen Amen Amen  
Amen Amen Amen

May God's favor be upon you  
For a thousand generations  
And your family and your children  
and their children and their  
children

May God's presence go before you  
And behind you, And beside you  
All around you and within you  
God is with you, God is with you

In the morning, in the evening  
In your coming and your going  
In your weeping and rejoicing  
God is for you, God is for you

God is for you, God is for you  
Kein y'hee ratzon  
God is for you, God is for you  
Kein y'hee ratzon  
God is for you, God is for you  
Yeaaaaaah

Amen Amen Amen  
Amen Amen Amen  
Amen

## 11 V'shamru

by Michael Hunter Ochs

V'shamru v'nei Yisrael et  
ha-shabbat  
La-asot et ha-shabbat l'dorotam  
brit olam.

Beini u-vein b'nei Yisrael  
Ot hee l'olam.  
Beini u-vein b'nei Yisrael  
Ot hee l'olam.

Kee sheshet ya-meem  
Kee sheshet ya-meem  
Asah Adonai  
Asah Adonai et hashamayim  
v'et ha-arets

U-vayom, va-yom hash'vee-ee,  
hash'vee-ee  
shavat shavat va-yin-afash.

Beini u-vein b'nei Yisrael  
Ot hee l'olam.  
Beini u-vein b'nei Yisrael  
Ot hee ot hee,  
Ot hee, ot hee, l'olam.

V'shamru, v'shamru, v'nei Yisrael  
et ha-shabbat

## 12 Heal Us Now

by Leon Sher

R'fa-eynu Adonai v'ney-rafeh.  
Hoshee-ey-nu v'nee-vashey-ah.

Eyl karov l'chol korav.  
Ach karov leeray-av yish-oh.

We pray for healing of the body;  
We pray for healing of the soul,  
For strength of flesh and mind  
and spirit.  
We pray to once again be whole.

Eyl na r'fa na.  
Oh, please, heal us now.  
R'fu-at hanefesh,  
U-r'fu-at haguf,  
R'fu-ah sh'leyma.

Heal us now.  
Heal us now.

Ho-shee-ah et amecha u-varech  
et nach-la-techa.  
U-r'eym v'naseym ad ha-olam.

Mee shebey-rach avoteynu,  
Mee shebey-rach eemo-taynu,  
Ana Adonai hoshee-ah na.

We pray for healing of our people;  
We pray for healing of the land,  
And peace for every race and  
nation,  
Every child, every woman, every  
man.

Heal us now.  
Heal us now.  
Heal us now.

## 13 Oseh Shalom Shallow

Music by Germanotta, Ronson,  
Rossomando, Wyatt

Od yavo shalom  
Od yavo shalom aleinu  
Od yavo shalom  
Od yavo shalom aleinu  
Shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael  
V'imru, v'imru amen

Oseh shalom bimromav  
Hu yaaseh shalom  
Aleinu v'al kol yisrael  
V'al kol yoshvey teivel

Yaaseh Sha Shalom  
Shala sha shala la la lom  
Yaaseh Sha Shalom v'imru amen

Oh, ahhhhh....  
Oh, ahhhhh....

**14 All We Are –  
Interpretation of Kol Nidre**

*by Rick Dinitz*

All we are  
All we have been  
All we have said  
All we have promised  
All we've forgotten  
All we have done  
All we earnestly intended yet  
we did not do.

Help me see  
Help me be who I could be  
Help me gather up the broken  
parts  
And recreate myself as from  
the start.

Today we turn back time  
Restore harmony and rhyme  
Look a year ahead to Yom  
Kippur  
To see our better selves walk  
through this door.

Our flaws we own  
Harmful habits hard as stone  
We repair and we atone  
Returning to ourselves and to  
our home.

Soul-stains need cleaning  
Destructive deeds I've done  
demand redeeming  
With caring and repairing.

The road we are clearing  
The boat we are steering.

Help me know  
The direction I must grow  
Help me through  
The sea between my old ways  
and the new  
Today the gates of change  
swing open  
With renewed hope.

**15 Sh'ma Koleinu**

*by Max Helfman*

Sh'ma koleinu Adonai Eloheinu  
Chus v'racheim aleinu aleinu  
V'kabel b'rachamim b'rachamim  
uv'ratzon et t'filateinu

Hashiveinu Adonai elecha  
Hashiveinu elecha v'nashuva  
Chadesh yameinu yameinu  
k'kedem

Al al tashlichenu  
Al al tashlichenu

L'eit ziknah kichlot kocheinu  
Al al al ta'azveinu

Sh'ma koleinu Adonai Eloheinu  
Chus v'racheim aleinu aleinu  
V'kabel b'rachamim b'rachamim  
uvratzon et t'filateinu

**16 Adonai Li**

*by Doug Cotler and Jeff Marx*

I lift my voice  
When all is dark  
Into God's hands  
I place my heart.  
B'yado afkeed ruch  
I'm not afraid.  
Adonai Li

I lift my eyes  
When all is dark  
When I need help  
I seek God's light  
Lo echsar, Adonai ro-ee  
I shall not want,  
Adonai Li

I'm not afraid.  
Adonai Li

**17 L'dor Vador**

*by Josh Nelson*

We are gifts,  
And we are blessings.  
We are history in song.  
We are hope, and we are healing.  
We are learning to be strong.  
We are words and we are stories.  
We are pictures of the past.  
We are carriers of wisdom,  
Not the first and not the last.

L'dor vador nagid godlecha.  
L'dor vador, we protect this chain.  
From generation to generation,  
L'dor vador,  
These lips will praise Your name.

Looking back on the journey  
That we carry in our heart.  
From the shadow of the  
mountain  
To the waters that would part.  
We are blessed and we are holy  
We are children of Your way.  
And the words that bring us  
meaning  
We will have the strength to say.  
L'dor vador nagid godlecha.  
L'dor vador, we protect this chain.  
From generation to generation,  
L'dor vador,  
These lips will praise Your name.

**18 Hashkiveinu**

Hashkiveinu Adonai Eloheinu  
I'shalom I'shalom.  
V'ha-ameedeinu Shomreinu  
I'chayim  
Ufros aleinu sukkat sh'lomecha  
Ufros aleinu sukkat sh'lomecha  
Amen

Shelter us beneath thy wings,  
O Adonai.  
Guard us from all harmful things,  
O Adonai.

Keep us safe throughout the night  
'Til we wake with morning's light  
Teach us daily  
wrong from right.  
O Adonai

Amen

**19 Rose in December**

*by Doug Cotler, Lanny Cotler,  
Steve Cotler, and Jeff Marx*

You who gather here, crying  
silent tears,  
Because you cannot talk to me,  
You can remember.

I am here though I am gone.  
Dust to dust; life goes on.  
Think of me, and I will become...  
A rose in December

If you remember, I'll be a rose  
If you remember, I'll be a rose  
A rose that blooms in December

In your thoughts and in your sight,  
I am eternal light  
Hold the torch against the night,  
And you will remember.  
In the flame are many sparks,  
Touching lives beyond the dark.  
By my deeds I've left my mark,  
A rose in December

If you remember, I'll be a rose  
If you remember, I'll be a rose  
A rose that blooms in December

So say the words that must be  
said, Prayer for beloved dead.  
And as our precious tears are shed,  
We shall remember.  
Death and loss are what we pay,  
For finding love along our way  
A gift forever, sweet bouquet,  
A rose in December.

If you remember, I'll be a rose  
If you remember, I'll be a rose  
A rose that blooms in December

## 20 Grateful

*by Daniel Cainer*

Is it just me or do the days,  
these days,  
Go by so much more quickly  
than they did  
So many strange things going on  
So many pieces of the puzzle  
that don't fit  
I watch the sunset on the  
western sea  
The light plays on the water  
And it feels to me  
That I am blessed  
To be here  
Despite all the unrest  
And the way things may appear

I'm grateful  
For what I'm about to receive  
Let me be grateful  
For all that I've achieved  
And when I'm looking for a place  
to hide  
When I feel broken inside  
Remind me ...  
Grateful...  
That's how I want to be

Just look around it doesn't take  
That much to be confused or  
get upset  
When the world seems upside  
down  
And what you see's  
Not always what you get  
There's been so many things  
I should have done  
And so many others that I would  
not have done  
Had I known then  
What I know today  
But then again  
I'd not have learned along the way

## To be Grateful

When it's not quite how I imagine  
I'll be grateful for the lights and  
sound action  
When I can't tell wrong from right  
When I'm wound up far too tight  
Release me  
Grateful - that's how I want to be

How much you push, how much  
your pulled  
How much you wish, how much  
you wait  
How much you pray  
And if you don't get what you want  
Then wants not what you needed  
anyway

Zoom out the camera lens and  
what do we see  
The earth, the moon, the planets  
and the galaxy  
And I am just a speck of dust  
Lost somewhere in my own  
universe

Grateful  
Modeh anachnu lach we sing  
And we are faithful  
And give thanks for everything  
For all that's said and done  
For all that's yet to come  
Help me, to be grateful

Grateful

## 21 Standing on the Shoulders

*by Lanny Cotler, Steve Cotler, and  
Doug Cotler*

In the garden there's a tree  
Planted by someone who only  
imagined me.  
What love, what vision.  
I marvel at the gift.  
No fruit could be sweeter than  
this.

I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.  
I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.

As my people went from land to  
land,  
Something passed from hand to  
hand.  
And it isn't just the words and  
stories  
Of the ancient laws and golden  
glories.  
It's the way we study the Book  
we study.  
It's the way we study the way.

I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.  
I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.

Today my life is full of choice,  
Because a young man raised his  
voice.  
Because a young girl took a  
chance,  
I am freedom's inheritance.  
Years ago they crossed the sea,  
And they made a life that's come  
to me.

I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.  
I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.

So in the garden I'll plant a seed,  
A tree of life for you to read.  
The fruit will ripen in the sun.  
The words will sound when I am  
gone.  
These are the things I pass along:  
The fruit, the Book, and this Song.

I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.  
I'm standing on the shoulders  
Of the ones who came before me.

## 22 When You Believe

by Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston

Many nights we've prayed  
With no proof anyone could hear  
In our hearts a hopeful song  
We barely understood  
Now we are not afraid  
Although we know there's much  
to fear  
We were moving mountains long  
Before we knew we could

There can be miracles when  
you believe  
Though hope is frail it's hard  
to kill  
Who knows what miracles you  
can achieve  
When you believe,  
Somehow you will  
You will when you believe.

In this time of fear  
When prayer so often proved  
in vain  
Hope seemed like the summer  
birds  
Too swiftly flown away  
Now I'm standing here  
With heart so full I can't explain  
Seeking faith and speaking words  
I never thought I'd say

There can be miracles when  
you believe  
Though hope is frail it's hard  
to kill  
Who knows what miracles  
you can achieve  
When you believe,  
Somehow you will  
You will when you believe

Ashira l'Adonai kee ga-oh ga-ah  
Ashira l'Adonai kee ga-oh ga-ah  
Mi chamocha ba-elim Adonai  
Mi kamocha ne-edar bakodesh

Nachitah b'chas-d'cha am zu  
ga-altah  
Nachitah b'chas-d'cha am zu  
ga-altah  
Ashira Ashira Ashira

Ashira l'Adonai kee ga-oh ga-ah  
Ashira l'Adonai kee ga-oh ga-ah  
Mi chamocha ba-elim Adonai  
Mi kamocha ne-edar bakodesh  
Nachitah b'chas-d'cha am zu  
ga-altah  
Nachitah b'chas-d'cha am zu  
ga-altah  
Ashira Ashira Ashira

There can be miracles when  
you believe.  
Though hope is frail, it's hard  
to kill  
Who knows what miracles you  
can achieve?  
When you believe, somehow  
you will,  
Now you will  
You will when you believe.  
Amen

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