

BIRKAT HACHAMAH

סדר
ברכת
החמה
על פי מנהג חב"ד

BIRKAT
HACHAMAH

ACCORDING TO
CHABAD CUSTOM

ANNOTATED EDITION



BIRKAT HACHAMAH

WITH ENGLISH TRANSLATION

ANNOTATED EDITION

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by

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PREFACE

With thanks to the Almighty, we hereby present the *Order of Birkat Hachamah according to Chabad Custom—Annotated Edition*.

The blessing over the sun is recited only once in every twenty-eight years, when the sun returns to the position where it was when it was first created, on the same day of the week and hour of the day. This year the blessing will be recited on Erev Pesach, 14 Nissan, 5769 (April 8th 2009).

This publication contains:

- 1) A compilation of Chabad customs related to this special event. These originally appeared in Hebrew in *Seder Birkat Hachamah—Al Pi Minhag Chabad*, which was edited by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson of righteous memory, and published by Kehot Publication Society, in 5741 (1981).
- 2) The full prayer for this unique occasion in the user-friendly format of the *Annotated Liturgy Series*. A more detailed description of the *Annotated Series* appears in the Preface to the *Siddur Tehillat Hashem—Annotated Edition* (Merkos L’Inyonei Chinuch, 2002).
- 3) Transliteration of the entire text of the prayer.

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Year of Hakel

לְמִנְצָה Lam’natzay-ach bin’ginos miz’mor shir. Elohim y’chö-naynu vi-vör’chaynu, yö-ayr pönöv itönu selö. Löda-as bö-öretz dar’kechö, b’chöl goyim y’shu-ösechö. Yoduchö amim elohim, yoduchö amim kulöm. Yis’m’chu viran’nu l’umim, ki sishpot amim mishor, ul’umim bö-öretz tan’chaym selö. Yoduchö amim elohim, yoduchö amim kulöm. Eretz nös’nö y’vulö, y’vör’chaynu elohim elohaynu. Y’vör’chaynu elohim, v’yir’u oso kól af’say öretz.

וְלֹא Ölaynu l’shabay-ach la-adon hakol, lösays g’dulö l’yotzayr b’rayshis, shelo ösönu k’go-yay hö-arötzos, v’lo sömönu k’mish-p’chos hö-adömö, shelo söm chelkaynu köhem, v’gorölaynu k’chöl ha-monöm she-haym mishtachavim l’hevel v’lörik. Va-anachnu kor’im u-mishtachavim u-modim, lif’nay melech mal’chay ha-m’löchim, ha-ködosh böruch hu. She-hu no-te shöma-yim v’yosayd öretz, u-moshav y’köro ba-shöma-yim mima-al, u-sh’chinas u-zo b’göv’hay m’romim, hu elohaynu ayn od. Emes malkaynu, efes zulöso, kakösuv b’soröso: V’yöda-tö ha-yom vaha-shayvosö el l’vövechö, ki adonöy hu hö-elohim ba-shöma-yim mima-al, v’al hö-öretz mi-töchas, ayn od.

וְלֹא V’al kayn n’ka-ve l’chö adonöy elohaynu, lir-os m’hayrö b’sif-eres uezchö, l’ha-avir gilulim min hö-öretz v’ hö-elilim köros yiköray-sun, l’sakayn olöm b’ma-l’chus shadai, v’chöl b’nay vöösör yik-r’u vi-sh’mechö, l’hafnos ay-lechö kól ri-sh’ay öretz. Yakiru v’yay-d’u kól yo-sh’vay sayvayl, ki l’chö tichra kól berech, tishöva kól löshon. L’fönechö adonöy elohaynu yich-r’u v’yipolu, v’li-ch’vod shim’chö y’kör yitaynu, vika-b’lu chulöm alay-hem es ol ma-l’chusechö, v’simloch alayhem m’hayrö l’olöm vö-ed, ki hama-l’chus she-l’chö hi, u-l’ol’may ad timloch b’chövod, ka-kösuv b’sorösechö, adonöy yimloch l’olöm vö-ed. V’ne-emar, v’ hö-yö adonöy l’melech al kól hö-öretz, ba-yom hahu yih-yeh adonöy echöd ush’mo echöd.

Continue with Mourners Kaddish, page 10

mach'kimas pesi. Pikuday adonöy y'shörim m'sam'chay layv, mitz'vas adonöy börö m'iras ay-nöyim. Yir'as adonöy t'hora omedes lö-ad, mish'p'tay adonöy emes, tzöd'ku yach'döv. Ha-neche-mödim mizöhöv umipaz röv, um'-sukim mid'vash v'nofes tzufim. Gam av'd'chö niz'hör böhem, b'shöm'röm aykev röv. Sh'gios mi yövin, ministöros na-kayni. Gam mizaydim chasoch av'dechö, al yim'sh'lu vi, öz ay-söm, v'nikaysi mipesha röv. Yih'yu l'röt-zon imray fi v'hegyon libi l'fönechö, adonöy tzuri v'go-ali.

Shir la-malos, esö ay-nai el hehörim, may-ayin yüvo ezri. Ezri may-im adonöy, osay shöma-yim vö-öretz. Al yitayn lamot rag'lechö, al yönüm shom'rechö. Hinay lo yönüm v'lo yishön shomayr yisrö-ayl. Adonöy shom'rechö, adonöy tzil'chö al yad y'minechö. Yomöm hashemesh lo yakekö, v'yöray-ach ba-löy'lö. Adonöy yish'mör'chö miköl rö, yish'mor es naf'shechö. Adonöy yishmör tzayschö uvoechö, may-atö v'ad olöm.

הליליה Hal'lu-yö, hal'lu ayl b'köd'sho, Hal'lu-hu bir'kia uzo. Hal'lu-hu big'vurosöv, Hal'lu-hu k'rov gud'lo. Hal'lu-hu b'sayka shoför, Hal'lu-hu b'nayvel v'chinor. Hal'lu-hu b'sof umöchol, Hal'lu-hu b'minim v'ugöv. Hal'lu-hu b'tzil'tzilay shöma, Hal'lu-hu b'tzil'tzilay s'ruö. Kol han'shömö t'halayl yö hal'lu-yö.

תנו Tönu rabönön: höroe chamö vis'kufösö, omayr Böruch Osay V'rayshis. V'aymas ha-vay? Ömar aba-yay: köl chöf ches sh'nin, vahadar machazor, v'nöf'lö t'kufas nisön b'shab'sö-i, b'ur'tö dis'las, nag'hay ar'ba.

בָּרוּךְ אֱלֹהִים ORDER OF BIRKAT HACHAMAH ACCORDING TO CHABAD CUSTOM¹

1. The text of the Blessing of the Sun contains the words "Lord our God, King of the Universe." It also reads: "who re-enacts the **work of Creation**."

2. Preferably, the blessing should be recited between dawn and the end of the third "proportional hour" of the day (each hour is defined as one twelfth of the time between sunrise and sunset). However, if for some reason, one did not recite the blessing during this time, it may be recited until noon (the end of six "proportional hours").

3. It is customary to recite the blessing after Shacharit, among a large assembly of people.

4. Before reciting the blessing one should place one's feet together and glance at the sun once. Once the blessing is begun, one should not look at the sun at all.

5. The order of the recitations is as follows: The first six verses of Psalm 148; The two blessings; Psalm 19; Psalm 121; Psalm 150; Our Rabbis taught: One who sees the sun...; Psalm 67; Aleinu; Mourner's Kaddish (when a *minyan* of ten is present). It is the custom of some communities to add to this order.

6. It is our custom to recite also the *Shehecheyanu* blessing, but in order to avoid even the slightest possibility of reciting an unnecessary blessing, one should wear a new gar-

¹. Translation of "Seder Birkat Hachamah — Al Pi Minhag Chabad" (Kehot, Brooklyn, NY 5741). For more detailed laws and customs see "Order of Birkat Hachamah According to Chabad Custom" (Kehot, Brooklyn, NY 5769).

ment—over which one would be required to recite the blessing *Shehecheyanu*. Alternatively, one should take a new fruit and place it before him while reciting the blessing and recite the blessing of *Shehecheyanu* while also bearing the garment or fruit in mind.

7. It is our custom that women recite this blessing too, among a large assembly of people.

8. The men and women should, **obviously**, congregate separately.

9. It is a correct and good practice to educate children, boys and girls, to [recite] this blessing.

10. It is a correct and good practice to give *tzedakah* soon after having recited the Order of the Blessing of the Sun.



עַבְרִית

TRANSLITERATION

Preferably, the Blessing of the Sun should be recited between sunrise and the end of the third “proportional hour” of the day (each “hour” is defined as one twelfth of the time between sunrise and sunset). If this is not viable, it may be recited until noon (the end of six “proportional hours”).

It should be recited following Shacharit, if possible with a *minyan* of ten.

The Blessing of the Sun is recited facing east.

הַלְלוּה Hal’lu-yö hal’lu es adonöy min ha-shöma-yim, hal’lu-hu ba-m’romim. Hal’lu-hu chöl mal’öchöv, Hal’lu-hu köl tz’vö-öv. Hal’lu-hu shemesh v’yöray-ach, hal’lu-hu köl koch-vay or. Hal’lu-hu sh’may ha-shömöyim, v’hamay-im asher may-al ha-shömöyim. Y’hal’lu es shaym adonöy, ki hu tzivö v’niv’rö-u. Va-ya-ami-daym lö-ad l’olöm, chök nösan v’lo ya-avor.

Place your feet together and glance once at the sun before reciting the following blessing. Once the blessing is begun, do not look at the sun at all.

ברוך בורוך אתה אדונינו מלך העולם, osay ma-a-say v’ray-shis.

ברוך בורUCH atö adonöy, elohaynu melech hö-olöm, she-heche-yönu v’ki-y’mönu v’higi-önu liz’man ha-ze.

לְמַנְצָזָה Lam’natzay-ach miz’mor l’dövid. hashöma-yim m’sap’rim k’vod ayl, uma-a-say yödöv ma-gid hörökia. Yom l’yom yabi-a omer, v’la-ylö l’la-ylö h’chave dö’as. Ayn omer v’ayn d’vörim, b’li nish-mö kolöm. B’chöl hö-öretz yötzö kavöm uvik-tzay say-vayl milay-hem, la-shemesh söm ohel böhem. V’hu k’chösön yotzay may-chupaso, yösis k’gibor lörutz orach. Mik-tzay hashömayim motzö-o, us’kuföso al k’tzosöm, v’ayn nistör may-chamöso. Toras adonöy t’mimö m’shivas nöfesh, aydus adonöy ne-emönö

all the inhabitants of the world will recognize and know that every knee should bend to You, every tongue should swear [by Your Name]. Before You, Lord our God, they will bow and prostrate themselves, and give honor to the glory of Your Name; and they will all take upon themselves the yoke of Your kingdom. May You soon reign over them forever and ever, for kingship is Yours, and to all eternity You will reign in glory, as it is written in Your Torah: The Lord will reign forever and ever.¹ And it is said: The Lord will be King over the entire earth; on that day the Lord will be One and His Name One.²

MOURNER'S KADDISH

When praying with a *minyan*, mourners recite the following Kaddish.
Congregation responds Amen as indicated.

Yis-gadal v'yis-kadash sh'mayh rabö. (Cong: Ömayn)

*B'öl'mö di v'rö chir'u-sayh v'yamlisch mal'chusayh,
v'yatza-mach pur-könayh vikörayv m'shi-chayh.* (Cong: Ömayn)

*B'cha-yay-chon u-v'yomaychon u-v'cha-yay d'chöл bays
yisrö-ayl, ba-agöлö u-viz'man köriv v'im'ru ömayn.*

(Cong: Ömayn. *Y'hay sh'mayh rabö m'vörach l'ölam u-l'öl'may
öl'ma-yö, yisbö-raych.*)

*Y'hay sh'mayh rabö m'vörach l'ölam u-l'öl'may öł'ma-yö.
Yisbö-raych, v'yishtabach, v'yispö-ayr, v'yisromöm,
v'yis-nasay, v'yis-hadör, v'yis-aleh, v'yis-halöl, sh'may
d'kudshö b'rich hu.* (Cong: Ömayn)

*L'aylö min köл bir-chösö v'shirösö, tush-b'chösö
v'neche-mösö, da-amirön b'öl'mö, v'im'ru ömayn.* (Cong: Ömayn)

*Y'hay sh'lömö rabö min sh'ma-yö, v'cha-yim tovim ölaynu
v'al köл yisrö-ayl v'im'ru ömayn.* (Cong: Ömayn)

Take three steps back, then bow right saying *Oseh shölam bim'romöv*, bow forward saying *hu*, bow left saying *ya-a-se shölam ölaynu*, and bow forward saying *v'al köл yisrö-ayl, v'im'ru ömayn.* (Cong: Ömayn)

*Oseh shölam bim'romöv, hu ya-a-se shölam ölaynu v'al köл
yisrö-ayl, v'im'ru ömayn.* (Cong: Ömayn)

טַהֲרָה

ORDER OF THE BLESSING OF THE SUN

Preferably, the Blessing of the Sun should be recited between sunrise and the end of the third “proportional hour” of the day (each “hour” is defined as one twelfth of the time between sunrise and sunset). If this is not viable, it may be recited until noon (the end of six “proportional hours”).

It should be recited following Shacharit, if possible with a *minyan* of ten.

The Blessing of the Sun is recited facing east.

הַלְלוּ יְהוָה, הַלְלוּ אֶת יְהוָה מִן הַשָּׁמִים, הַלְלוּ יְהוָה
בְּפִרְזָמִים: הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כָּל מֶלֶאכִים,
הַלְלוּ יְהוָה כָּל צְבָאִים: הַלְלוּ יְהוָה שְׁמֵשׁ וִירָח, הַלְלוּ יְהוָה
כָּל בּוֹכְבִּי אֹור: הַלְלוּ שְׁמֵי הַשָּׁמִים, וְהַמִּים
אֲשֶׁר מֵעַל הַשָּׁמִים: יַהֲלֵל אֶת שֵׁם יְהוָה, כִּי הִיא
צְוָה וְגִבְرָאוֹן: וַיַּעֲמִידֵם לְעֵד לְעוֹלָם, חֶק נָתָן וְלֹא
יַעֲבֹר:¹

Place your feet together and glance once at the sun before reciting the following blessing.
Once the blessing is begun, do not look at the sun at all.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
עֲשֵׂה מַעֲשָׂה בְּרָאָשִׁית:
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁחַחְתֵּנוּ
וְקִינֵּנוּ וְהִגִּיעֵנוּ לְזֹמֵן תְּזִזָּה:
לְמִנְצָחָה מִזְמָר לְדוֹד: הַשָּׁמִים מִסְפָּרִים בְּבוֹד
אַל, וְמַעֲשָׂה יְדֵיו מְגִיד הַרְקִיעָה: יוֹם
לְיוֹם יְבִיעָ אָמָר, וְלִילָה לְלִילָה יְחִוָה דָעַת: אֵין

1. Psalms 148:1-6.

בָּרָקֶשׁ

ORDER OF THE BLESSING OF THE SUN

Preferably, the Blessing of the Sun should be recited between sunrise and the end of the third "proportional hour" of the day (each "hour" is defined as one twelfth of the time between sunrise and sunset). If this is not viable, it may be recited until noon (the end of six "proportional hours").

It should be recited following Shacharit, if possible with a *minyan* of ten.

The Blessing of the Sun is recited facing east.

Transliteration, page 11.

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the celestial heights. Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts. Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all the shining stars. Praise Him, heaven of heavens, and the waters that are above the heavens. Let them praise the Name of the Lord, for He commanded and they were created. He has established them forever, for all time; He issued a decree, and it shall not be transgressed.¹

Place your feet together and glance once at the sun before reciting the following blessing. Once the blessing is begun, do not look at the sun at all.

ברוך Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who re-enacts the work of Creation.

ברוך Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion.

למנצח For the Choirmaster; a Psalm by David. The heavens recount the glory of the Almighty; the sky proclaims His handiwork. Day to day speech streams forth; night to night expresses knowledge.

ארץ. יְבָרוּ וַיְדֻעוּ כֵּל יוֹשְׁבֵי תְּבִלָּה, כִּי לְךָ תִּכְרֹעַ כֵּל בָּרָךְ,
תְּשַׁבַּע כֵּל לְשׂוֹן. לִפְנֵיךְ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְכָרְעֹו וַיְפָלוּ, וַיְכָבֹוד
שְׁמְךָ יְקָרָר יְתַנֵּנוּ. וַיַּקְבְּלוּ כָּלָם עֲלֵיכֶם אַת עַזְלָל מְלֹכוֹתֶךָ,
וְתִמְלֹזֶךָ עֲלֵיכֶם מִהְרָה לְעוֹלָם וְעַד. בִּי הַמְלָכּוֹת שְׁלָךְ
הִיא, וְלְעוֹלָמִי עַד תִּמְלֹזֶךָ בְּכָבוֹד, בְּפִתּוֹב בְּחַרְתָּה: יְיָ
וּמְלָךְ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד: וְנִאמֵּר: וְהִיא יְיָ לְמַלְךְ עַל כֵּל הָאָרֶץ,
בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יְהִי יְיָ אֶחָד וְשַׁמוֹ אֶחָד:

MOURNER'S KADDISH

When praying with a *minyan*, mourners recite the following Kaddish. Congregation responds as indicated.

יְתִגְגַּדֵּל וַיִּתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמָה רָبָא. (Cong — Amen) בְּעַלְמָא דֵי בְּרָא
כְּרָעָוֹתָה וַיְמַלֵּךְ מְלֹכוֹתָה, וַיַּצְמַח פּוֹרָקָנָה וַיַּקְרַב
מִשְׁיחָה. (Cong — Amen) בְּחַיָּכָן וּבְיוֹמָיכָן וּבְחַיָּי דָּכָל בֵּית
יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעַגְלָא וּבְזָמָן קָרִיב וְאָמָרוּ אָמָן:
(Cong — Amen) הַא שְׁמָה רָבָא מְבָרֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וְלְעוֹלָמִי עַלְמָא, יְתִבְרָה.
הַא שְׁמָה רָבָא מְבָרֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וְלְעוֹלָמִי עַלְמָא. יְתִבְרָה,
וַיְשַׁתְּבַחַ, וַיְתַפְּאָר, וַיְתַרְוּמָם, וַיִּתְנְשָׁא, וַיִּתְהַדֵּר, וַיִּתְעַלָּה,
וַיִּתְהַלֵּל, שְׁמָה דָּקוֹדָשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הָוּא. (Cong — Amen)
לְעַלָּא מִן כֵּל בְּרָכָה וּשְׁירָה, תְּשִׁבְחָתָא וְנִחְמָתָא, דָּאָמִירָן
בְּעַלְמָא, וְאָמָרוּ אָמָן: (Cong — Amen)
הַא שְׁלָמָא רָבָא מִן שְׁמִינִיא וְחַיִם טוֹבִים עַלְינוּ וְעַל כֵּל
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמָרוּ אָמָן: (Cong — Amen)

Take three steps back, then bow right saying *עשָׂה שלום בְּמִרְומָיו*, bow forward saying *הָוּא*, bow left saying *עֲשָׂה שלום עַלְינוּ*, and bow forward saying *עַל כֵּל יִשְׂרָאֵל*.

עֲשָׂה שלום בְּמִרְומָיו, הָוּא עֲשָׂה שלום עַלְינוּ וְעַל כֵּל יִשְׂרָאֵל,
וְאָמָרוּ אָמָן: (Cong — Amen)

1. Exodus 15:18. 2. Zechariah 14:9.

The nations will rejoice and sing for joy, for You will judge the peoples justly and guide the nations on earth forever. The peoples will extol You, O God; all the peoples will extol You, for the earth will have yielded its produce, and God, our God, will bless us. God will bless us; and all, from the farthest corners of the earth, shall fear Him.¹

עלינו It is incumbent upon us to praise the Master of all things, to exalt the Creator of all existence, that He has not made us like the nations of the world, nor caused us to be like the families of the earth; that He has not assigned us a portion like theirs, nor a lot like that of all their multitudes, for they bow to vanity and nothingness. But we bend the knee, bow down, and offer praise before the supreme King of kings, the Holy One, blessed be He, who stretches forth the heavens and establishes the earth, the seat of whose glory is in the heavens above, and the abode of whose majesty is in the loftiest heights. He is our God; there is none else. Truly, He is our King; there is nothing besides Him, as it is written in His Torah: Know this day and take unto your heart that the Lord is God; in the heavens above and upon the earth below there is nothing else.²

ועל And therefore we hope to You, Lord our God, that we may speedily behold the splendor of Your might, to banish idolatry from the earth—and false gods will be utterly destroyed; to perfect the world under the sovereignty of the Almighty. All mankind shall invoke Your Name, to turn to You all the wicked of the earth. Then

אמָר וְאֵין דִבְרִים, בְּלִי נִשְׁמַע קֹלֶם: בְּכָל הָאָרֶץ יֵצֵא קֹם וּבְקִצָה תִּבְלֵל מִלְיָהֶם, לְשִׁמְשׁ שֵׁם אֲחֵל בָּהֶם: וְהִוא בְּחַתּוֹ יֵצֵא מִחְפָתוֹ, יִשְׁיַשׁ בְּגֻבּוֹר לְרוֹיז אַרְחָה: מִקְצָה הַשָּׁמְמִים מָזְצָאָו, וְתִקְיַפְתּוֹ עַל קְצֹותָם, וְאֵין גְּסָתָר מִחְמָתוֹ: תּוֹרַת יְיָ הַמִּימָה מִשְׁבִּית נֶפֶשׁ, עֲדֹת יְיָ נְאָמָנה מִחְכִּימָת פְּתִיָּה פְקוּדי יְיָ יְשָׁרִים מִשְׁפָטֵי לֵב, מִצּוֹת יְיָ בְּרָה מְאִירָת עֵינִים: יְרָאָת יְיָ טְהוֹרָה עַזְמָתָ לְעֵד, מִשְׁפָטֵי יְיָ אַמְתָה, צְדָקָה יְחִידָה: הַנְּחַמְדִים מִזְחָב וּמִפּוֹרָב, וּמִתּוֹקִים מִדְבָשׁ וּנְפַתְ צַוְפִים: גַם עַבְדָךְ נֹזֵר בָּהֶם, בְּשָׁמְרָם עַקְבָךְ: שְׁגִיאוֹת מֵי יְבִין, מְנִסְתָרוֹת נְקִינִי: גַם מִזְדִים חַשְׁךְ עַבְדָךְ, אֲלֵיכָל יְמִשְׁלָוּ בֵּינוֹ, אוֹ אַיִתָם, וּנְקִיתִי מִפְשָׁע רָבָךְ: יְהִיוּ לְרָצֹן אָמְרֵי פִי וְהַגִּזֵן לְבֵיכָל פְגִינָה, יְיָ צָוְרִי וְגַאֲלִי:

שִׁיר לְמַעְלוֹת, אֲשֶׁר עַנִּי אֶל הַהְרִים, מֵאֵין יָבוֹא עַזְרִי: עַזְרִי מִעם יְיָ, עֲשָׂה שָׁמְמִים וְאָרֶץ: אֶל יִתְןֵן לְמוֹת רְגֵלָה, אֶל יִנוּם שְׁמָרָה: הַגָּה לֹא יִנוּם וְלֹא יִשְׁזַן, שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׁרָאֵל: יְיָ שְׁמָרָה, יְיָ צְלָק עַל יָד יִמְינָה: יוֹמָם הַשְּׁמֶשׁ לֹא יִפְכָה, וִירָח בְּלִילָה: יְיָ יִשְׁמָרָה מִפְלָרָע,

1. Psalm 19.

There is no utterance, there are no words; their voice is inaudible. Their arc extends throughout the world; their message to the end of the earth. He set in them [in the heavens] a tent for the sun which is like a groom coming forth from his bridal canopy, like a strong man rejoicing to run the course. Its rising is at one end of the heavens, and its orbit encompasses the other ends; nothing is hidden from its heat. The Torah of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the Lord is trustworthy, making wise the simpleton. The precepts of the Lord are just, rejoicing the heart; the *mitzvah* of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, abiding forever; the judgments of the Lord are true, they are all righteous together. They are more desirable than gold, than much fine gold; sweeter than honey or the drippings of the honeycomb. Indeed, Your servant is scrupulous with them; in observing them there is abundant reward. Yet, who can discern inadvertent wrongs? Purge me of hidden sins. Also, hold back Your servant from willful sins; let them not prevail over me; then I will be unblemished and keep myself clean of gross transgression. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable before You, Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.¹

שיר A song of ascents. I lift my eyes to the mountains—from where will my help come? My help will come from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot falter; your guardian does not slumber. Indeed, the Guardian of Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps. The Lord is your guardian; the Lord is your protective shade at your right hand. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will guard you from

ישמחו וירגנו לאומים, כי תשפט עמים מישר,
ולאומים בארץ תנחים סלה: יודוק עמים
אללים, יודוק עמים כלם: ארץ נתנה יבולת,
יברכנו אללים אלהינו: יברכו אלהים, ייראו
אותו כל אפסי הארץ:

עלינו לשבח לאדון הבעל, לחת גדרלה ליוצר
בריאשית, שלא עשנו בגוי הארץות, ולא
שmeno במשפחות האדמה, שלא שם חלכנו בהם,
ונזרנו בכל המזג, שהם משתחוים להבעל ולרייק.
ואנחנו כורעים ומשתחוים ומזרדים לפניו מלכי
הפלכים, הקדוש ברוך הוא. שהוא נוטה שמיים
ויסד ארץ, ומושב יקרו בשמיים ממעל, ושבינת
עו בגהי מרים. הוא אלהינו אין עוד, אמת
מלפנו, אפס זולתו, בכתב בתורתו: וידעתה היום
והשבת אל לבך, כי יי הוא האלהים, בשמיים
ממעל ועל הארץ מתחת, אין עוד:²

יעל בן נקיה לך יי אלהינו, לראות מהרה
בתפארת עזה, להעיר גליילים מן הארץ,
והאלילים ברות יברתו, לתקן עולם במילכויות שדי,
וכל בניبشر יקראו בשמה, להפנות אליך כל רשי

1. Psalm 67. 2. Deuteronomy 4:39.

all evil; He will guard your soul. The Lord will guard your going and coming from now and for all time.¹

הָלְלוּיָה Praise the Lord. Praise God in His holiness; praise Him in the firmament of His strength. Praise Him for His mighty acts; praise Him according to His abundant greatness. Praise Him with the call of the *shofar*; praise Him with harp and lyre. Praise Him with timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and flute. Praise Him with resounding cymbals; praise Him with clanging cymbals. Let every being that has a soul praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.²

תנו Our Rabbis taught: One who sees the sun at its turning point, should say, “Blessed be He who re-enacts the [work of] creation.” When is this? Abbaye said: Every twenty-eight years, when the cycle begins again, and the Nissan [spring] equinox falls in Saturn, on the evening of Tuesday, going into Wednesday.³

למנצח For the Choirmaster; a song with instrumental music; a Psalm. May God be gracious to us and bless us, may He make His countenance shine upon us forever, that Your way be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. The nations will extol You, O God; all the nations will extol You.

ישמר את נפשך: יי' ישמר צאתך ובואך,
מעתך ועד עולם:¹

הָלְלוּיָה, הָלְלוּ אֶל בְּקָדְשׂוֹ, הָלְלוּהוּ בְּרִכֵּעַ
עֹז: הָלְלוּהוּ בְּגָבוֹרָתוֹ, הָלְלוּהוּ
כָּרְבָּגָדְלוֹ: הָלְלוּהוּ בְּתִקְעַ שׁוֹפֵר, הָלְלוּהוּ
בְּגַבְלָ וּבְגַנְזָר: הָלְלוּהוּ בְּתִפְ וּמְחֹזָל, הָלְלוּהוּ
בְּמַעֲזִים וּמַעֲגִב: הָלְלוּהוּ בְּצָלָצְלִי שְׁמָעָ, הָלְלוּהוּ
בְּצָלָצְלִי תְּרוּעָה: כָּל הַגְּשָׁמָה תַּהְלֵל יְהָ
הָלְלוּיָה:²

תנו רבנן: הרואה חמה בתקופתה, אומר
ברוך עושה בראשית. ואימת הו?/
אמר אביי: כל כ"ח שניין, והדר מחרוזר,
ונפללה תקופת ניסן בשבעתאי, באורה
דרתלת, גהה ארבע:³

למנצח בנגינת מזמור שיר: אלhim ייחנו
ויברכנו, יאר פניו אנחנו סלה;
לדעת הארץ דרכה, בכל גוים ישועתך;
יודוך עםים אלהים, יודוך עםים כלם:

1. Psalm 121. 2. Ibid. 150. 3. Berachot 59b.