Open Our Hearts
A Central Synagogue
Service for Selichot

In memory of my husband
Mark J. Levick
who lived his life with good humor
and a sparkle in his eye.
With love,
Barbara Botein
Open Our Hearts

A Central Synagogue
Service for SELICHOT
סליחות

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Havdalah

Hineih El y’shuati, evtach v’lo efchad, ki-ozi v’zimrat Yah Adonai, vay’hi li lishuah.


God is my deliverance: I will be confident and unafraid.
Adonai is my strength, my song, and my salvation.
In joy we shall drink from the wells of salvation.
Adonai will rescue and bless the people Israel.
Adonai is with us, the God of Jacob is my refuge.
Happy is the person who trusts in You.
Adonai, You are our deliverer;
You will surely respond when we call.

Lay’hudim hay’tah orah v’simchah v’sason vikar. Ken tiyeh lanu, kos-y’huot esa, uvshem Adonai ekra.
The Jews of old had light, delight, and honor; so may it be for us.
I lift up my cup of deliverance and call upon the Holy One.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, borei p’ri hagafen.
Blessed is Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Lay’hudim hay’tah orah. Esther 8:16.
Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam,
hamavdil bein kodesh l’chol.
Zareinu v’chaspeinu yarbeh kachol
v’chakochavim balailah.

You separate sacred from profane: separate us now from our sins!
May our people and their good work be as numerous as the sands
and shine like the stars at night.

Eliyahu hanavi, Eliyahu hatishbi,
Eliyahu hagiladi.
Bimheirah v’yameinu yavo eileinu
im mashiah ben-David.

Elijah the prophet, the Tishbite, the Gileadite: come to us soon,
to herald our redemption.
Chatzi Kaddish

Yitgadal v’yitkadash sh’meih raba,
b’alma di v’ra chiruteih.
V’ya’lich malchuteih b’chayei chon
uvyomeichon, uvchayei d’chol bet Yisrael,
ba-agala uvizman kariv.

V’imru amen.
Y’hei sh’meih raba m’varach
l’alam ul-almei almaya.

Yitbarach v’yishtabach v’yitpa’ar
v’yitromam v’yitnasei, v’yit-hadar
v’yit-aleh v’yit-halal sh’meih d’kudsha.
B’rich hu.

L’eila mikol birchata v’shirata,
tush’chatav nechemata da-amiran b’alma.

V’imru amen.

Let the glory of God be extolled, God’s great name be hallowed in the world whose creation God willed. May God rule in our own day, in our own lives, and in the life of all Israel, and let us say: Amen.

Let God’s great name be blessed for ever and ever.

Beyond all the praises, songs, and adorations that we can utter is the Holy One, the Blessed One, whom yet we glorify, honor, and exalt. And let us say: Amen.
סליחות

selichot

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Come let us sing to Adonai, let us call out to the rock of our salvation. Let us go toward the face of God, and let us call out in song. Righteousness and judgment are the foundation of Your throne; lovingkindness emanates from Your presence. For God is the sea and the dry land—God's hands created them. Your hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all humanity.

The soul is Yours and the body is Your creation; have compassion on Your handiwork.
Our rest has ended; still we stand before You. O God of praises, hearken from on high.

_O hear our song and our prayer._

For Father Isaac’s sake, who gave himself to You, shield his children who cry to You this night.

_O hear our song and our prayer._

From heaven’s heights, turn to us who turn to You, to all who in singleness of heart seek You.

_O hear our song and our prayer._

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B’motza-ei M’nuchah  Our Rest Has Ended

B’motza-ei m’nuchah, kidamnucha t’chilah.

Hat ozn’cha mimaron, yosheiv t’hilah,
lishmo el harinah v’el hatfilah.

Et-y’min oz or’rah la-asot chayil
b’tzedek ne-ekad, v’nish-chat t’muro ayil.

G’nan na gizo b’za-akam b’od layil,
lishmo el harinah v’el hatfilah.

D’rosh na dorshecha b’dorsham panecha,
hidaresh lamó mishmei m’onecha,
ulshavat chinunam al taleim oznecha,
lishmo el harinah v’el hatfilah.

_Yosheiv t’hilah._ Based on Psalm 22:4.
_Lishmoo el harina._ 1 Kings 8:28.
_Et y’min oz._ Based on Psalm 118:15.
_Ushevav chinunam._ Based on Lamentations 3:56.
Trembling in Your presence, humbly we beseech:
Blot out our transgressions.

O hear our song and our prayer.

הלשׁוּא אֶל הָרִנָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה
Lishmo’a el harinah v’el hatfilah.

Creator of Your world’s every creature,
Sustainer of all, sustain us now.

O hear our song and our prayer.

הלשׁוּא אֶל הָרִנָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה
Lishmo’a el harinah v’el hatfilah.

Though the sins of Your people are too many to count,
we plead for Your mercy, exalted One.
Raise us up once more.

O hear our song and our prayer.

הלשׁוּא אֶל הָרִנָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה
Lishmo’a el harinah v’el hatfilah.

Have regard for our sufferings and not for our shortcomings.
Cleanse us who cry out to You, wondrous God.

O hear our song and our prayer.

הלשׁוּא אֶל הָרִנָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה
Lishmo’a el harinah v’el hatfilah.

May our offering this night be acceptable as sacrifice of old.
Maker of miracles, cause us to see the miracle of forgiveness.

O hear our song and our prayer.

הלשׁוּא אֶל הָרִנָּה וְאֶל הַתְּפִלָּה
Lishmo’a el harinah v’el hatfilah.

Return us, Adonai, and we shall truly return.
Renew our days as in the past.

הֲשִׁיבֵֽנוּ יְיָ אֵלֶֽיךָ, וְנָשֽׁוּבָה. חַדֵּשׁ יָמֵֽינוּ כְּקֶֽדֶם
Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha, v’nashuvah.
Chadeish yameinu k’kedem.

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As clay takes form in a potter’s hand, so do we in Yours.

Mold us into human form.
You are the potter, we are only clay.

As words are shaped by a poet’s hand, so are we by Yours.

Make us Your song.
You are the singer, we are Your work.

As a ship takes its course from a sailor’s hand, so do we from Yours.

Set us on Your chosen course.
You are the sailor, we are Your ship.

As threads are patterned by a weaver’s hand, so are we by Yours.

Weave us into Your plan, O God.
We are your people, You are our Sovereign.

— Based on Jeremiah 18:6.
Ki Anu Amecha


We are Your people; You reign over us. We are Your children; You are our parent. We are Your possession; You are our portion. We are Your flock; You are our shepherd. We are Your vineyard; You are our keeper. We are Your work; You are our maker. We are Your beloved; You are our lover.

Ki Anu Amecha. Based on Shir Hashirim Rabbah 2:16.
Sovereign God, whose throne is mercy, You guide the world with steadfast love; forgiving the transgressions of Your people; You pardon all who sin, are generous with all who live, treating them with compassion.

God, You taught us to speak thirteen attributes: recall for us today the covenant of the thirteen, as You made known to the humble one in ancient times, as it is written: Adonai descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and called out with the name of Adonai:

Adonai, Adonai, El rachum v'chanun, erch apayim
v'rav chesed ve-emet, notzei chesed la'alafim,
nosei avon vafesha v'chata'ah, v'na'kei.

Adonai, Adonai is merciful and gracious, endlessly patient, loving, and true, showing mercy to thousands, forgiving iniquity, transgressions, and sin, and granting pardon.

Sh'ma koleinu, Adonai Eloheinu, chus v'rachheim
aleinu, v'kabeil b'rachamim uvratzon et
mphileinu. Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha,
v'nashuvah. Chadeish yameinu k'kedem.

Hear our voice, Adonai our God; have compassion on us, and with that compassion accept our prayer. Help us to return to You, O Adonai; then truly shall we return. Renew our days as of old. Consider our words, Adonai; look into our inmost thoughts.

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Ma'avir rishon rishon. Babylonian Talmud, Rosh Hashanah 17a.

V'ya'er Adonai be-anan, vayit yatzeiv
imo sham vayikra v'sheim, Adonai:

Vaya-avor Adonai al-panav vayikra:
Eloheinu v’Elohei avoteinu v’imoteinu,
tavo l’fanecha t’filateinu, v’al titalam
mit chinateinu. She·ein anachnu azei fanim
uk’shei oref lomar l’fancha, Adonai Eloheinu
v’Elohei avoteinu v’imoteinu: Tzadikim
anachnu v’lo chatanu.
Aval anachnu chatanu.

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.

Based on Psalm 88:3.

Vidui  Confession
Ashamnu, bagadnu,
gazalnu, dibarnu dofi.
Heh-evinu, v'hirsharu,
zadnu, chamasnu,
tafalnu shaker.
Ya-atznu ra, kizavnu,
latznu, maradnu,
niatznu, sararnu, avinu,
pashanu, tzararnu,
kishinu oref.
Rashanu, shichatnu,
Tivnu, ta-inu, titanu.
Vidui Zuta  The Short Confession

Of these and more we have been guilty:

We have committed the sins of Arrogance, Bigotry, and Cynicism; of Deceit and Egotism, Flattery and Greed, Hate, Injustice, and Jealousy.

For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement.

We have Kept grudges; we have been Lustful, Malicious, and Narrow-minded; Obstinate, Possessive, Quarrelsome, Rancorous, and Selfish.

For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement.

We have Turned our backs to fellow human beings; we have Usurped others’ positions, we have been Violent and Weak of will. We have been Xenophobes; we have Yielded to temptation, and we have shown Zeal for bad causes.

For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement.
Vidui Rabbah  The Long Confession

על החטא שה trămנו לראך באון וברצון.

The sin we have committed against You under duress or by choice.

V'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha bagalui uvasater.

And the sin we have committed against You openly or secretly.

על החטא שה_compataronך ב כן וברצון.

The sin we have committed against You by acting on our evil inclination.

V'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'yeitzer hara.

And the sin we have committed against You consciously or unconsciously.

על החטא שה Compiler in والتي

The sin we have committed against You by dishonesty in business.

V'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'masa uvmatan.

The sin we have committed against You by hurting others in any way.

V'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'hona at rei'a.

The sin we have committed against You by hating without cause.

V'al cheit shechatanu l'fanecha b'sinat chinam.

For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement.

V'al kulam, Elo-ah s'lichot, s'lach lanu, m'chal lanu, kaper-lanu.
We have sinned against You by failing to work for peace.
_We have sinned against You by keeping silent in the face of injustice._

We have sinned against You by ignoring those who suffer in distant lands.
_We have sinned against You by forgetting the poor in our own midst._

We have sinned against You by not recognizing that we are all created in God’s image.
_We have sinned against You by withholding our love from those who depend on us._

We have sinned against You by engaging in gossip and repeating slander.
_We have sinned against You by distorting the truth for our own advantage._

We have sinned against You by conforming to fashion and not to conscience.
_We have sinned against You by indulging in despair._

We have sinned against You by giving meager support to our houses of study.
_We have sinned against You by neglecting our heritage of learning._

We have sinned against You by sinning against ourselves and paying scant heed to the life of the spirit.
_We have sinned against You by indulging in despair._

_For all these, O God of mercy, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement._

V’al kulam, Elo-ah s’lichot, s’lach lanu, m’chal lanu, kaper-lanu.
Avinu Malkeinu

Avinu Malkeinu, sh’ma koleinu.
Avinu Malkeinu, hear our voice.

Avinu Malkeinu, chatanu l’fanecha.
Avinu Malkeinu, we have sinned against You.

Avinu Malkeinu, chamol aleinu v’alaleinu v’tapeinu.
Avinu Malkeinu, have compassion on us and on our children.

Avinu Malkeinu, kaleih dever v’cherev v’ra-av mei-aleinu.
Avinu Malkeinu, make an end to sickness, war, and famine.

Avinu Malkeinu, kaleih kol tzar umastin mei-aleinu.
Avinu Malkeinu, make an end to all oppression.

Avinu Malkeinu, kotveinu b’sefer chayim tovim.
Avinu Malkeinu, inscribe us for blessing in the Book of Life.

Avinu Malkeinu, chadeish aleinu shanah tovah.
Avinu Malkeinu, let the new year be a good year for us.

Avinu Malkeinu, malei yadeinu mibirchotecha.
Avinu Malkeinu, fill our hands with blessing.

Avinu Malkeinu, choneinu va-aneinu, ki ein banu ma-asim.
Aseih imanu tzedakah vachesed v’hoshi-echinu.
Avinu Malkeinu, be gracious and answer us, for we have little merit.
Treat us generously and with kindness, and be our help.
Merciful and Gracious One: We have sinned before You; have mercy on us.

Master of forgiveness, surveyor of hearts, revealer of the depths, speaker of justice: We have sinned before You; have mercy on us.

Adorned in miracles, trustworthy in consolation, rememberer of our ancestors’ covenant, examiner of everything: We have sinned before You; have mercy on us.

The maker of good for all creation, knower of all that is hidden, conqueror of transgressions: We have sinned before You; have mercy on us.
Eloheinu Shebashamayim  
Our God in Heaven

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, דְּרַשְׁנֽ
himatzei lanu.
Our God in heaven, we seek You; grant that we may find You.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, גַּלֵּה כְבוֹד
malchutchu aleinu.
Our God in heaven, reveal to us the glory of Your kingdom.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, גַּלֵּה סֹדוֹת
toratecha.
Our God in heaven, reveal to us the secrets of Your Torah.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, קָרְבֵֽנוּ
la-avodatecha.
Our God in heaven, draw us near to Your service.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, צַוֵּה אוֹתָֽנוּ
vircHotcha.
Our God in heaven, grant us Your blessings.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, יְשׁוּעוֹתֶֽיךָ.
y'shu-otecha.
Our God in heaven, help us with Your saving acts.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, שִׁית שָׁלוֹם
del bEnei nU.
Our God in heaven, let peace reign among us.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, תֵּן שָׁלוֹם בֵּינֵֽינוּ.
Our God in heaven, grant peace in the land.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, תֵּן שֹֽׂבַע בְּעוֹלָמֶֽךָ.
Our God in heaven, grant abundance to Your world.

אֱלֹהֵֽינוּ שֶׁבַּשָׁמַֽיִם, קָרֵב לָֽנוּ קֵץ
hagulah.
Our God in heaven, bring near to us the day of redemption.
Return us, Adonai, to You and we shall return.
Renew our days as in the days of old.

Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha v’nashuvah, chadeish yameinu k’kedem.

Lamentations 5:21.