

Selichot

A Service of Preparation



Temple Emanu-El
Atlanta, GA

HAVDALAH

(We raise our glass of wine)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, borei p'ri hagfen.

Praise to You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

(We prepare to smell the spices)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מִיְּנֵי בְשָׂמִים.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, borei minei v'samim.

Praise to You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of varied spices.

(We bring the light toward our faces)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאוּרֵי הָאֵשׁ.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, borei m'orei ha-eish.

Praise to You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of lights of fire.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמְּבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol.

Praise to You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe: who distinguishes between holy and ordinary.

(We sip the wine and then extinguish the Havdalah candle in the remaining wine)

הַמְּבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל, חֲטֹאתֵינוּ הוּא יִמְחַל זְרַעֲנוּ וְכִסְפֵּנוּ יִרְבֶּה כַּחֲלוֹל, וְכַכּוֹכָבִים בְּלַיְלָה.

Hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol, chatoteinu hu yimchol, zareinu v'chaspeinu yarbeh kachol, v'chakochavim balailah.

May the One who distinguishes between the holy and the ordinary, pardon our sins; multiply our offspring and our possessions as grains of sand and as stars at night.

שָׁבוּעַ טוֹב... *Shavua tov!*

A good week, a week of peace.

May gladness reign and joy increase.

אֱלִיָּהוּ הַנָּבִיא, אֱלִיָּהוּ הַתְּשֻׁבִי, אֱלִיָּהוּ הַגִּלְעָדִי. בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ, יָבוֹא אֱלֵינוּ, עִם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן-דָּוִד.

Eliyahu hanavi, Eliyahu hatishbi, Eliyahu hagiladi. Bimheirah b'yameinu, yavo eileinu, im Mashiach ben David.

May Elijah the prophet, Elijah the Tishbite, Elijah of Gilead, quickly come to us heralding redemption.

PSALM 121

שִׁיר לַמַּעֲלוֹת Shir la'maalot

אֲשָׂא עֵינַי אֶל הַהָרִים מֵאֵין יבֵּא עֲזָרִי: Esa einai el-heharim: mei-ayim yavo ezri?
עֲזָרִי מֵעַם יְהוָה עֲשֵׂה שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ: Ezri mei-im Adonai, oseih shamayim va'aretz.
אֵל יִתֵּן לַמּוֹט רַגְלֶךָ אֵל יָנוּם שֹׁמְרֶךָ: Al yiten lamot raglecha, al yanum shomrecha.
הִנֵּה לֹא יָנוּם וְלֹא יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל: Hinei lo yanum v'lo yishan shomer yisrael.
יְהוָה שׁוֹמְרֶךָ יְהוָה צִלְּךָ עַל יַד יְמִינֶךָ: Adonai shom'recha, Adonai tzil'cha, al yad yeminecha.
יּוֹמָם הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לֹא יַכֶּכָּה וַיְרַח בַּלַּיְלָה: Yomam hashemesh lo yakekah, v'yareiach baleilah.
יְהוָה יִשְׁמְרֶךָ מִכָּל רָע יִשְׁמַר אֶת נַפְשֶׁךָ: Adonai yishmorcha, mikol ra, yishmor et nafshecha.
יְהוָה יִשְׁמַר צֵאתְךָ וּבֹאֶיךָ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם: Adonai yishmor tzeit'cha uvo'echa, mei'atah v'ad olam.

I lift my eyes to the mountains; What is the source of my help? My help comes from Adonai, Maker of heaven and earth. God will not let your foot give way; your Protector will not slumber. See, the Protector of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps! God is your Guardian, God is your protection at your right hand. The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. God will guard you from all harm. God will guard your soul, your going and coming, now and forever.

Changing of the Torah Mantles

CHATZI KADDISH

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא.

בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְּרָא כְרַעוּתֵיהּ, וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵיהּ, בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעַגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב.
וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא.

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמַם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא, וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקַדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא, לְעָלְמָא מִן כָּל
בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירָתָא, תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא וְנַחֲמָתָא, דְאָמִירָן בְּעֵלְמָא. וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'mei raba. B'alma di v'ra chirutei, v'yamlich malchutei, b'chayeichon uv'yomeichon uv'chaye d'chol beit Yisrael, baagala uviz'man kariv. V'im'ru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach l'alam ul'almei almaya.

Yitbarach v'yishtabach v'yitpaar v'yitromam v'yitnasei, v'yit'hadar v'yitaleh v'yit'halal sh'mei d'Kud'sha B'rich Hu, l'eila min kol birchata v'shirata, tushb'chata v'nechemata, daamiran b'alma. V'imru: Amen.

Exalted and hallowed be God's great name in the world which God created, according to plan. May God's majesty be revealed in the days of our lifetime and the life of all Israel —speedily, imminently, to which we say Amen. Blessed Be God's great name to all eternity. Blessed, praised, honored, exalted, extolled, glorified, adored, and lauded be the name of the Holy Blessed One, beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise, and comfort. To which we say Amen.

READINGS AND SONGS OF REFLECTION

To everything there is a season,
And 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 simply.*

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
God, 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, Adonai, and bring us back towards You.
Revive our lives, as at the beginning.*

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

HASHIVEINU

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ, יי, אֵלֶיךָ – וְנָשׁוּבָה. חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם.

Hashiveinu, Adonai, eilecha — v'nashuvah. Chadeish yameinu k'kedem.

Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul

Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul

Return to what you are, return to who you are, return to where you are

Born and reborn again...

Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul...

How can I love You, who are so far away?

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, my 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.

— From the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Machzor

KI ANU AMECHA

כִּי אָנוּ עַמְךָ, וְאַתָּה מַלְכֵנוּ. *Ki anu amecha, atah malkeynu*

אָנוּ בְנֵיךָ, וְאַתָּה אָבִינוּ. *Anu vanecha, v'atah avinu*

אָנוּ נַחֲלָתֶךָ, וְאַתָּה גּוֹרְלֵנוּ. *Anu nachalatecha, v'atah goraleynu*

אָנוּ צֹאנֶךָ, וְאַתָּה רוֹעֵנוּ. *Anu tzonecha, v'atah ro-aynu*

אָנוּ כְּרֹמֶךָ, וְאַתָּה נוֹטְרֵנוּ. *Anu carmecha, v'atah notraynu*

אָנוּ רַעֲיָתֶךָ, וְאַתָּה דוֹדֵנוּ. *Anu ra'yatecha, v'atah dodeynu*

KI ANU AMECHA

We are Your people
You are our Guide
We are your children,
You are our Parent.
We are Your possession,
You are our Portion.
We are Your flock,
You are our Shepherd.
We are Your beloved,
You are our Friend.

THE SONG OF GOD'S PRESENCE

I've not seen the robin but I know he is there
Because I heard him singing through my window from the tree-top outside.
I have not seen God. But I have looked at my child's eye,
And have been overwhelmed by the miracle of unfolding life.
I have watched the trees bedeck themselves with new garbs of
Green in the spring, and have been stirred by the miracle of continual rebirth.
I have looked at the stars, and have been overcome by the
Miracle of the grandeur and majesty of the universe.
I know that God exists, because I have heard the song of God's Presence
From all the tree-tops of creation.

Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser

ELI, ELI

אֵלֵי אֵלֵי, שְׁלֵא יִגְמַר לְעוֹלָם: *Eli Eli, shelo yigameir l'olam:*
הַחֹל וְהַיָּם, רִשְׁרוּשׁ שֶׁל הַמַּיִם, *Hachol v'hayam, rishrush shel hamayim,*
בְּרַק הַשָּׁמַיִם, תְּפִילַת הָאָדָם. *b'rak hashamayim, t'filat haadam.*

*O God, my God, I pray that these things never end
The sand and the sea, the rush of the waters
The crash of the heavens, the prayer of the heart.*

THIS DAY OF THE YEAR

At this time of the year,
Let my heart be open
To every broken spirit,
To those who try my patience,
To those I have wronged and hurt,
To those groping and lonely in the shadows.

Let my senses be open
To bearers of wisdom and new light,
Awakening me to behold anew
This green, flowering world,
That I may grasp the secret
Of blossoming into blessing,

Turning frustration into forgiveness,
And forgiveness into love
Without expectation of reward.

Essence of my life,
Urge me to honesty,
Judge me in mercy,
Bend me into giving,
Guide me in this turning of the year.

From the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Machzor

RETURN AGAIN

*Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul
Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul
Return to what you are, return to who you are, return to where you are
Born and reborn again...
Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul...*

AVINU MALKEINU

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, שְׁמַע קוֹלֵנוּ.

Avinu Malkeinu, sh'ma koleinu.

Avinu Malkeinu — Almighty and Merciful — hear our voice.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חָטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ.

Avinu Malkeinu, chatanu l'fanecha.

Avinu Malkeinu,— we have strayed and sinned before You.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חָמַל עָלֵינוּ וְעַל עוֹלָלֵנוּ וְטַפֵּינוּ.

Avinu Malkeinu, chamol aleinu v'al olaleinu v'tapeinu.

Avinu Malkeinu — have compassion on us and our families.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כִּלְיָה דְּבַר וְחָרֵב וְרָעַב מֵעָלֵינוּ.

Avinu Malkeinu, kaleih dever v'cherev v'raav mei aleinu.

Avinu Malkeinu — halt the onslaught of sickness, violence, and hunger.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כִּלְיָה כָּל צָר וּמִשְׁטִין מֵעָלֵינוּ.

Avinu Malkeinu, kaleih kol tzar umastin mei aleinu.

Avinu Malkeinu — halt the reign of those who cause pain and terror.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, כְּתִבְנוּ בְּסֵפֶר חַיִּים טוֹבִים.

Avinu Malkeinu, kotveinu b'sefer chayim tovim.

Avinu Malkeinu — enter our names in the Book of Lives Well Lived.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חֲדָשׁ עָלֵינוּ שָׁנָה טוֹבָה.

Avinu Malkeinu, chadeish aleinu shanah tovah.

Avinu Malkeinu — renew for us a year of goodness.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ, חֲנִינוּ וְעִנְנוּ, כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד, וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ.

Avinu Malkeinu, choneinu vaaneinu; ki ein banu maasim. Aseih imanu tz'dakah vachessed, v'hoshieinu.

Avinu Malkeinu — Almighty and Merciful — answer us with grace, for our deeds are wanting. Save us through acts of justice and love.

A PRAYER FOR LIFE

Source of all life, 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 inscribed in the Book of Life.

But even as we pray that years may be added to our lives, we ask, too, 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 store of knowledge.

Help us to keep our hearts alive. May we develop greater compassion, be receptive to new friendships, sustain a buoyant enthusiasm, grow more sensitive to the beauty which surrounds 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 to 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.

Rabbi Sidney Greenberg

SHOMEIR YISRAEL

שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל, שְׁמֹר שְׂאֵרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, *Shomeir Yisrael, sh'mor sh'eirit Yisrael,*
וְאֵל יִבְדּוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל, *v'al yovad Yisrael*
הַאֲזִמְרִים שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל. *haomrim sh'ma Yisrael.*

שׁוֹמֵר גּוֹי אֶחָד *Shomeir goi echad*
שְׁמֹר שְׂאֵרֵי אֶם אֶחָד *sh'mor sh'eirit am echad*
וְאֵל יִבְדּוּ גּוֹי אֶחָד *v'al yovad goi echad*
הַמְיַחֲדִים שְׁמַח *ham'yachadim shimcha*
יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְיָ אֶחָד. *Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai echad.*

Guardian of Israel, guard the remnant of Israel.
Let Israel not perish, those who say "Sh'ma Yisrael."

Guardian of the unique people, guard the remnant of that people.
Let that people not perish, those who proclaim the Oneness of Your Name.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SINS

Our God, God of our mothers and fathers, grant that our prayers may reach You. Do not be deaf to our pleas, for we are not so arrogant and stiff-necked as to say before You, we are perfect and have not sinned; rather do we confess: we have gone astray, we have sinned, we have transgressed.

CONFESSION

We have all committed offenses; together we confess these human sins.

We are

Arrogant

Brutal

Careless

Destructive

Egocentric

False

Greedy

Heartless

Insolent

Joyless

We are keen to see the faults of others,

But loathe to correct our own...

Our sins are an alphabet of woe.

אֲשַׁמְנוּ, בָּגַדְנוּ, גָּזַלְנוּ, דִּבַּרְנוּ דָּפִי. הֶעֱוִינוּ, וְהִרְשַׁעְנוּ, וְזָדְנוּ, חָמַסְנוּ, טָפַלְנוּ שָׂקָר. יַעֲצֹנוּ רָע, כִּזְבְּנוּ,
לָצַנוּ, מָרַדְנוּ, נָאֲצֹנוּ, סָרַרְנוּ, עֹוִינוּ, פָּשַׁעְנוּ, צָרַרְנוּ, קִשִּׁינוּ עֵרָף. רִשְׁעָנוּ, שַׁחַתְנוּ, תַּעֲבָנוּ, תַּעֲיִנוּ,
תַּעֲתֵנוּ.

*Ashamnu, bagadnu, gazalnu, dibarnu dofi. He-evinu, v'hirshanu, zadnu, chamasnu, tafalnu shaker.
Yaatznu ra, kizavnu, latznu, maradnu, niatznu, sararnu, avinu, pashanu, tzararnu, kishinu oref.
Rashanu, shichatnu, tiavnu, ta-inu, titanu.*

AL CHET — WAYS WE HAVE WRONGED

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּאִנּוּס וּבְרָצוֹן.
Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'ones uvratzon.

The sin we have committed against You under duress or by choice.

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּזִדּוֹן וּבְשִׁגְגָה.
Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'zadon uvishgagah.

The sin we have committed against You consciously or unconsciously.

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּגִלּוּי וּבְסֵתֵר.
Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha bagalui uvasater.

The sin we have committed against You openly or secretly.

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּשִׂנְאֵת חִנָּם.
Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'sinat chinam.

The sin we have committed against You by hating without cause.

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּמִשָּׂא וּבְמַתָּן.
Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'masah u'v'matan.

The sin we have committed against You by dishonesty in business.

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ בְּהוֹנָאת רֵעַ.
Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'hona'at rei-ah.

The sin we have committed against You by hurting others in any way.

For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement.

We have sinned against life by failing to work for peace.

We have sinned against life by keeping silent in the face of injustice.

We have sinned against life by ignoring those who suffer in distant lands.

We have sinned against life by forgetting the poor in our own midst.

We have failed to respect those made in the image of God.

We have withheld our love from those who depend on us.

We have engaged in gossip and in repeated slander.

We have distorted the truth for our own advantages.

We have conformed to fashion and not to conscience.

We have indulged in despair and trafficked with cynics.

We have given meager support to our Houses of Study.

We have neglected our heritage of learning.

We have sinned against ourselves and paid scant heed to the life of the spirit.

We have sinned against ourselves and not risen to fulfill the best that is in us.

For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement.

וְעַל כָּלֵם, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת, סְלַח לָנוּ, מַחַל לָנוּ, בְּפֶרֶן לָנוּ.

V'al kulam, Elo-ah s'lichot, s'lach lanu, m'chal lanu, kaper-lanu.

HASHIVEINU

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ, יי, אֵלֶיךָ – וְנָשׁוּבָה. חֲדֵשׁ יָמֵינוּ בְּקֶדֶם.

Hashiveinu, Adonai, eilecha — v'nashuvah. Chadeish yameinu k'kedem.

Help us to return to You, O God; then truly shall we return.

Renew our days as in the past.

RETURN AGAIN

Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul

Return again, return again, return to the land of your soul

Return to what you are, return to who you are, return to where you are

Born and reborn again...

תְּקִיָּה גְדוֹלָה

T'kiah G'dolah

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה

L'shana Tova