

מַה טוֹב

Ma Tov

Ma Tov is an opening prayer that we might say to start a service.

Ma Tov means how good. The word veitecha means your home, bayit means house and the ending cha means your.

This prayer comes from the Torah in the book of Numbers. We use this prayer to celebrate being together in community.

מַה טוֹב אֱהָלֶיךָ יַעֲקֹב, מִשְׁכְּנֹתֶיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל.

וְאֲנִי בְרוּב חֲסִדֶיךָ אָבוֹא בֵּיתֶךָ.

Ma tovu oh-halecha ya'akov, mish-k'notecha Yisrael.

Va'ani b'rov chas-d'cha avo veytecha.

How good are your tents, Jacob, your dwelling places, Israel. I, through your love, enter your home.