



# Yom Kippur Afternoon

Thursday, September 16, 2021 / תשפ"ב 5782

B'nai Zion Congregation  
Shreveport, Louisiana  
[www.BnaiZionCongregation.org](http://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 חֹפֵץ 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, יי, 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, נִאֲצְנוּ, 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.<sup>26</sup>

For these sins, our God, we ask forgiveness:

עַל הַטָּא שֶׁחָטֵאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ  
בְּזָדוֹן וּבְשִׁגְגָה,  
וְעַל הַטָּא שֶׁחָטֵאנוּ 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 שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ  
בְּחֹזֶק יָד,  
וְעַל חַטָּא שְׁחַטְאנוּ 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 שְׁחַטְאנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ  
בַּגְלוּי וּבִסְתֵּה,  
וְעַל חֵטָא שְׁחַטְאנוּ 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 עֲרִיּוֹת,  
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 חַטָּא שְׁחַטְאֵנוּ לְפָנֶיךָ  
בִּיצֵר הָרָע,  
וְעַל חַטָּא 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  
בְּנִטְיַת 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!