

הַבְדָּלָה / Havdallah

Translations by LAB/SHUL

הְנֵה אֵל יִשׁוּעֲתִי, אֲבַטַח וַלֹא אֵפַחַד

Hinei el yeshuati, evtach v'lo efchad

כָּ עַזִּי וַזְמָרַת יַהּ יִיַ, וַיִּהִי לִי לִישׁוּעַה

Ki ozi v'zimrat Yah Adonai vayehi li lishu'ah Uv'shavtem mayim b'sasson mima'anei ha'yeshua

וּשָׁאַבְתֵּם מַיִם בָּשָּׁשׁוֹן מְמַעַיִנֵי הַיִּשׁוּעָה לַיְיָ הַיְשׁוּעַה, עַל עַמְּךָ בִּרְכָתֶךְ סֶּלָה

La'Adonai ha'yeshua al amcha virchatecha Selah

Adonai hoshiah ha'melech ya'aneinu v'yom koreinu

יִי צָבָאוֹת עִמָּנוּ מִשְׂנָב לְנוּ אֱלֹהֵי יַעַקֹב, סֵלָה

Adonai tzva'ot imanu misgav lanu Elohei Ya'akov Selah

ּיָיָ צָבָאוֹת, אַשָּׁרֵי אָדָם בּּטֵחַ בָּך

Adonai tzva'ot, ashrei adam boteach bach

ּיְיָ הוֹשִּׁיעָה, הַמֶּלֶךְ יַעֲנֵנוּ בְיוֹם קָרְאֵנוּ

בים הַיִּתָה אוֹרָה La'yehudim haytah orah,

יושָׁמָּחָה וְשָּׁשׁוֹן וִיקָּר כֶּן תִּהְיֵה לָּנוּ v'simcha v'sasson vikar kein tiheh lanu

כוֹס יִשׁוּעוֹת אֶשָּׂא וּבְשֶׁם ייַ אֶקְרָא Kos y'shuot esah, uv'shem Adonai ekra

Here and now, with sacred song and flame feeding my spirit and guiding my soul, I let go of fear. Here, we draw water from the fountain of hope. Is the Source of Life not the Source of Trust and Freedom? As our ancestors sought connection and protection, joy and celebration, so do we, their descendants, trust in Divine Mystery, finding the blessing in every precious moment. May the Source of Hope that has heard pleas of the past be with us now, with light, joy and dignity. I lift up this cup, praising Divine Presence.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יִיָּ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֱלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פָּרִי הַגַּפְן

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu ruach ha'olam, boray pri hagafen.

A toast: In the Presence of the Infinite, we savor the blessing of transformation: vine to wine.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יִיָּ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מִינֵי בְשָּׁמִים

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu ruach ha'olam, boray minay vesamim.

A blessing: In the Presence of the Infinite, we breathe in the fragrant spices of life.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יִיָּ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאוֹרֵי הָאֵשׁ

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu ruach ha'olam, boray me'oray ha'aysh.

A blessing: In the Presence of the Infinite, we witness the many faces of fire.

בַּרוּךְ אַתָּ יִיָ אֵלֹהֵינוּ רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם

Baruch atah, Adonai, Elohaynu ruach ha'olam,

הַמַּבְדִּיל בָּין קֹדֵשׁ לְחוֹל

hamavdil bayn kodesh lechol

בֵּין אוֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ, בֵּין יִשָּׂרָאֵל לָעַמִּים

Bayn or l'chosech bayn yisrael la'amim

בֵּין יוֹם הַשָּׁבִיעִי לְשֵׁשֶׁת יִמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה

Bayn yom ha'shvee-ee l'sheshet y'mei ha'ma'aseh

Baruch ata Adonai, hamavdil bayn kodesh lechol בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יָיָ, הַמַּבְדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֵשׁ לְחוֹל

A Pause: In the Presence of the Infinite we embrace the balance of distinction: between sacred and mundane, light and dark, wrestling and belonging, work and rest.

In the Presence of the Infinite, we pause now to elevate life's moments, both holy and ordinary.

The original poetic liturgical translations in this ritual are a continual work in process, reflecting our sincere love for the ancient Hebrew poetry as well as our commitment to a more modern, mindful, gender-neutral, and abstract understanding of prayer. Our translations challenge the hierarchical "art-thou" directional relationship between us and the Divine, embracing what Judith Plaskow calls a relationship that "is with us instead of over us, a partner in dialogue who ever and again summons us to responsible action." This current version of liturgical translations was co-created by Lab/Shul's Liturgy Task Force, led by Rabbi Amichai Lau-Lavie and Ezra Bookman, along with