

17 Rosh Hashanah MORNING
Shema and its blessings

אהבה רבה

Ahava Rabbah
Great Love

COMMENT:

I said that I hold no brief for the prayer book. Why not write new prayers in conformity with the modern conception of God? Why have a prayer book at all? Why not prayers which can be used at discretion and in accordance with actually felt needs?

-- MMK

NOTE ON TRADITION:

Jews traditionally gather the four tzitziyot at the corners of their tallitot during the *ahava rabbah* at *vahavi'enu* on middle of next page.

ALTERNATIVE:

May we be loved with great compassion,
May we be cared for with tenderness,
May the strengths and loves of our ancestors be imparted in us, too, that we may love and be strong.
May we be treated mercifully and may we treat others with mercy,
May we set in our hearts abilities to understand, to see, to hear, to teach, to observe, to do, and to uphold with love all that we study of Torah.

-ET

READER:

We are loved by an unending love.
We are embraced by arms that find us even when we are hidden from ourselves.
We are touched by fingers that soothe us even when we are too proud for soothing.
We are counseled by voices that guide us even when we are too embittered to hear.
We are loved by an unending love. - RMS

אהבה רבה אהבתנו. יהוה אלהינו
חמלה גדולה ויתרה חמלת עלינו:
אבינו מלפנו בעבור אבותינו ואמותינו
שבטחו בך ותלמדם חקי חיים כן תחננו ותלמדנו:

Ahavah rabbah ahavtanu. YHVH [adonai] eloheinu.

chemlah gedolah viterah chamalta aleinu.

Avinu malkenu ba'avur avoteinu v'imoteinu

shebatchu vecha vatelamdem chukei chayim ken techanenu utelamdenu.

With an abounding love, you love us, NURTURER, OUR GOD;
with great compassion do you care for us.
Our source, our sovereign,
just as our ancestors placed their trust in you,
and you imparted to them laws of life, so be gracious to us, too, and teach us.

אבינו האב הרחמן המרחם רחם עלינו
ותן בלבנו להבין ולהשכיל לשמע
ללמד וללמד לשמור ולעשות
ולקים את כל דברי תלמוד תורתך באהבה:

Avinu ha'av harachaman hamrachem rachem aleinu

veten belibenu lehavin ulehaskil lishmo'a

lilmod ulelamed lishmor v'la'asot

ulekayem et kol divrei talmud toratecha be'avahavah.

Our FOUNT, our loving parent, caring one, be merciful with us,
and place into our hearts the ability to understand, to see, to hear, to learn, to teach, to keep, to do, and to uphold with love all that we study of your Torah.