

Welcoming in the New Year Together as a Community

Candle Lighting for Rosh Hashanah 5785



After we light the candles, we wave our hands in three circles to symbolically bring the light closer to us, and then cover our eyes while we say the blessing. When the blessing is over, take a moment of silent reflection with your eyes covered, and then open your eyes and enjoy the beauty of candlelight, bringing you into the new year.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל (שַׁבָּת וְשָׁל) יוֹם טוֹב.

Ba-ruch ata Adon-nai Elo-hei-nu melech ha-olam asher ki-de-sha-nu be-mits-votav ve-tsi-va-nu le-had-lik neir shel (shabbat ve-shel) Yom Tov.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has made our lives holy with mitzvot, and commanded us to light the Shabbat and festival candles.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנָהּ.

Ba-ruch a-ta A-do-Nai e-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-che-ya-nu ve-ki-ye-ma-nu ve-hi-gi-a-nu laz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe who has given us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this day.

Rosh Hashanah Blessings for Children (& Other Beloveds!)

Place your hands on the head of the person you are blessing. Offer your blessing either aloud or silently.

In addition to the traditional words, you may also wish to add personal blessings for the new year.

Seal it with a kiss.

Traditionally for sons:

Yesimkha Elohim k'Efrayim vekhi'Menasheh.

May God make you like Ephraim and Menasheh.

Traditionally for daughters:

Yesimeikh Elohim k'Sarah Rivka Rakhel v'Leah.

May God make you like Sara, Rebekah, Rachel, and Leah.

Gender-neutral version:

May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Leah, Ephraim and Menashe.

Conclude with:

Y'varekhekha Adonai v'yishmerekha

Ya-er Adonai panav elekha vihuneka

Yisa Adonai panav elekha, v' yasem l'kha shalom.

May Adonai bless you and watch over you.

May Adonai's light shine on you and be gracious to you.

May Adonai smile on you and grant you peace.



Kiddush for Rosh Hashanah Evening 5785

(holding the cup)

Ba-ruch a-ta A-do-nai, E-lo-hei-nu
me-lech ha-o-lam,
bo-rei pe-ri ha-ga-fen.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵי פְרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

(the following paragraph may be added to the Kiddush)

Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu
me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher
ba-char ba-nu mi-kol am,
ve-ro-me-ma-nu mi-kol la-shon
ve-ki-de-sha-nu be-mits-vo-tav.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר
בָּחַר בָּנוּ מִכָּל־עַם,
וְרוֹמַמְנוּ מִכָּל־לָשׁוֹן,
וְקִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו.

Va-ti-ten la-nu, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu,
be-a-ha-va et yom
(ha-sha-bat ha-zeh, ve-et yom)
ha-zi-ka-ron ha-zeh, yom te-ru-a,
mik-ra ko-desh, ze-cher li-tsi-at
Mits-ra-yim.

וַתִּתֵּן לָנוּ, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
בְּאַהֲבָה אֶת־יוֹם
(הַשַּׁבָּת הַזֶּה, וְאֶת־יוֹם)
הַזְכָּרוֹן הַזֶּה, יוֹם תְּרוּעָה,
מִקְרָא קֹדֶשׁ זֵכֶר לְיִצְיַאת
מִצְרָיִם.

Ki va-nu va-char-ta ve-o-ta-nu
ki-dash-ta
mi-kol ha-a-mim, u-de-va-re-cha e-met
ve-ka-yam la-ad.

כִּי־בָנוּ בְּחַרְתָּ וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדְּשָׁתָּ
מִכָּל הָעַמִּים, וְדִבַּרְתָּ אִמֶּת
וְקַיִם לְעַד.

Ba-ruch a-ta, A-do-nai me-lech al
kol h-a-rets, me-ka-deish
(ha-sha-bat ve-) Yis-ra-eil ve-yom
ha-zi-ka-ron.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי מֶלֶךְ עַל
כָּל־הָאָרֶץ, מְקַדֵּשׁ
(הַשַּׁבָּת וְ)יִשְׂרָאֵל וְיוֹם
הַזְכָּרוֹן.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of the fruit of the vine. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who has made our lives holy with Your mitzvot. You gave us, Adonai our God, in love, this Day of Remembrance, a day for the sounding of the shofar, a sacred convocation, a commemoration of the Exodus from Egypt. Blessed are You, Ruler over all the earth, who sanctifies Israel and the Day of Remembrance.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנָן
הַזֶּה.

Ba-ruch a-ta A-do-Nai e-lo-hei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-che-ya-nu ve-ki-ye-ma-nu ve-hi-gi-a-nu laz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe who has given us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this day.

Blessing for a Sweet New Year



The quintessential Rosh Hashanah treat is apples and honey. Take a sweet, crisp, apple and dip it in some honey. Before eating we say a blessing and a *kavvanah*/intention, hoping that the year to come will be a *shanah tovah u'metukah*, good and sweet! Pick up a slice of apple, dip it in honey, and say:

Barukh atah Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha'olam borei pri ha-eitz.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the Universe, Creator of the fruit of the tree.

*Yehi ratzon lifanecha, Adonai Eloheinu, v'Elohai avoteinu v'imoteinu,
she'te'hadesh aleinu shanah tovah u'metukah.*

May it be Your will, Eternal our God, and God of our mothers and fathers,
that this be a good and sweet year for us.

[Eat the apple dipped in honey]



HaMotzi Blessing

On Rosh Hashanah the challah is in the shape of a circle, to symbolize the circle of time, and the fullness of the year that is coming. Many people eat raisin challah on Rosh Hashanah, and drizzle honey on top of it, for extra sweetness.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ

*Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha'olam,
hamotzi lekhem min ha-aretz.*

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who brings forth bread from the earth.





Tashlich



Created more than six hundred years ago, *Tashlich* (which literally means “you shall cast off”) is the custom of going to a place with naturally flowing water, such as a creek or river, on the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah (or later that week) and symbolically casting off our sins by tossing small items into the water. For environmental reasons, it is best not to use bread, but to toss natural elements such as nearby pebbles, twigs, or small fallen leaves.

Read the following passages:

“Is there any power save You who forgives the sins and pardons the transgressions of Your people? You do not maintain anger forever, for You delight in love. You will return to us compassionately, overcoming the consequences of our sin...**v'tashlich beam'tzulot yam kol hatotam - hurling our sins into the depths of the sea.** You will keep faith with Jacob, showing enduring love to Abraham, as You promised our ancestors in days of old. - Micah 7:18-20

“None shall hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain, for the love of Adonai shall fill the earth as the waters fill the sea” – Isaiah 11:19

Today we come to this body of water to perform the *tashlich* ceremony, seeking symbolically to “cast away” our accumulated sins and transgressions, to send away our unworthy thoughts, so that we may purify our hearts and our souls as the new year begins.

A Prayer for *Tashlikh* by Rabbi Rachel Barenblat

Here I am again ready to let go of my mistakes.
Help me to release myself from all the ways I've missed the mark.
Help me to stop carrying the karmic baggage of my poor choices.
As I cast this bread upon the waters lift my troubles off my shoulders.
Help me to know that last year is over, washed away like crumbs in the current.
Open my heart to blessing and gratitude. Renew my soul as the dew renews the grasses. *Amen.*

[Now, in quiet and at your own pace, take a few small pebbles or twigs in your hand and walk to the water's edge. There, shake your hand empty three times into the water. Each time, remember and name (aloud or to yourself) an aspect of your behavior you wish to “cast away.” When you are finished, stand meditatively for a few moments and then, if you are with a group, join with others to sing *Avinu Malkenu*.]

Avinu Malkeinu choneinu va'aneinu (2x) ki ein banu ma'asim.

Aseh imanu tzedakah vachessed - Aseh imanu tzedakah vachessed, v'hoshi'enu. (repeat)

*Avinu, Malkeinu, graciously answer us, although we are undeserving;
Deal with us charitably and lovingly save us.*

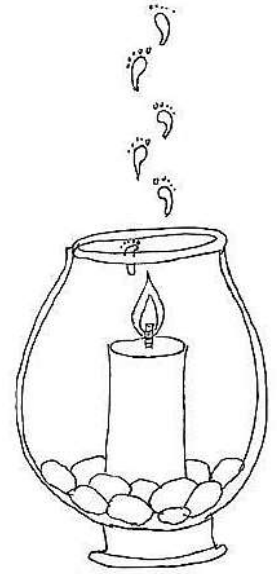
Yom Kippur 5785

Lighting a Yahrzeit candle

There are stars whose radiance is visible on earth
though they have long been extinct.
There are people whose brilliance continues to light the world
though they are no longer among the living.
These lights are particularly bright when the night is dark.
They light the way for humankind. - Karen Crane

*Ner zeh anu madlikim l'zichram shel kol ha'ahuvim shelanu.
Yehi zichram baruch.*

We light this candle in memory of all our loved ones.
May their memory be a blessing.



Art by Jessica Tamar Deutsch

Lighting Yom Kippur Candles

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של יום טוב

*Barukh atah Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha'olam
asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel yom tov.*

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe,
who has sanctified us with Your mitzvot, and commanded us
to light the festival candles.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעַנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה

*Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha'olam,
shehecheyanu, v'kiymanu, v'higiyanu la'z'man ha'zeh*

Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe who has given us life,
sustained us, and enabled us to reach this day.

At the Close of Yom Kippur 5785

Shavua tov! A guteh vokh! Now that we feel renewed and reborn, after a long (perhaps exhausting, but meaningful) day, what shall we do? Eat and drink a bit, of course. And then...tradition teaches that we should immediately begin building our sukkah! The intensity of the Days of Awe leads right into Sukkot, our most joyous festival. On the back of this page is the BTS Fall Holiday 5785 Calendar. Join us as we celebrate Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah together!