

Prayer before Candlelighting

Adonai, M'kor Chayim—G-d, Source of life, as we kindle these Shabbat lights, we pray that the hope of 2000 years which has sustained our people throughout Diaspora, tragedies, and the founding of the modern state of Israel 75 years ago remains ignited. That our brothers and sisters in Israel who are still in captivity and mourning staggering losses even as they continue to fight existential threats feel our support and prayers in their hearts, as we stand in solidarity with them and with Jews around the world to bring more light this Shabbat together. Tonight, we light an extra pair of Shabbat candles to drive out the darkness—*Me'afela L'Ora*—and bring light. *Shamor v'zachor*, we must guard and remember Shabbat, and in doing so, we know that *Am Yisrael Chai*, the People of Israel will continue to live. May the memories of the lives recently lost in Israel be for a blessing, may the captives soon be released in safety and health, and may the peace and joy of Shabbat flow into the lives of us, Israel, and the whole world. Amen.

Your donations matter! Please give generously to either or both of these organizations.

Jewish Federations Israel Emergency Campaign - <https://donate.jewishcleveland.org/israel>

Magen David Adom - Israel's national emergency medical service - <https://afmda.org/>

Prayer for the Israeli Defense Forces May the one who blessed our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah bless the soldiers of the armed forces and security forces of the army of Israel who on the ground, in the air and at sea protect the Land. May God grant that they defeat the enemies who rise up against us. May God protect our soldiers from all harm and danger, from all injury and illness, and may God afford blessing and success to all their missions. Regarding them, may the words of the Torah prove true: For Adonai Your God, who goes before You, shall join you to battle your foes and aid you to be victorious. And let us say, Amen.

(Weekday Lev Shalem, Rabbinical Assembly forthcoming)

מי שברך אבותינו אברהם יצחק ויעקב, ואמותינו שרה
רבקה רחל ולאה, הוא יברך את חילי צבא ההגנה לישראל
ואנשי הבטחון, העומדים על משמר ארצנו ביבשה באויר
ובים. יתן ה' את אויבינו הקשים עלינו נגפים לפניכם.
הקדוש ברוך הוא ישמר ויציל את חילינו מכל צרה וצוקה
ומכל נגע ומחלה, וישלח ברכה והצלחה בכל מעשיו ידיהם.
ויקים בהם הכתוב: כי ה' אלהיכם ההלך עמכם להלחם
לכם עם איביכם, להושיע אתכם. ונאמר אמן