

High Holidays 2020

Concluding Prayers



RECONSTRUCTING JUDAISM

Deeply rooted. Boldly relevant.

In order to support this year's socially distanced High Holiday season, Reconstructing Judaism is making this excerpt from the *Mahzor Leyamim Nora'im: Prayerbook for the Days of Awe* available without cost. We hope that providing this excerpt will help make your at-home High Holidays observances uniquely meaningful.

We are grateful for the efforts of Rabbi Amy Loewenthal for producing this excerpt in tandem with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association under the leadership of Rabbi Elyse Wechterman.

If you are in a position to do so, please consider a gift to support Reconstructing Judaism's movement of accessible, inclusive Judaism. Your support will allow us to continue providing free resources like this one, in addition to training the next generation of rabbis, leading in Jewish innovation, and connecting our communities across the globe. To make a gift, [please visit our website](#).

MAKE A GIFT TODAY

If you would like to purchase a hardbound copy of this *Mahzor Leyamim Nora'im: Prayerbook for the Days of Awe*, [please visit the Reconstructionist Press](#).

BUY MAHZOR

HAPPY NEW YEAR • SHANAH TOVAH • שנה טובה

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

KADDISH TITKABAL / KADDISH FOR THE COMPLETION OF PRAYER

Reader: Let God's name be made great and holy in the world that was created as God willed. May God complete the holy realm in your own lifetime, in your days, and in the days of all the house of Israel, quickly and soon. And say: Amen.

Congregation: May God's great name be blessed forever and as long as worlds endure.

Reader: May it be blessed, and praised, and glorified, and held in honor, viewed with awe, embellished, and revered; and may the blessed name of holiness be hailed, though it be higher by far than all the blessings, songs, praises, and consolations that we utter in this world. And say: Amen.

During Rosh Hashanah Musaf, some communities sound the shofar here.

Tekiyah	Shevarim	Teruah	Tekiyah
Tekiyah	Shevarim		Tekiyah
Tekiyah	Teruah		Tekiyah Gedolah

And may the prayer and supplication of the whole house of Israel be acceptable to their creator in the heavens. And say: Amen.

May Heaven grant a universal peace, and life for us, and for all Israel. And say: Amen.

May the one who creates harmony above make peace for us and for all Israel, and for all who dwell on earth. And say: Amen.

On the evening of Rosh Hashanah continue with Kiddush, page 1197. Otherwise continue with Aleynu, page 1201.

קדיש תתקבל

יִתְגַּדֵּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְּרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ וְיִמְלִיךָ
מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעֵגְלָא וּבְזִמְן
קָרִיב וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלַם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא:
יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה
וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקֻדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא
לְעֵלָא לְעֵלָא מְכַל בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמַתָּא דְאַמִּירָן
בְּעֵלְמָא וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

During Rosh Hashanah Musaf, some communities sound the shofar here.

תְּקִיעָה שְׁבָרִים תְּרוּעָה תְּקִיעָה
תְּקִיעָה שְׁבָרִים תְּרוּעָה תְּקִיעָה
תְּקִיעָה שְׁבָרִים תְּרוּעָה תְּקִיעָה גְּדוּלָּה

תִּתְקַבֵּל צְלוֹתָהוֹן וּבְעוּתָהוֹן דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל קֳדָם אַבּוּהוֹן דִּי
בְּשַׁמְיָא וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:
יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמְרוּ
אָמֵן:
עוֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְמֵיּוּ הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל
כָּל יוֹשְׁבֵי תֵבֶל וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Yehey shemey raba mevarah le'alam ulalmey almaya.

Oseh shalom bimromav hu ya'aseh shalom aleynu ve'al kol
yisra'el ve'al kol yoshvey tevel ve'imru amen.

*On the evening of Rosh Hashanah, continue with Kiddush, page 1198. Otherwise continue
with Aleynu, page 1202.*



KIDDUSH LEYL ROSH HASHANAH / KIDDUSH FOR ROSH HASHANAH EVE

A full wine cup is lifted. On Shabbat, add the words in parenthesis.

With the permission of this company:

Blessed are you, THE BOUNDLESS ONE, our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who creates the fruit of the vine.

Blessed are you, THE HOLY ONE our God, the sovereign of all the worlds, who has called us to your service and made us holy with your mitzvot, and given us, KIND ONE, our God, in love this day of (the Shabbat, and of) remembering, a day for (calling to mind) the sounding of the shofar (with love), a holy convocation, a remembrance of the going-out from Egypt. For you called to us and made us holy for your service, and your word is truth and stands forever.

Blessed are you, ETERNAL ONE, who raises up to holiness (Shabbat,) the people Israel and the Day of Memory. ↪



קדוש ליל ראש השנה

A full cup of wine is lifted. On Shabbat add the words in parenthesis.

סְבִרֵי חֲבֵרֵי:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִרְאָנוּ לְעִבּוּדְתּוֹ
וְרוֹמַמָּנוּ בְּקִדְשׁוֹ וְקִדְשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו: וְתַתֵּן-לָנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
בְּאַהֲבָה אֶת יוֹם (הַשַּׁבָּת הַזֶּה וְאֶת יוֹם) הַזְכָּרוֹן הַזֶּה יוֹם (זְכוֹרוֹן)
תְּרוּעָה (בְּאַהֲבָה) מִקְרָא קֹדֶשׁ זָכָר לִיצִיאַת מִצְרָיִם: כִּי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
קִרְאָת וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדְשָׁתָ לְעִבּוּדְךָ וּדְבָרְךָ אָמֵת וְקִיָּם לְעַד: בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה
יְיָ מֶלֶךְ עַל כָּל הָאָרֶץ מִקְדָּשׁ (הַשַּׁבָּת וְ) יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיוֹם
הַזְכָּרוֹן: ←

Savrey haveray.

Baruh atah adonay eloheynu meleḥ ha'olam borey peri hagafen.
Baruh atah adonay eloheynu meleḥ ha'olam asher kera'anu
la'avodato veromemanu bikdushato vekideshanu bemitzvotav.

Vatiten lanu adonay eloheynu be'ahavah et yom (hashabbat
hazeh ve'et yom) hazikaron hazeh yom (ziḥron) teruah
(be'ahavah) mikra kodesh zeḥer litzi'at mitzrayim. Ki eleynu
karata ve'otanu kidashta la'avodateḥa udevareḥa emet vekayam
la'ad. Baruh atah adonay meleḥ al kol ha'arets mekadash
(hashabbat ve)yisra'el veyom hazikaron. ↪

On Saturday night while lifting one's hands toward the festival lights, add:

(Blessed are you, THE RADIANCE, our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who creates the light of fire.

Blessed are you, THE MANY-NAMED our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who separates between holy and ordinary, light and dark, the seventh day and the six days of work. You separated between Shabbat holiness and festival holiness, you set apart the seventh day from the six days of work, and you sanctified Israel with your holiness. Blessed are you, INEXPRESSIBLE, who distinguishes among the kinds of holiness.)

Blessed are you, ETERNAL ONE, our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who gave us life, and kept us strong, and brought us to this time.

On Saturday night while lifting one's hands toward the festival lights, add:

(ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא מְאוּרֵי הָאֵשׁ:
ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם הַמְבָדִיל בֵּין קָדֵשׁ לְחֹל בֵּין
אור לְחֹשֶׁךְ בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי לְשֵׁשֶׁת יָמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה: בֵּין קִדְשֵׁת שְׂפָת
לְקִדְשֵׁת יוֹם טוֹב הַבְּדִלָתָּ וְאֵת יוֹם הַשְּׂבִיעִי מְשִׁשֶׁת יָמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה
קִדְשָׁתָּ: אֶת־עַמְּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל קִדְשָׁתָּ בְּקִדְשָׁתְךָ: בּוֹרֵךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה
הַמְבָדִיל בֵּין קָדֵשׁ לְחֹשֶׁךְ:)

(Baruh atah adonay eloheynu meleḥ ha'olam borey me'orey
ha'esh.

Baruh atah adonay eloheynu meleḥ ha'olam hamavdil beyn
kodesh leḥol beyn or leḥosheḥ beyn yom hashevi'i leshešet
yemey hama'aseh. Beyn kedushat shabbat likdushat yom tov
hivdalta ve'et yom hashevi'i misheshet yemey hama'aseh
kidashta. Et ameha yisra'el kidashta bikdushateha. Baruh atah
adonay hamavdil beyn kodesh lekodesh.)

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ וְהַגִּיעָנוּ
לְזִמַּן הַזֶּה:

ALEYNU

We rise for Aleynu. It is customary to bow at "bend the knee." For an alternative version see page 1207. Choose one of the following:

It is up to us to offer praises to the Source of all,
to declare the greatness of the author of Creation,
who gave to us teachings of truth
and planted eternal life within us.



It is up to us to offer praises to the Source of all,
to declare the greatness of the author of Creation,
who created heaven's heights and spread out its expanse,
who laid the earth's foundation and brought forth its offspring,
giving life to all its peoples,
the breath of life to all who walk about. ↩

COMMENTARY. This *mahzor* offers several versions of the *Aleynu*. The first, which appeared in the 1945 Reconstructionist *siddur*, emphasizes that the gift of God's Torah or teaching demands our committed response. The second version, based on Isaiah 42:5 and fit into the *Aleynu* by Rabbi Max D. Klein, emphasizes that our obligation to God flows from our role as part of Creation. The traditional *Aleynu* that appears below the line has troubled Reconstructionist Jews because it implies the inferiority of other faiths and peoples.

D.A.T.

עלינו

We rise for Aleynu. It is customary to bow at "korim." For an alternative version, see page 1207. Choose one of the following.

Aleynu leshabe'ah la'adon hakol
latet gedulah leyotzer bereyshit
shenatan lanu torat emet
vehayey olam nata betohenu.

עלינו לשבח לאדון הכל
לתת גדלה ליוצר בראשית
שנתן לנו תורת אמת
וחיי עולם נטע בתוכנו:

Continue on page 1204.

Aleynu leshabe'ah la'adon hakol
latet gedulah leyotzer bereyshit.
bore hashamayim venoteyhem
roka ha'aretz vetze'etza'eha
noten neshamah la'am aleha
veru'ah laholehim bah. ↩

עלינו לשבח לאדון הכל
לתת גדלה ליוצר בראשית
בורא השמים ונוטיהם
רקע הארץ וצאצאיה
ניתן נשמה לעם עליה
ורוח להלכים בה: ←

Continue on page 1204.

עלינו לשבח לאדון הכל לתת גדלה
ליוצר בראשית שלא עשנו כגווי
הארצות ולא שמנו כמשפחות האדמה
שלא שם חלקנו בהם וגורלנו ככל
המונם:

It is up to us to offer praises to the Source of all, to declare the greatness of the author of Creation, who has made us different from the other nations of the earth, and situated us in quite a different spot, and made our daily lot another kind from theirs, and given us a destiny uncommon in this world.

And so, we bend the knee and bow,
acknowledging the sovereign who rules
above all those who rule, the blessed Holy One,
who stretched out the heavens and founded the earth,
whose realm embraces heaven's heights,
whose mighty presence stalks celestial ramparts.
This is our God; there is none else besides,
as it is written in the Torah:
"You shall know this day, and bring it home
inside your heart, that THE SUPREME ONE is God
in the heavens above and on the earth below.
There is no other God." ↩

DERASH. Every person and people that feel they have something to live for, and that are bent on living that life in righteousness, are true witnesses of God.

M.M.K.

KAVANAH. As the hand held before the eye hides the tallest mountain, so this small earthly life hides from our gaze the vast radiance and secrets of which the world is full, and if we can take life from before our eyes, as one takes away one's hand, we will see the great radiance within the world.

M.B. (Adapted)

וְיָדַעְתָּ...עוֹד / You...other God (Deuteronomy 4:39).

וְאַנְחֵנוּ כּוֹרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים וּמוֹדִים לְפָנֶי מֶלֶךְ מַלְכֵי הַמַּלְכִּים
הַקָּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא:
שֶׁהוּא נוֹטֶה שָׁמַיִם וְיוֹסֵד אֶרֶץ וּמוֹשֵׁב יִקְרֶה בְּשָׁמַיִם מַמְעַל וּשְׂכִינָת
עֻזוֹ בְּגִבְיָהּ מְרוֹמִים: הוּא אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֵין עוֹד: אָמֵת מִלְּפָנֶינוּ אָפֶס
זוּלָתוֹ פְּכָתוּב בְּתוֹרָתוֹ: וַיִּדְעָתָ הַיּוֹם וַהֲשַׁבְתָּ אֶל לְבָבְךָ כִּי יְהוָה
הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים בְּשָׁמַיִם מַמְעַל וְעַל הָאֶרֶץ מִתְחַת אֵין עוֹד: ←

Va'anahnu korim umishtaḥavim umodim
lifney meleḥ malḥey hamelaḥim hakadosh baruch hu.
Shehu noteh shamayim veyosed aretz umoshav yekaro
bashamayim mima'al
ush-ḥinat uzo begovhey meromim.
Hu eloheynu eyn od.
Emet malkenu efes zulato kakatuv betorato.
Veyadata hayom vahashevota el levavecha
ki adonay hu ha'elohim bashamayim mima'al ve'al ha'aretz
mitaḥat eyn od.

NOTE. The *Aleynu* prayer, which signals the imminent conclusion of a service, originated in the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah. Originally recited annually, the *Aleynu* eventually moved into the daily liturgy as well, perhaps due to its eloquent appeal for a time of universal peace.

COMMENTARY. The imagery of sovereignty before which “we bend the knee and bow” often seems alien, even alienating, to modern Jews, for whom the notion of submission appears as an affront to their autonomy. Yet we know that there are some things in our world—moral absolutes, ethical imperatives, communal consensus, and the calling of conscience among them—before which we must in fact yield in acknowledgment. It is, perhaps, not a bad thing to be reminded on occasion that for all of our accomplishments, the mystery of life and death and the compelling nature of divinity are not so easily dismissed.

R.H.

And so, we put our hope in you,
THE EMINENCE, our God,
that soon we may behold
the full splendor of your might,
and see idolatry vanish from the earth,
and all material gods be swept away,
and the power of your rule repair the world,
and all creatures of flesh call on your name,
and all the wicked of the earth turn back to you.
Let all who dwell upon the globe perceive and know
that to you each knee must bend, each tongue swear oath,
and let them give the glory of your name its precious due.
Let all of them take upon themselves your rule.
Reign over them, soon and for always.
For this is all your realm, throughout all worlds, across all
time—
as it is written in your Torah:
“THE ETERNAL ONE will reign now and forever.”

And it is written:
“THE EVERLASTING ONE will reign
as sovereign over all the earth.
On that day shall THE MANY NAMED be one,
God’s name be one!”

KAVANAH. A world of God-callers is a world of truth and peace, a world where the lust for power, greed, and envy—the idols of pride—is uprooted from the individual and group psyche. S.P.W.

DERASH. When senseless hatred reigns on earth and people hide their faces from one another, then heaven is forced to hide its face. But when love comes to rule the earth and people reveal their faces to one another, then the splendor of God will be revealed. M.B. (Adapted)

DERASH. It is not the seeking after God that divides but the claim to have found God and to have discovered the only proper way of obeying God and communing with God. M.M.K. (Adapted)

עַל כֵּן נִקְוָה לָךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְרֹאוֹת מְהֵרָה בְּתַפְאֶרֶת עֲדָךְ לְהַעֲבִיר
גְּלוּלִים מִן הָאָרֶץ וְהַאֲלִילִים כְּרוֹת יִכְרְתוּן לְתַקֵּן עוֹלָם בְּמַלְכוּת
שְׁדֵי: וְכָל בְּנֵי בֶשֶׁר יִקְרְאוּ בְשִׁמְךָ: לְהַפְנוֹת אֵלֶיךָ כָּל רִשְׁעֵי אָרֶץ:
יִפְּיֵרוּ וַיִּדְעוּ כָּל יוֹשְׁבֵי תְּבֵל כִּי לָךְ תִּכְרַע כָּל בָּרֶךְ תִּשָּׁבַע כָּל־לִשׁוֹן:
לְפָנֶיךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יִכְרְעוּ וַיִּפְּלוּ וְלִכְבוֹד שִׁמְךָ יִקָּר יִתְּנוּ וַיִּקְבְּלוּ
כָּל־אֶת עַל מַלְכוּתְךָ וְתִמְלֹךְ עֲלֵיהֶם מְהֵרָה לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד: כִּי
הַמַּלְכוּת שֶׁלָּךְ הִיא וְלְעוֹלָמִי עַד תִּמְלֹךְ בְּכַבוֹד כְּפִתּוּב בְּתוֹרָתְךָ:
יְהוָה יִמְלֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד: וְנֹאמַר: וְהָיָה יְהוָה לְמֶלֶךְ עַל כָּל הָאָרֶץ
בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יְהִיָּה יְהוָה אֶחָד וְשִׁמוֹ אֶחָד:

Kakaturv betorateha: Adonay yimloḥ le'olam va'ed.

Vene'emar: Vehayah adonay lemeleḥ al kol ha'arets.

Bayom hahu yihyeh adonay eḥad ushmo eḥad.

DERASH. Maybe God and perfection are at the end, and not at the beginning. Maybe it is a growing world and a growing humanity and a growing God, and perfection is to be achieved, not something to start out with. Our own prophets and prayer books seem to have had an inkling of this. At culminating points in our liturgy we say a phrase borrowed from one of the last prophets (Zechariah 14:9), "On that day God will be One, and God's name shall be One." On that day, not as yet, alas, but surely on that day God shall be One, as God is not yet One. For how can God be called One, i.e., real, if humanity is rent asunder in misery and poverty and hate and war? When humankind has achieved its own reality and unity, it will thereby have achieved God's reality and unity. Till then, God is merely an idea, an ideal: the world's history consists in making that ideal real. In simple religious earnestness it can be said that God does not exist. Till now God merely subsists in the vision of a few great hearts, and exists only in part, and is slowly being translated into reality.

Henry Slonimsky (Adapted)

ועד / THE ETERNAL ONE... forever (Exodus 15:18).

אחד / THE EVERLASTING ONE...one (Zechariah 14:9).

ALTERNATIVE VERSION

It is up to us
to hallow Creation,
to respond to Life
with the fullness of our lives.

It is up to us
to meet the World,
to embrace the Whole
even as we wrestle
with its parts.

It is up to us
to repair the World
and to bind our lives to Truth.

Therefore we bend the knee
and shake off the stiffness that keeps us
from the subtle
graces of Life
and the supple
gestures of Love.

With reverence
and thanksgiving
we accept our destiny
and set for ourselves
the task of redemption.

Rami M. Shapiro

* *

And then all that has divided us will merge
And then compassion will be wedded to power
And then softness will come to a world that is harsh and unkind
And then both men and women will be gentle
And then both women and men will be strong
And then no person will be subject to another's will
And then all will be rich and free and varied
And then the greed of some will give way to the needs of many
And then all will share equally in the Earth's abundance
And then all will care for the sick and the weak and the old
And then all will nourish the young
And then all will cherish life's creatures
And then all will live in harmony with each other and the Earth
And then everywhere will be called Eden once again.

Judy Chicago

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 flying once more towards the south.

The animals are beginning to turn

To storing their food for the winter.

For leaves, birds, and animals

Turning comes instinctively,

But for us, turning does not come so easily.

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

It means breaking with old habits,

It means admitting that we have been wrong.

And this is never easy.

It means losing face.

It means starting all over again,

And this is always painful.

It means saying, "I am sorry."

It means recognizing 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.

Therefore, may we find the strength to turn

From callousness to sensitivity,

From hostility to love,

From pettiness to purpose, from envy to contentment,

From carelessness to discipline, from fear to trust.

May we turn ourselves around and toward all that is noble,

true and life-affirming to revive our lives, as at the beginning.

Then may we turn toward one another,

For in isolation there is no life.

Jack Riemer (Adapted)

On the Pulse of Morning

A Rock, A River, A Tree
Hosts to species long since departed,
Marked the mastodon,
The dinosaur, who left dried tokens
Of their sojourn here
On our planet floor,
Any broad alarm of their hastening doom
Is lost in the gloom of dust and ages.

But today, the Rock cries out to us, clearly, forcefully,
Come, you may stand upon my
Back and face your distant destiny,
But seek no haven in my shadow.
I will give you no hiding place down here.

You, created only a little lower than
The angels, have crouched too long in
The bruising darkness
Have lain too long
Face down in ignorance.
Your mouths spilling words

Armed for slaughter.
The Rock cries out to us today, you may stand upon me,
But do not hide your face.

Across the wall of the world,
A River sings a beautiful song. It says,
Come, rest here by my side. ↪

Each of you, a bordered country,
Delicate and strangely made proud,
Yet thrusting perpetually under siege.
Your armed struggles for profit
Have left collars of waste upon
My shore, currents of debris upon my breast.
Yet today I call you to my riverside,
If you will study war no more. Come,
Clad in peace, and I will sing the songs
The Creator gave to me when I and the
Tree and the Rock were one.
Before cynicism was a bloody scar across your
Brow and when you yet knew you still
Knew nothing.
The River sang and sings on.

There is a true yearning to respond to
The African, the Native American, the Sioux,
The Catholic, the Muslim, the French, the Greek
The Irish, the Rabbi, the Priest, the Sheik,
The Gay, the Straight, the Preacher,
The privileged, the homeless, the Teacher.
They hear. They all hear
The speaking of the Tree.

They hear the first and last of every Tree
Speak to humankind today. Come to me, here beside the River.
Plant yourself beside the River.

Each of you, descendant of some passed
On traveller, has been paid for.
You, who gave me my first name, you, ↩

Pawnee, Apache, Seneca, you
Cherokee Nation, who rested with me, then
Forced on bloody feet,
Left me to the employment of
Other seekers—desperate for gain,
Starving for gold.

You the Ashanti, the Yoruba, the Kru, bought
Sold, stolen, arriving on the nightmare
Praying for a dream.
Here, root yourselves beside me.
I am that Tree planted by the River,
Which will not be moved:
I, the Rock, I, the River, I, the Tree
I am yours—your passages have been paid.
Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need
For this bright morning dawning for you.
History, despite its wrenching pain,
Cannot be unlived, but if faced
With courage, need not be lived again.

Lift up your eyes upon
This day breaking for you.
Give birth again
To the dream.

Women, children, men,
Take it into the palms of your hands,
Mold it into the shape of your most
Private need. Sculpt it into
The image of your most public self.
Lift up your hearts
Each new hour holds new chances
For a new beginning. ↪

Do not be wedded forever
To fear, yoked eternally
To brutishness.

The horizon leans forward,
Offering you space to place new steps of change.
Here, on the pulse of this fine day
You may have the courage
To look up and out and upon me, the
Rock, the River, the Tree, your country.
No less to Midas than the mendicant.
No less to you now than the mastodon then.

Here, on the pulse of this new day
You may have the grace to look up and out
And into your sister's eyes, and into
Your brother's face, your country
And say simply
Very simply
With hope—
Good morning.

Maya Angelou

In Praise of The Living

Yitgadal veyitkadash shemey raba

This profound praise of the living
Praise for the generous gift of life.

Praise for the presence of loved ones,
the bonds of friendship, the link of memory.

Praise for the toil and searching,
the dedication and visions, the ennobling aspirations.

Praise for the precious moorings of faith,
for courageous souls, for prophets, psalmists, and sages.

Praise for those who walked before us,
the sufferers in the valley of shadows,
the steadfast in the furnace of hate.

Praise for the God of our fathers,
the Source of all growth and goodness,
the Promise of which we build tomorrow.

Yitgadal veyitkadash shemey raba

This, the profound praise we offer.
Praise for the generous gift of life.

Harvey J. Fields

KAVANAH. Our relationship to those who have come before us does not end at the time of their death. The relationship continues, taking many forms. It can continue through our experience of universal sadness. It can continue through our sense of noble righteousness. It can continue through our understanding of the integrity of memory. It can continue through our surrender to pure joy. Kaddish affirms that our connection with our loved ones is continuous and everlasting.

D.B.

INTRODUCTION TO THE MOURNERS' KADDISH

In reciting the Kaddish we affirm our awareness of holiness in our world. Much of our experience of divine goodness, grace and love has come to us through those whose lives have touched our own. (Today we remember...) We invoke the transcendent power of love and caring as we sanctify God's name.

THE MOURNERS' KADDISH

It is customary for mourners, and those observing Yahrzeit, to stand for Kaddish. In some congregations everyone rises.

Reader: Let God's name be made great and holy in the world that was created as God willed. May God complete the holy realm in your own lifetime, in your days, and in the days of all the house of Israel, quickly and soon. And say: Amen.

Congregation: May God's great name be blessed, forever and as long as worlds endure.

Reader: May it be blessed, and praised, and glorified, and held in honor, viewed with awe, embellished, and revered; and may the blessed name of holiness be hailed, though it be higher by far than all the blessings, songs, praises, and consolations that we utter in this world. And say: Amen.

May Heaven grant a universal peace, and life for us, and for all Israel. And say: Amen.

May the one who creates harmony above, make peace for us and for all Israel, and for all who dwell on earth. And say: Amen.

NOTE. Congregations usually mention the names of congregants and their relatives who have died in the previous week before reciting the Mourners' Kaddish. In many congregations a *Yahrzeit* list is read as well. In more informal settings the leader sometimes invites those present to speak the names of those they wish to be remembered. D.A.T.

קדיש יתום

It is customary for mourners, and those observing Yahrzeit, to stand for Kaddish. In some congregations everyone rises.

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא בְּעָלְמָא דִּי בְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ וְיִמְלִיךְ
מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיֵּינוּ וּבְיוֹמֵינוּ וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעָגְלָא וּבְזִמָּן
קָרִיב וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלַם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמָיָא:

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה
וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקָדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא
לְעָלָא לְעָלָא מְכָל בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא וְנַחֲמַתָּא דְאִמְרִין
בְּעָלְמָא וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמָיָא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמְרוּ
אָמֵן:

עוֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוֵמֵינוּ הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל
כָּל יוֹשְׁבֵי תֵיבֵל וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Yitgadal veyitkadash shemey raba
be'alma di vera hirutey veyamlih malhutey
behayeyhon uvyomeyhon uvhayey dehol beyt yisra'el
ba'agala uvizman kariv ve'imru amen.

Yehey shemey raba mevarah le'alam ulalmey almaya.

Yitbarah veyishtabah veyitpa'ar veyitromam veyitnasey
veyit-hadar veyitaleh veyit-halal shemey dekudsha berih hu
le'ela le'ela mikol birhata veshirata
tushbe'hata venehemata da'amiran be'alma ve'imru amen.

Yehey shelama raba min shemaya vehayim aleynu ve'al kol
yisra'el ve'imru amen.

Oseh shalom bimromav hu ya'aseh shalom aleynu ve'al kol
yisra'el ve'al kol yoshvey tevel ve'imru amen.

The following psalm is traditionally recited each morning and evening—from Rosh Hodesh Elul through Hoshana Rabah.

[A psalm] of David

THE ETERNAL is my light and my salvation; whom, then, should I fear?

THE ALMIGHTY is my living source of strength; before whom should I tremble?

When evildoers approach to eat my flesh, when tormenters and enemies come after me,
see how they stumble; see how they tumble down!

Should a force encamp against me, my heart shall have no fear;
should a war arise against me, in one thing I shall trust,
one thing have I asked of GOD, one goal do I pursue: to dwell
in THE ETERNAL's house throughout my days,
to know the bliss of THE SUBLIME, to visit in God's temple.

Truly, in a day of trouble, I am nestled in God's shelter, hidden
in the recess of God's tent. God sets me high upon a rock. ↪

KAVANAH. It is only a true and close community that develops associations, traditions and memories that go to make up its soul. To mingle one's personality with that soul becomes a natural longing. In such a community one experiences that mystic divine grace which, like radiant sunshine, illumines our lives when joyous and, like balm, heals them when wounded or stricken. Then all questions about saying this or that become trivial, for the real purpose is attained in having each one feel with the Psalmist: "One thing I ask of God that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of God all the days of my life, to behold the graciousness of God."

M.M.K. (Adapted)

לְדָוִד

יהוה אֲדָרִי וַיִּשְׁעֵי מִמִּי אִירָא:
 יהוה מְעוֹז־חַיִּי מִמִּי אֶפְחָד:
 בִּקְרֹב עָלַי מְרַעִים לֶאֱכֹל אֶת־בִּשְׂרִי
 צָרִי וְאִיבִי לִי הֵמָּה כָּשְׁלוּ וַנִּפְּלוּ:
 אִם־תִּחְנֶנָּה עָלַי מִחְנָה לֹא־יִירָא לְבִי
 אִם־תִּקְוֶם עָלַי מִלֶּחֶמָה בְּזֹאת אֲנִי בּוֹטֵחַ:
 אַחַת שְׁאַלְתִּי מֵאֵת־יְהוָה אוֹתָהּ אֲבַקֵּשׁ
 שְׁבִתִּי בְּבֵית־יְהוָה כָּל־יְמֵי חַיִּי לַחַזוֹת בְּנִעַם־יְהוָה וּלְבַקֵּר בְּהִיכָלוֹ:
 כִּי יִצְפְּנִי בְּסֻכּוֹ בַּיּוֹם רָעָה יִסְתִּירֵנִי בְּסִתָּר אֹהֱלוֹ בְּצוּר יְרוּמִינִי: —

Ahat sha'alti me'et adonay otah avakesh shivti beveyt adonay kol
 yemey hayay la hazot beno'am adonay ulevaker beheyallo.

COMMENTARY. Many Jews recite this psalm every day between the first of Elul and the end of Sukkot. The rabbis doubtless chose it to accompany us through every phase of the fall holiday season because it encompasses such a range of powerful emotions. Identifying with the experience of the speaker can help us at various moments to get in touch with our fears of abandonment, our need for security, our yearning for joyful religious experience, our need for guidance from God, our steadying commitment never to lose hope. Above all, we experience the psalmist's vulnerability. Feeling that it is possible to be hidden and secure within God's presence, the psalmist also knows, by contrast, the terrible fear that God can hide the divine countenance and seem utterly unavailable. The psalm delicately balances these two kinds of hiddenness, as it seeks a "level path," the right way of moving in a difficult, dangerous world. The psalm ends by urging that we cling to the hope that comes from connection to יהוה, the One of Being and Becoming, in whose presence all life unfolds. H.L.

And now, my head is raised in triumph on my foes around me,
and I offer sacrifice in celebration in God's tent.

I offer song and melody to MY REDEEMER.

Hear me, PRECIOUS ONE, I call aloud;
be gracious to me, answer me!

To you my heart cries out, to you my face is turned;
your presence, GRACIOUS ONE, I seek.

Hide not your face from me; do not, in anger, turn away your
servant.

You have been my help, don't shun me now; do not abandon
me, my God who saves!

For my father and my mother have abandoned me,
but THE LIVING ONE shall take me in.

Teach me your way, WISE ONE, and guide me in a just path as I
meet my foes.

Don't place me at the mercy of my enemies, for slanderers arise
against me, and they fume in violence.

Were it not for my belief that I'll behold GOD's goodness in the
Land of Life...

Hope, then, for THE ETERNAL ONE; strengthen your heart with
courage, and have hope in THE ETERNAL.

Psalm 27

וַעֲמָה יְרוֹם רֹאשִׁי עַל אֵיבֵי סְבִיבוֹתַי וְאֶזְבְּחָהּ בְּאַהֲלוֹ זִבְחֵי תְרוּמָה
אֲשִׁירָה וְאֶזְמָרָה לַיהוָה:
שְׁמַע־יְהוָה קוֹלִי אֶקְרָא וְחַנּוּנִי וַעֲנֵנִי:
לֵךְ אָמַר לְבִי בְקֶשׁוֹ פָנַי אֶת־פָּנֶיךָ יְהוָה אֲבַקֵּשׁ:
אֶל־תִּסָּתֵר פָּנֶיךָ מִמֶּנִּי אֶל תִּטְּבֵאֵךְ עֲבֹדְךָ
עֲזַרְתִּי הָיִיתָ אֶל־תִּשְׁשֵׁנִי וְאֶל־תַּעֲזֹבֵנִי אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׁעִי:
כִּי־אֲבִי וְאִמִּי עֲזָבוּנִי וַיהוָה יֶאֱסָפֵנִי:
הוֹרֵנִי יְהוָה בְּרֶכֶךָ וּנְחֵנִי בְּאַרְחַ מִישׁוֹר לְמַעַן שׁוֹרְרֵי:
אֶל־תִּתְּנֵנִי בְּנַפֶּשׁ צָרִי כִּי קָמוּ־בִי עֲדֵי־שֹׁקֵר וַיִּפְחַ חֲמָס:
* לֹיֵלָא הָאֱמָנָתִי לְרֹאוֹת בְּטוֹב־יְהוָה בְּאַרְץ חַיִּים:
קוֹה אֶל־יְהוָה חֲזַק וַיֵּאֱמַץ לִבֶּךָ וְקוֹה אֶל־יְהוָה:

For my father and my mother have abandoned me, but THE LIVING ONE shall take me in. Everything human is imperfect and finite—even my parents—who were to me as gods when I was a young child. As I mature, I realize that only in sensing my connection to the ground of being and becoming, the perfect and infinite, can I ever fully feel safe. S.P.W.

Were it not for my belief that I'll behold God's goodness in the land of life... This line is a fragment—the beginning of a thought stranded in mid-air which I refuse to complete. I don't want to put into words or visualize a life without faith. It would be like the end of the verse—an empty chasm. S.P.W.

Today, give us courage and strength.	Amen!
Today, give us blessing.	Amen!
Today, give us goodness.	Amen!
Today, seek our welfare and good.	Amen!
Today, write us down for a good life.	Amen!
Today, please hearken to our cry.	Amen!
Today, accept with mercy and good will our prayer.	Amen!
Today, may your right hand keep us safe.	Amen!
Today, forgive and pardon all our sins.	Amen!

On a day like today,
 may you bring us, joyful and glad,
 to the completion of our reconstruction.
 As is written by your prophet's hand:
 "And I shall bring you to my holy mountain,
 and you shall celebrate there inside my house of prayer...
 For my home shall then be called
 a house of prayer for all peoples!"

And may we and all the people Israel,
 and all who dwell on earth,
 enjoy justice and blessing,
 lovingkindness, life, and peace,
 until eternity.

COMMENTARY. The היום/*Hayom*/Today is the crowning prayer of the High Holy Day liturgy. Its power stems not only from its fresh and energetic sense of hope and from its beautiful music; it comes also from the powerful awareness that what matters is Today, the powerful commitment of this moment. The challenge of the High Holy Days is in part to remember that when tomorrow comes, it too will be Today. The hope of this moment, every moment, lies in the knowledge that when tomorrow comes it will be Today. If we live in the possibility of this moment, Today is more than enough. D.A.T.

אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תֵּאֲמָצֵנוּ :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּבְרַכֵּנוּ :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּגְדֹּלֵנוּ :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּדְרָשְׁנוּ לְטוֹבָה :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּכְתִּבְנוּ לַחַיִּים טוֹבִים :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּשְׁמַע שְׁוַעֲתֵנוּ :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּקְבֹּל בְּרַחֲמִים וּבְרָצוֹן אֶת־תְּפִלָּתֵנוּ :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּתְמַכֵּנוּ בִּימִין צְדָקָה :
אָמֵן :	הַיּוֹם תִּמְחַל וְתִסְלַח לְכָל עֲוֹנוֹתֵינוּ :

Hayom te'amtzenu.	Amen.
Hayom tevar <h>u</h> enu.	Amen.
Hayom tegadlenu.	Amen.
Hayom tidreshenu letovah.	Amen.
Hayom tihtevenu lehayim tovim.	Amen.
Hayom tishma shavatenu.	Amen.
Hayom tekabel beraḥamim uveratzon et tefilatenu.	Amen.
Hayom titmehenu bimin tzidkeḥa.	Amen.
Hayom timḥol vetislaḥ leḥol avonotenu.	Amen.

כְּהַיּוֹם הַזֶּה תִּבְיָאֵנוּ שְׁשִׁים וּשְׁמֹנִים בְּבִנְיָן שָׁלֵם כְּפָתוּב עַל־יַד
נְבִיאָךְ : וְהִבִּיאוּתָיִם אֶל־הַר קְדוֹשִׁי וּשְׁמֹחָתַיִם בְּבֵית תְּפִלָּתִי... כִּי
בֵיתִי בֵית־תְּפִלָּה יִקְרָא לְכָל־הָעַמִּים : וּצְדָקָה וּבְרָכָה וּרְחֻמִּים וְחַיִּים
וְשָׁלוֹם יִהְיֶה־לָּנוּ וּלְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל וּלְכָל־יְיֹשְׁבֵי תֵיבֵל עַד עוֹלָם :

And...peoples (Isaiah 56:7). / והביאותים...לכל-העמים

ADON OLAM / CROWN OF ALL TIME

This translation can be sung to the same melody as the Hebrew.

Crown of all time, the one who reigned
before all mortal shape was made,
and when God's will brought forth all things
then was the name supreme proclaimed.

And after everything is gone,
yet One alone, awesome, will reign.
God was, and is, and will remain,
in splendid balance, over all.

And God is One, no second is,
none can compare, or share God's place.
Without beginning, without end,
God's is all might and royal grace.

This is my God, my help who lives,
refuge from pain in time of trial,
my banner, and my place to fly,
my cup's portion when, dry, I cry.

To God's kind hand I pledge my soul
each time I sleep, again to wake,
and with my soul, this body, here.
YAH'S love is mine; I shall not fear.

KAVANAH. God is that aspect of reality which elicits from us the best that is
in us and enables us to bear the worst that can befall us. M.M.K.

אָדוֹן עוֹלָם

אָדוֹן עוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר מָלַךְ	בְּטָרֶם כָּל יַצִּיר נִבְרָא:
לַעֲת נַעֲשֶׂה בְּחִפְצוֹ כָּל	אֲזַי מָלַךְ שָׁמוּ נִקְרָא:
וְאַחֲרֵי כָכָלוֹת הַכֹּל	לְבָדּוֹ יִמְלֹךְ נוֹרָא:
וְהוּא הָיָה וְהוּא הוּהָ	וְהוּא יִהְיֶה בְּתַפְאָרָה:
וְהוּא אֶחָד וְאֵין שְׁנֵי	לְהַמְשִׁיל לוֹ לְהַחֲבִירָה:
בְּלִי רֵאשִׁית בְּלִי תַכְלִית	וְלוֹ הָעֵז וְהַמְשָׁרָה:
וְהוּא אֵלִי וְחִי גּוֹאֲלִי	וְצוּר חֲבִלִי בַּעַת צָרָה:
וְהוּא נָסִי וּמָנוֹס לִי	מִנַּת כּוֹסֵי בְיוֹם אֶקְרָא:
בְּיָדּוֹ אֶפְקִיד רוּחִי	בַּעַת אִישָׁן וְאַעֲרִירָה:
וְעַם רוּחִי גְוִיָּתִי	יְהוּה לִי וְלֹא אִירָא:

Adon olam asher malah, beterem kol yetzir nivra.
 Le'et na'asah veheftzo kol, azay meleh shemo nikra.
 Ve'aharey kihlot hakol, levado yimlohe nora.
 Vehu hayah vehu hoveh, vehu yihyeh betifarah.
 Vehu ehad ve'eyn sheni, lehamshil lo leha**h**birah.
 Beli reshit beli tahlit, velo ha'oz vehamisrah.
 Vehu eli vehay go'ali, vetzur hevli be'et tzarah.
 Vehu nisi umanos li, menat kosi beyom ekra.
 Beyado afkid ruhi, be'et ishan ve'a'irah.
 Ve'im ruhi geviyati, adonay li velo ira.

YIGDAL / GREAT IS . . .

This translation can be sung to the same melody as the Hebrew.

Great is the living God,
to whom we give our praise,
who is, and whose great being
is timeless, without days,
the One, to whom in oneness
no one can compare,
invisible, in unity
unbounded, everywhere,

Who has no body's form,
has no material dress,
nor can we find the likeness
of God's awesome holiness,
more ancient than all things
brought forth in creation,
the first of everything that is,
Beginning unbegun!

Behold the supreme being,
whose universal power,
whose greatness and whose rule
all creatures shall declare,
whose flow of prophecy
was granted to a few,
the treasured ones who stood amid
God's splendor ever new. ↪

יגְדַל

נִמְצָא וְאֵין עֵת אֶל מְצִאוֹתוֹ:	יגְדַל אֱלֹהִים חַי וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח
נַעֲלָם וְגַם אֵין סוֹף לְאַחֲדוּתוֹ:	אֶחָד וְאֵין יַחֲיד כְּיָחֹדוֹ
לֹא נַעֲרוֹף אֵלָיו קִדְשָׁתוֹ:	אֵין לוֹ דְּמוּת הַגּוֹף וְאֵינוֹ גּוֹף
רִאשׁוֹן וְאֵין רִאשִׁית לְרִאשִׁיתוֹ:	קִדְמוֹן לְכָל דָּבָר אֲשֶׁר נִבְרָא
יִזְרֶה גְדֻלָּתוֹ וּמַלְכוּתוֹ:	הֵנוּ אֲדוֹן עוֹלָם וְכָל נוֹצָר
אֲנָשִׁי סִגְלָתוֹ וְתַפְאֲרָתוֹ: ←	שֹׁפֵעַ נְבוֹאָתוֹ נִתְּנוֹ אֶל

Yigdal elohim hay veyishtabah, nimtza ve'eyn et el metzi'uto.
Ehad ve'eyn yahid keyihudo, nelam vegam eyn sof le'ahduto.

Eyn lo demut haguf ve'eyno guf, lo na'aroh elav kedushato.
Kadmon leh'ol davar asher nivra, rishon ve'eyn reyshit
lereyshito.

Hino adon olam veh'ol notzar, yoreh gedulato umalhuto.
Shefa nevu'ato netano, el anshey segulato vetifar-to. ↪

NOTE. *Yigdal* was written by Daniel ben Judah, a fourteenth-century poet. He based it upon Maimonides's Thirteen Articles of Faith. We have attempted to make the closing line more acceptable to the contemporary worshipper by referring to the sustenance of life, rather than resurrection of the dead, as the true testimony of God's blessing. A.G.

In Israel none arose
as prophet like Mosheh,
a prophet who would come to see
the “image” in the *sneh*.
Torah of truth God gave
the people Isra’el,
by truest prophet’s hand
that in God’s house would dwell.

And God will never let
the Torah pass away,
its doctrine will not change,
but through all change will stay.
God sees and knows all things,
and even what we hide,
can look upon how things begin
the end of things to find.

Rewarding acts of love,
when love for love we’ll find,
and paying to all wickedness
a recompense in kind,
God shall deliver all,
upon the end of time,
redeeming all who wait for God,
who for salvation pine.

God wakes all beings to life,
abundant love shall reign,
blessed evermore,
the glory of God’s Name!

נָבִיא וּמַבִּיט אֶת תְּמוּנָתוֹ:	לֹא קָם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל כְּמֹשֶׁה עוֹד
עַל יַד נְבִיאָו נָאֵמַן בֵּיתוֹ:	תּוֹרַת אֱמֶת נָתַן לְעַמּוֹ אֵל
דָּתוֹ לְעוֹלָמִים לְזוּלָתוֹ:	לֹא יַחְלִיף הָאֵל וְלֹא יִמִּיר
מַבִּיט לְסוֹף דְּבַר בְּקִדְמָתוֹ:	צוּפֶה וַיּוֹדַע סִתְרֵינוּ
יִתֵּן לְרָשָׁע רָע כְּרָשָׁעָתוֹ:	גּוֹמֵל לְאִישׁ חֶסֶד כְּמַפְעָלוֹ
לְפָדוֹת מַחְפֵּי קֶץ יְשׁוּעָתוֹ:	יִשְׁלַח לְקֶץ יָמִין גְּאֻלָּתוֹ
בְּרוּךְ עֲדֵי עַד שֵׁם תְּהִלָּתוֹ:	חַיִּים מְכַלְכֵּל אֵל בָּרַב חֶסֶדוֹ

Lo kam beyisra'el kemosheh od, navi umabit et temunato.
 Torat emet natan le'amo el, al yad nevi'o ne'eman beyto.
 Lo yahalif ha'el velo yamir dato, le'olamim lezulato.
 Tzofeh veyode'a setareynu, mabit lesuf davar bekadmato.
 Gomel le'ish hesed kemifalo, yiten lerasha ra kerishato.
 Yishlah leketz yamin ge'ulato, lifdot meḥakey ketz yeshu'ato.
 Ḥayim meḥalkel el berov ḥasdo, baruh adey ad shem tehilato.

לֹא קָם בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל כְּמֹשֶׁה עוֹד / חַיִּים מְכַלְכֵּל אֵל / God wakes all beings to life. The original version of this line was מַתִּים יַחֲיֶה אֵל / God revives the dead. It was changed to the version above in the 1945 *siddur* which, like this *mahzor*, avoids references to revival of the dead for ideological reasons. This change paralleled those in the second blessing of the Amidah. D.A.T.

בְּסֵפֶר חַיִּים בְּרָכָה וְשָׁלוֹם וּפְרֻנָּסָה טוֹבָה נִזְכָּר וְנִפְתָּח לְפָנֶיךָ אֲנַחְנוּ
וְכָל-עַמֶּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים וְלִשְׁלוֹם:

In the book of life, blessing, peace, and proper sustenance, may
we be remembered and inscribed, we and all your people, the
house of Israel, for a good life and for peace.



THE PROMISE OF THIS DAY

Look to this day,
For it is life,
The very life of life.
In its brief course lie all
The realities and verities of existence,
The bliss of growth,
The splendor of action,
The glory of power—

For yesterday is but a dream,
And tomorrow is only a vision.
But today, well lived,
Makes every yesterday a dream of happiness
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.

Look well, therefore, to this day.

Sanskrit Proverb

A GUIDE TO GREETINGS

During the month of Elul, the traditional greetings are *Shanah tovah* (“A good year”); or *Leshanah tovah tikatevu* (“May you be inscribed for a good year [in the Book of Life]”); or *Leshanah tovah umetukah tikatevu* (“May you be inscribed for a good and sweet year”); or—less common—*Ketivah tovah* (“A good inscription [in the Book of Life]”).

The appropriate response: *Gam leha* (feminine *lah*)—“The same to you.”

Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, some people add to the above: *Leshanah tovah tikatevu vetehatemu* (“May you be inscribed and sealed for a good life”). Others use these greetings only through the first night of Rosh Hashanah; after that, it would be indelicate to suggest that a person is not already inscribed in the Book of Life, for on Rosh Hashanah all the righteous are so inscribed—only those whose records are closely balanced between good and bad have their fate postponed until Yom Kippur.

On Yom Kippur (and until Hoshana Rabah) the greeting is *Gemar hatimah tovah* (“A good final sealing [to you]!”) or *Ĥatimah tovah* (“A sealing for good!”).

Michael Strassfeld