



Yom Kippur Afternoon

Thursday, September 16, 2021 / תשפ"ב 5782

B'nai Zion Congregation
Shreveport, Louisiana
www.BnaiZionCongregation.org

Intro

How does one find the Eternal God?
In heaven and earth,
In a clap of thunder,
in a whisper of the soul,
In praise on yellowed parchment
in an ancient tongue,
In yearning of the heart,
in a child not yet born.

Blessed is the One Who Is.

“Bless the Eternal One,
O my soul.”

When we see a pleasing sculpture,
we say:

Blessed is the one who shaped it!

*The world is pleasing:
Blessed the Presence that shaped it,
Blessed the One who fashioned it
with a word!*

Taste of tears and wine,
sight of starry skies,
Old men's voices warping the chant,
children singing,
scientists asking, artists proclaiming:

Blessed the One Who Will Be.

Even for the sake of
one righteous person,
The world would have been created.
And one good man, one good
woman,
can keep the world from perishing.

*The righteous one is the foundation
of the world.*

At this hour Israel stands
before its God:
in our prayers, in our hope,
we are one with all Jews on earth.

*This people You have formed
still lives to tell Your praise.*

Today we say to our children:
See this sublime design,
which was revealed
at the very beginning,
and which from age to age
was realized.

See this people, few in number,
to the world unknown,
declaring at the
beginning of history
what will be its history
see this people choose the mission
which chooses it
in the way it has foretold.
See this people.

*This people You have formed
still lives to tell Your praise.*

To our friends we say:
See this people,
exiled twice and twice surviving,
teaching in its first exile
the unity of God and,
in its second, the oneness
of humankind.
Know this people.

*This people Israel lives to tell
God's praise,
men's hopes,
women's dreams.*

**Congregation Israel:
Can you not see
an Eternal Presence abiding
with your people?
Can you not see in your past
a story told for all peoples,
whose shining conclusion
has yet to unfold?**

*This people lives
when it lives
God's praise.*

At this hour
Israel stands before
its God.
In our prayers,
in our hope,
we are one with
all Jews on earth.
We look into each other's faces,
and we know
who we are.

O that I might be
A servant unto Thee,
Thou God by all adored!
Then, though by friends outcast,
Thy hand would hold me fast,
And draw me near to Thee, my hope restored.

Spirit and flesh are Thine,
O Heavenly Shepherd mine;
My hopes, my thoughts, my fears, Thou seest all,
Thou measurest my path, my steps dost know.
When Thou upholdest, who can make me fall?
When Thou restrainest, who can bid me go?

O that I might be
A servant unto Thee,
Thou God by all adored!

We pray that we might know
before whom we stand:
the Power whose gift is life,
who quickens those who have
forgotten how to live.

We pray for winds to disperse
the choking air of sadness,
for cleansing rains to make
parched hopes flower,
and to give all of us the strength
to rise up toward the sun.

We pray for love to encompass us
for no other reason save
we are human –
that we may all blossom
into persons who have
gained power over our own lives.

We pray to stand upright, we fallen;
to be healed, we sufferers;
we pray to break the bonds
that keep us from the
world of beauty;
we pray for opened eyes,
we who are blind to
our authentic selves.

We pray that we may walk
in the garden of a purposeful life,
our own powers in touch
with the power of the world.

תְּפִלָּה

T'FILAH

ADONAI, s'fatai tiftach,
ufi yagid t'hilatecha.

אֲדֹנָי, שְׁפֹתַי תִּפְתָּח,
וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ.

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

BARUCH atah, Adonai Eloheinu
v'Elohei avoteinu v'imoteinu, Elohei
Avraham, Elohei Yitzchak v'Elohei Yaakov,
Elohei Sarah, Elohei Rivkah, Elohei
Rachel v'Elohei Leah. Ha-El hagadol
hagibor v'hanora, El elyon, gomeil
chasadim tovim, v'koneih hakol, v'zocheir
chasdei avot v'imahot, umeivi g'ulah
livnei v'neihem l'maan sh'mo b'ahavah.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ
וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵי
אַבְרָהָם, אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב,
אֱלֹהֵי שָׂרָה, אֱלֹהֵי רִבְקָה, אֱלֹהֵי
רָחֵל וְאֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל
הַגִּבּוֹר וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֲלִיוֹן, גּוֹמֵל
חַסְדִּים טוֹבִים, וְקוֹנֵה הַכֹּל, וְזוֹכֵר
חַסְדֵי אֲבוֹת וְאִמּוֹת, וּמְבִיא גְאֻלָּה
לְבָנָי בְּנִיחָם לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה.

You are the Source of blessing,
Adonai, our God and God of our
fathers and mothers: God of
Abraham, God of Isaac, and God
of Jacob; God of Sarah, God of
Rebecca, God of Leah, and God
of Rachel; exalted God, dynamic
in power, inspiring awe, God
sublime, Creator of all — yet You
offer us kindness, recall the loving
deeds of our fathers and mothers,
and bring redemption to their
children's children, acting in love
for the sake of Your name.

זְכֹרֵנוּ לְחַיִּים,
מֶלֶךְ חָפֵץ בַּחַיִּים.
וּכְתֹבנוּ בְּסֵפֶר הַחַיִּים,
לְמַעַן אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים.

Zochreinu l'chayim,

Melech chafeitz bachayim.

V'chotveinu b'sefer hachayim,

l'maancha, Elohim chayim.

**Remember us for life, sovereign God
who treasures life.**

**Inscribe us in the Book of Life,
for Your sake, God of life.**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי,
מִגֵּן אַבְרָהָם וְעֵזְרַת שָׂרָה.

Baruch atah Adonai,
magein avraham, v'ezrat sarah.

**Blessed are You in our lives, Adonai,
Shield of Abraham,
Sustainer of Sarah.**

Your life-giving power is forever,
Adonai — with us in life
and in death.

You liberate and save,
cause dew to descend;
and with mercy abundant,
lovingly nurture all life.

From life to death, You are the force
that flows without end — You
support the falling, heal the sick,
free the imprisoned and confined;
You are faithful, even to those who
rest in the dust.

Power-beyond-Power,
from whom salvation springs,
Sovereign over life and death —
who is like You?

Merciful God,
who compares with You?

With tender compassion
You remember all creatures for life.

Faithful and true,
worthy of our trust — You sustain
our immortal yearnings;
in You we place our undying hopes.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, מְחַיֵּה הַכּוֹל־הַמֵּיִתִים.

Baruch atah, Adonai, m'chayeih hakol/hameitim.

**Wellspring of blessing,
Power eternal,
You are the One who
gives and renews all life.**

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, our God and God of all ages, we are perfect and have not sinned; rather do we confess: we have gone astray, we have sinned, we have transgressed.

אֲשַׁמְנוּ, בַּגַּדְנוּ, גַּזַּלְנוּ, דִּבַּרְנוּ דּוֹפִי.
הֶעֵוִינוּ, וְהִרְשָׁעְנוּ, זָדְנוּ, חָמַסְנוּ,
טַפַּלְנוּ שֶׁקֶר. יַעֲצֵנוּ רָע, כִּזְבְּנוּ,
לָצְנוּ, מָרַדְנוּ, נִאֲצָנוּ, סָרַרְנוּ, עֵוִינוּ,
פָּשַׁעְנוּ, צָרַרְנוּ, קִשִּׁינוּ עֵרֶף. רָשַׁעְנוּ,
שִׁחַתְנוּ, תִּעַבְנוּ, תִּעִינוּ, תַּעֲתֵעְנוּ.

Ashamnu, bagadnu, gazalnu, dibarnu dofi.

He·evinu, v'hirshanu, zadnu, chamasnu,

tafalnu sheker. Yaatznu ra, kizavnu,

latznu, maradnu, niatznu, sararnu, avinu,

pashanu, tzararnu, kishinu oref. Rashanu,

shichatnu, tiavnu, ta·inu, titanu.

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

*The sins of arrogance, bigotry, and
cynicism; of deceit and egotism,
flattery and greed, injustice and
jealousy.*

Some of us kept grudges, were
lustful, malicious, or narrowminded.

*Others were obstinate or possessive,
quarrelsome, rancorous, or selfish.*

There was violence, weakness of
will, xenophobia.

*We yielded to temptation, and
showed zeal for bad causes.*

We have turned aside from Your commandments and from Your precepts, and it has not availed us. You are just, whatever befalls us: You call us to righteousness, but we bring evil upon ourselves.

You know the secrets of the universe and the secrets of the human heart. You know and understand us, for You examine our inner lives. Nothing is concealed from You, nothing hidden from Your sight. Eternal One, our God and God of our ancestors, we pray that this be Your will: forgive all our wrongs, pardon us for every act of injustice, help us atone for all our moral failures.²⁶

For these sins, our God, we ask forgiveness:

עַל הַחַטָּא שֶׁחַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּזָדוֹן וּבְשִׁגְגָה,
וְעַל הַחַטָּא שֶׁחַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּדַבּוּר פֶּה.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'zadon uvishgagah;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'dibur peh.

*The ways we have wronged You
deliberately and by mistake; and
harm we have caused in Your world
through the words of our mouths.*

עַל חַטָּא שְׁחַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּאִמּוּץ הַלֵּב,
וְעַל חַטָּא שְׁחַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּטִפְשׁוֹת פֶּה.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'imutz halev;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'tifshut peh.

*The ways we have wronged You by
hardening our hearts; and harm we
have caused in Your world through
careless speech.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּכַחַשׁ וּבְכַזָּב,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּרַכִּילוּת.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'chachash uvchazav;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

birchilut.

*The ways we have wronged You
through lies and deceit; and harm
we have caused in Your world
through gossip and rumor.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּפִלְלוּת,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּזִלְזוּל הוֹרִים וּמוֹרִים.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

biflilut;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'zilzul horim umorim.

*The ways we have wronged You by
judging others unfairly; and harm we
have caused in Your world through
disrespect to parents and teachers.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּוִדּוּי פֶּה,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּהוֹנֵאת רֵעַ.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'vidui peh;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'honaat rei·a.

*The ways we have wronged You
through insincere apologies; and
harm we have caused in Your world
by mistreating a friend or neighbor.*

עַל חַטָּא שְׁחַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּחֹזֶק יָד,
וְעַל חַטָּא שְׁחַטָּאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּמַשָּׂא וּבְמַתָּן.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'chozek yad,

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'masa uvmatan.

*The ways we have wronged You
through violence and abuse; and
harm we have caused in Your world
through dishonesty in business.*

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

V'al kulam, Elo·ah s'lichot,

s'lach lanu, m'chal lanu, kaper-lanu.

**For all these failures
of judgment and will,
God of forgiveness — forgive us,
pardon us, lead us to atonement.**

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בַּגְלוּי וּבִסְתֵּה,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחָטָאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בַּפְּרִיקַת עַל.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

bagalui uvasater;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

bifrikat ol.

*The ways we have wronged You
openly and secretly; and harm
we have caused in Your world
by losing self-control.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּגִלּוּי עֲרִיזוֹת,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּמֵאֲכָל וּבְמִשְׁתֵּה.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'gilui arayot;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'maachal uvmishteh.

*The ways we have wronged You
through sexual immorality; and
harm we have caused
in Your world through
consumption of food and drink.*

עַל הַטָּא שְׁחַטְאֵנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בִּיצֵר הָרָע,
וְעַל הַטָּא שְׁחַטְאֵנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּנֶשֶׁךְ וּבַמַּרְבִּית.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'yeitzer hara;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'neshech uvmarbit.

*The ways we have wronged You by
giving in to our hostile impulses; and
harm we have caused in Your world
through greed and exploitation.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּלָצוֹן,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּבִטְיַת גָּרוֹן.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'latzon;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

bintiyat garon.

*The ways we have wronged You
through cynicism and scorn; and
harm we have caused in Your
world through arrogant behavior.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּשִׁנְאֵת חִנָּם,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּטִמְאַת שְׁפָתַיִם.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'sinat chinam;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'tumat s'fatayim.

*The ways we have wronged You
by hating without cause; and harm
we have caused in Your world
through offensive speech.*

עַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּלִשׁוֹן הָרָע,
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ
בְּצָרוּת עֵינַי.

Al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

bilshon hara;

v'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha

b'tzarut-ayin.

*The ways we have wronged You
with a slanderous tongue; and harm
we have caused in Your world
through a selfish or petty spirit.* 39

וְעַל כָּל־אֵלֶּיךָ, אֱלֹהֵי סְלִיחוֹת,
סְלַח לָנוּ, מְחַל לָנוּ, כַּפֵּר-לָנוּ.

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

*For all these failures of judgment
and will, God of forgiveness —
forgive us, pardon us,
lead us to atonement.*

Help us to rise above what we have been. Imbue us with love for all life and reverence for all being; teach us to respond to Your greatness with awe. Strengthen us with Your love, and guide us in the paths of righteousness. On this Sabbath of Sabbaths, kindle within us a light that shall illumine all other days.

Who among us is righteous enough to say: 'I have not sinned?' Born of love to love, we grow weary, heavy with regret, sorry for ourselves, and afraid to know what might have been.

*We have sinned against You, O God,
and against each other.*

*O Source of peace,
lead us to peace,
a peace profound and true;
lead us to a healing,
to mastery of all that
drives us to war
within ourselves
and with others.*

*May our deeds inscribe us
in the Book of life and blessing,
righteousness and peace!*

*O Source of peace,
bless us with peace.*

Our history spans millennia,
and is filled with suffering and joy.
We acknowledge that God
created us and told us
to take care of the land.
We remember slavery and freedom.
We remember deliverance
and revelation.
We remember joyous return
to the land.
We remember struggling
to keep the land.

We remember oppression and exile.

We remember persecution and suffering and death camps.

We remember how we returned to Israel, the Promised Land.

We worked and made the desert bloom.

We restored the land, and it restored us.

We value being free to worship and live our lives here, where we are.

We cherish that we can remember.

Holy One, Your earth yields enough to satisfy the needs of every living creature, but human greed thwarts Your purposes, and countless of Your children go hungry and naked. Great plenty and abject poverty, unrestrained power and utter helplessness exist side by side.

We are taught that
all people are Your children,
whatever their belief,
whatever their shade of skin.
You have ordained one law
for rich and poor,
one law for woman, child, and man.
And today, like those
who came before us, we are
summoned to right the ancient
wrongs in obedience
to Your holy word:

*Justice, justice shall you pursue,
that you may live:
do good and not evil,
that you may live.*

We often forget.
Pride of possession,
greed for wealth,
fear of losing what we have –
these blind us, and we forget:
we who were strangers and slaves,
we who have felt
the sting of injustice,
the terror of exile,
the torment of inquisition,
we who feel them still:
how can we forget?

Unetaneh tokef

**surely our deeds do not pass away
unrecorded. Every word, every act
inscribes itself in the Book of Life.**

**Freely we choose, and what we have
chosen to become stands in judgment
over what we may yet hope to be.**

**In our choices we are not always
free. But if only we make the effort
to turn, every force of goodness,
within and without, will help us,
while we live, to escape the death of
the heart which leads to sin.**

וּנְתַנֶּה הַתְּקוּרָה קְדוּשַׁת הַיּוֹם
כִּי הוּא נוֹרָא וְאִים.
וּבוֹ תִנְשֵׂא מַלְכוּתְךָ,
וַיִּכּוֹן בְּחֶסֶד כְּסֵאֶךָ,
וְתֵשֵׁב עָלָיו בְּאֵמֶת.

*Untaneh-tokef k'dushat hayom
ki hu nora v'ayom.*

*Uvo tinasei malchutecha,
v'yikon b'chesed kisecha;
v'teishiv alav be·emet.*

**Let us proclaim the power of this
day — a day whose holiness
awakens deepest awe and inspires
highest praise for Your dominion,
for Your throne is a throne of love;
Your reign is a reign of truth.** 51

הַיּוֹם תְּאַמְצֵנוּ! אָמֵן.
הַיּוֹם תְּבָרַכְנוּ! אָמֵן.
הַיּוֹם תְּגַדְּלֵנוּ! אָמֵן.
הַיּוֹם תְּדַרְשֵׁנוּ לְטוֹבָה! אָמֵן.
הַיּוֹם תְּכַתְּבֵנוּ לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים! אָמֵן.
הַיּוֹם תִּשְׁמַע שׁוֹעֲתֵנוּ! אָמֵן.
הַיּוֹם תְּתַמְכֵנוּ בְּיַמִּין צְדָקָה! אָמֵן.

This day, strengthen us! Amen.
This day, bless us! Amen.
This day, exalt us! Amen.
This day, look with favor upon us!
Amen.
This day inscribe us for
a blessed life! Amen.
This day, hear our plea! Amen.
This day, uplift us with Your
righteousness! Amen.



לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתְּבוּ – וְתִחַתְּמוּ!

L'shanah tovah tikateivu — v'teichateimu!

May you be inscribed — and sealed — for a good year!