

בְּרַכַּת הַשְּׁלוֹם  
*Birkat ha-shalom*  
 7. Blessing of Peace

NOTE:

YHVH is God's name. We do not speak it. Tradition substitutes Adonai (my Lord). You could try Adonati (my Lady), ha-Shem (the Name), or Kadushah (Holiness).

**READER:**

A longing for peace is in the hearts of us all. But peace is not the same as the absence of war. Peace among people depends upon a relationship of reverence for each other.

Peace will not come until people return from their exile from one another, not until Hagar and Sarah, Esau and Jacob, can embrace upon peaceful shores.

The wicked will not find peace until the holy sparks of the divine that have gone astray in them are found. Once the sparks are found, the wicked can return to their true selves. The wicked are not 'them.'

Peace will not come until we see the flaws in our own selves and struggle to efface them, until each person realizes the uniqueness of her own being, or his, and attunes that very special self to its perfection.

-- AJH, adapted

**ALL:**

Blessed is the SOURCE OF PEACE.

**ALL sing:**

שֵׁם שְׁלוֹם טוֹבָה וּבְרָכָה בְּעוֹלָם

חַן וְחֶסֶד וְרַחֲמִים

עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל עַמְּךָ:

*Sim shalom tovah uverahakhah ba'olam  
 hen vahesed verahamim  
 aleynu ve'al kol yisrael ameha.*

🌿 Grant peace, goodness and blessing in the world,  
 grace, love and mercy  
 over us and over all your people Israel.

PRIESTLY BLESSING:

יְבָרֶכֶךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶכָּ:

*Yevarechekha ADONAI ^ veyishmerkha.*

🌿 May the ETERNAL bless you and protect you.

כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן:

*Ken yehi ratzon.*

🌿 Let it be God's will!

יָאֵר יְהוָה פְּנֵי אֱלֹהֶיךָ וַיִּזְחַק:

*Ya'er ADONAI ^ panav elekha vihunekha.*

🌿 May the ETERNAL's face give light to you, and show you favor.

כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן:

*Ken yehi ratzon.*

🌿 Let it be God's will!

יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פְּנֵי אֱלֹהֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לָךְ שְׁלוֹם:

*Yisa ADONAI ^ panav elekha veyasem lekha shalom.*

🌿 May the ETERNAL's face be lifted toward you, and bestow upon you peace.

כֵּן יְהִי רָצוֹן:

*Ken yehi ratzon.*

🌿 Let it be God's will!

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה עוֹשֵׂה הַשְּׁלוֹם:

*Barukh atah ADONAI ^ oseh hashalom:*

🌿 Blessed are you, COMPASSIONATE ONE,  
 maker of peace.