

Na'aseh V'Nishma: Rosh Hashanah Edition Songs and Readings

1. **Olam Chesed Yibaneh**

From Psalms 89:3

English words and melody by R' Menachem Creditor

Olam chesed yibaneh...

I will build this world in love
And you must build this world in love
And if we build this world in love
Then God will build this world in love

A world of chesed (lovingkindness) will be built.

2. **Ozi V'Zimrat Yah**

From the Song of the Sea, Machzor Lev Shalem page 65

Melody by R' Shefa Gold

*Ozi v'zimrat Yah
Vay'hi li lishua*

Adonai is my strength and my song and will serve as my deliverance.

3. **Return Again**

by R' Shlomo Carlebach

Return again, return again
Return to the land of your soul

Return to who you are
Return to what you are
Return to where you are
Born and reborn again

4. Achat Sha-alti

From Psalms 27:4
Melody by Yitzchak Katz

*Achat sha-alti me-et Adonai otah avakesh
Shivti b'veit Adonai kol y'mei chayai
Lachazot b'no-am b'no-am Adonai
Ulvaker b'heichalo*

One thing I ask of Adonai- for this I yearn:
To dwell in the House of Adonai all the days of my life
To behold the beauty of Adonai
And to spend time in his holy places

5. Gesher Tzar

Words by R' Nachman of Bratslav
Melody by R' Yosef Goldman

*Kol ha-olam kulo
Gesher tzar m'od
Kol ha-olam hu gesher tzar*

*Kol ha-olam kulo
Gesher tzar m'od
Kol ha-olam hu gesher tzar m'od*

*V'ha-ikar v'ha-ikar
Lo l'fached klal, lo l'fached klal*

The whole world is a very narrow bridge
And the essence is not to be afraid

6. Birchot Hashachar

From the morning liturgy
Melody by Noah Aronson

*Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech Ha-olam...
Asher natan lasechvi vina l'havchin bein yom u-vein Laila*

She-asani b'tzalmo

She-asani Yisrael

She-asani ben/bat chorin

Pokeiach ivrim

Malbish arumim

Matir asurim

Zokef k'fufim

Roka ha-aretz al hamayim

She-asa li kol tzorki

Hameichin mitz'adei gaver

Ozer Yisrael bigvurah

Oter Yisrael b'tif'arah

Hanotein la-ya-ef koach

***Additional blessing dedicated to the Rodfei Zedek community
by Rabbi Minkus and Cantor Rosenberg:***

***Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech Ha-olam
She-asanu Kehila Kedosha***

**Blessed are you Adonai Eloheinu, Ruler of the universe
Who has made us a community, in holiness.**

7. Ashrei

Psalms 145

Melody adapted from *One Day* by Matisyahu

*Ashrei yoshvei veitecha
Od y'hallelucha selah*

*Ashrei ha-am shekacha lo
Ashrei ha-am she-Adonai Elohav*

*Aromimcha Elohai hamelech
Va-avarcha shimcha l'olam va-ed*

*Pote-ach et yadecha
U-masbi-ah l'chol chai ratzon -- Halleluyah!*

Happy are those who dwell in Your House
They will praise You forever...

8. Min Hameitzar

Words from Psalms 118

Melody by Shlomo Katz

*Min hameitzar karati Yah
Anani vamerchav Yah*

Out of the depths I have called out to you
You answered me with open arms.

9. Unetaneh Tokef / Who By Fire?

by Leonard Cohen, Patrick Leonard, Musaf service

*B'rosh Hashanah, Hashanah yikateivun
Uv'yom tzom Kippur yeichateimun, yeichateimun*

Hebrew/English chant from HHD prayer book Machzor Lev Shalem, page 143

Responsively:

When we really begin a new year it is decided,

And when we actually repent it is determined:

Who shall be truly alive
And who shall merely exist;

*Who shall be happy
And who shall be miserable;*

Who shall attain fulfillment in their day
And who shall not attain fulfillment in their day;

*Who shall be tormented by the fire of ambition
And whose hopes shall be overcome by the waters of failure;*

Who shall be pierced by the sharp sword of envy
And who shall be torn by the wild beast of resentment;

*Who shall hunger for companionship
And who shall thirst for approval;*

(continued)

And who by fire, who by water,
Who in the sunshine, who in the night time,
Who by high ordeal, who by common trial,
Who in your merry merry month of May,
Who by very slow decay,
And who shall I say is calling?

*B'rosh Hashanah, Hashanah yikateivun
Uv'yom tzom Kippur yeichateimun, yeichateimun*

Responsively:

Who shall be shattered by the earthquake of social change
And who shall be plagued by the pressures of conformity;

*Who shall be strangled by insecurity
And who shall be stoned into submission;*

Who shall be content
And who shall wander in search of satisfaction;

*Who shall be serene
And who shall be distraught;*

Who shall be at ease
And who shall be afflicted with anxiety;

*Who shall be poor in their own eyes
And who shall be rich in tranquility;*

Who shall be brought low with futility
And who shall be exalted through achievement;

(continued)

And who by brave assent, who by accident,
Who in solitude, who in this mirror,
Who by his lady's command, who by his own hand,
Who in mortal chains, who in power,
And who shall I say is calling?

*B'rosh Hashanah, Hashanah yikateivun
Uv'yom tzom Kippur yeichateimun, yeichateimun*

*But teshuva, tefilla, and tzedakah have the power to change
the character of our lives.*

10. Mi Shebeirach – A Prayer for Healing

by Debbie Friedman

Mi shebeirach avoteinu
M'kor habracha l'imoteinu
May the Source of Strength
Who blessed the ones before us
Help us find the courage
To make our lives a blessings
And let us say:
Amen

Mi shebeirach imoteinu
M'kor habracha la-voteinu
Bless those in need of healing
With refuah shleima
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit
And let us say:
Amen

11. The Head of the Year

by Marge Piercy

The moon is dark tonight, a new
moon for a new year. It is
hollow and hungers to be full.
It is the black zero of beginning.
Now you must void yourself
of injuries, insults, incursions.
Go with empty hands to those
you have hurt and make amends.
It is not too late. It is early
and about to grow. Now
is the time to do what you
know you must and have feared
to begin. Your face is dark
too as you turn inward to face
yourself, the hidden twin
of all you must grow to be.
Forgive the dead year. Forgive
yourself. What will be wants
to push through your fingers.
The light you seek hides
in your belly. The light you
crave longs to stream from
your eyes. You are the moon
that will wax in new goodness.