The New Mahzor

for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur



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MAHZOR HADASH

REVISED AND EXPANDED VERSION

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Lord, what are we humans, that You have regard for us, Mere mortals, that You take account of us?

We are like a breath, Our days are like a fleeting shadow.

Teach us to number our days, That we may attain a heart of wisdom.

The Lord redeems the life of His servants; And those who trust in Him shall not feel forsaken.

Biblical verses

W

Eternal God, in whose eyes a thousand years are but as yesterday, in whose hands are the souls of the living and the dead, in Your sight every soul is precious.

O Lord, from whom we come and to whom we return, strengthen us as we now remember our loved ones who have been reunited with You. Be with us as we consecrate this hour to the memory of our departed.

שִׁנִיתִי יְיָ לְנָנְדִּי תָמִיד. כִּי מִימִינִי בַּל-אֶמוֹט: לָבֵן שָׂמַח לִבִּי וַיָּנֶל כְּבוֹדִי. אַף־בְּשָׂרִי יִשְׁכּן לֶבֶטַח:

I have set the Lord before me always, He is at my right hand; I shall not fail.

Therefore my heart rejoices, my whole being exults, And my body rests secure.

Preludes to Yizkor

THEIR MEMORIES ILLUMINE OUR WORLD

There are stars whose light reaches the earth only after they themselves have disintegrated. And there are individuals whose memory lights the world after they have passed from it. These lights shine in the darkest night and illumine for us the path....

Hannuh Senesh

DEATH IS NOT THE ENEMY

I often feel that death is not the enemy of life, but its friend; for it is the knowledge that our years are limited which makes them so precious. It is the truth that time is but lent to us which makes us, at our best, look upon our years as a trust handed into our temporary keeping.

We are like children privileged to spend a day in a great park, a park filled with many gardens and playgrounds and azure-tinted lakes with white boats sailing upon the tranquil waves.

True, the day allotted to each of us is not the same in length, in light, in beauty. Some children of earth are privileged to spend a long and sunlit day in the garden of the earth. For others the day is shorter, cloudier, and dusk descends more quickly as in a winter's tale.

But whether our life is a long summery day or a shorter wintry afternoon, we know that inevitably there are storms and squalls which overcast even the bluest heaven and there are sunlit rays which pierce the darkest autumn sky. The day that we are privileged to spend in the great park of life is not the same for all human beings; but there is enough beauty and joy and gaiety in the hours, if we will but treasure them.

Then for each of us the moment comes when the great nurse, death, takes us by the hand and quietly says, "It is time to go home. Night is coming. It is your bedtime, child of earth. Come; you're tired. Lie down at last in the quiet nursery of nature and sleep. Sleep well. The day is gone. Stars shine in the canopy of eternity."

Joshua Loth Liebman

Though they are gone from us we are grateful for the blessings they brought and were to us. Now, by giving to others the love which our departed gave to us, we can partly repay the debt we owe them.

We are sustained and comforted by the thought that the goodness which they brought into our lives remains an enduring blessing which we can bequeath to our descendants.

We can still serve our departed by serving You. We can show our devotion to them by our devotion to those ideals which they cherished.

O God of Love, make us worthy of the love we have received by teaching us to love You with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our might, and to spread the light of Your divine love on all whose lives touch ours.

Give us strength to live honorably and, when our time comes, to die serenely, cheered by the confidence that You will not permit our lives to be wasted, but will bring all our worthy strivings to fulfillment.

Amen.

Mordecai M. Kaplan, Eugene Kohn, and Ira Eisenstein (adapted)

In memory of departed congregants:

In this memorial hour, we recall members of our congregation who have been taken from us....

Their memories are enshrined in this sanctuary, and are gratefully recorded upon the tablets of our hearts.

May the Source of all comfort send consolation and healing to those who mourn them. May their memories endure among us as a lasting benediction. And let us say: Amen.

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Eternal God, we have come to sanctify our fleeting lives by linking them with Yours, O Life of all Ages. In You generations past, present, and future are united in one bond of life.

At this sacred hour, we are aware of those souls through whom we have come to know of Your grace and love. All the wisdom, beauty, and affection that have enriched our lives are the garnered fruits of our communion with others.

Many of those to whom we owe so much are alive with us today; and we pray that we may be able to reward their goodness and their devotion to us by acts of love and loyalty.

But others have passed forever from our midst, leaving us a heritage of tender memories which now fill our minds.

Some of us recall today beloved parents who watched over us, nursed us, guided us, and sacrificed for us.

Some of us lovingly call to mind a wife or a husband with whom we were truly united—in our hopes and our pains, in our failures and our achievements, in our joys and our sorrows.

Some of us remember brothers and sisters, who grew up together with us, sharing in the play of childhood, in the youthful adventure of discovering life's possibilities, bound to us by a heritage of family tradition and by years of comradeship and love.

Some of us call to mind children, entrusted to our care all too briefly, taken from us before they reached the years of maturity and fulfillment, to whom we gave our loving care and from whom we received a trust which enriched our lives.

All of us recall beloved relatives and friends whose affection and devotion enhanced our lives, and whose visible presence will never return to cheer, encourage or support us. יְוְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְּׁמֵת אָבִי מוֹרִי שֶׁהָלַךְ לְעוֹלָמוֹ. אָנָא תְּהִי נַפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וּתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כָּבוֹד. שְׂבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֵיךְ. נְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְךְ נֵצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the soul of my beloved father who has gone to his eternal rest. In tribute to his memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep his soul bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

YIZKOR-In remembrance of a mother:

יִּוְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְּׁמַת אָמִי מוֹרָתִי שֶׁהָלְּכָה לְעוֹלָמָה. אָנָא תְּהִי נַפְּשָׁה צְרוּרָה בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וֹתְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כָּבוֹר. שְׂבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֶיְדּ. נְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְדְּ נֶצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the soul of my beloved mother who has gone to her eternal rest. In tribute to her memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep her soul bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

YIZKOR-In remembrance of a husband:

יִזְכּר אֶלהִים נִשְּמֵת בַּעֲלִי שֶׁהָלֵךְ לְעוֹלָמוֹ. אָנָא תְּהִי נַפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וּתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כָּבוֹד. שְׂבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֶיךְ. נְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְךְ נֶצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the soul of my beloved husband who has gone to his eternal rest. In tribute to his memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep his soul bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

W

At the rising of the sun and at its going down, we remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

At the shining of the sun and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

At the beginning of the year and at its end, we remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live; for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share, we remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make, we remember them.

When we have achievements that are based on theirs, we remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live; for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer

יִזְכּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְּׁמוֹת קְרוֹבֵי וִידִידִי שֶּׁהָלְכוּ לְעוֹלֶמֶם. אָנָא תִּהְיֵינָה נַפְשׁוֹתִיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וּתְהִי מְנוּחָתֶם כָּבוֹד. שְּׂבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֵיךְ. נְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְךְּ נֵצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the souls of my relatives and friends who have gone to their eternal rest. In tribute to their memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep their souls bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

YIZKOR-In remembrance of our martyrs:

יְוְפֹּר אֶלהִים נִשְׁמוֹת כָּל־אַחֵינוּ בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁמְּסְרוּ אֶת־נַפְּשָׁם עַל־ּקִדּוּשׁ הַשֵּׁם. עַל־ּקִיוּם הָעָם. וְעַל־נְּאֻלַּת הָאֵרֶץ. אָנָא יִשָּׁמֵע בְּחַיֵינוּ הֵד נְבוּרָתָם וּמְסִירוּתָם. וְתִּהְיֵינָה נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִים. וּתְהִי מְנוּחָתָם כָּבוֹר. שְׂבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֵיךּ. נְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְךְ נֶצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the souls of our martyrs who gave their lives for the sanctification of His name, for the preservation of our people, and for the redemption of the Holy Land. May their heroism and sacrificial devotion be reflected in our thoughts and deeds. May their souls be bound up in the bond of life and their memories abide among us as an enduring blessing. Amen.

יִזְכּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְּׁמַת אִשְׁתִּי שֶׁהָלְכָה לְעוֹלָמָה. אָנָּא חְהִי נַפְשָׁה צְרוּרָה בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וּתְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כָּבוֹר. שְּׁבַע שְׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֵיךָ. נָעמוֹת בִּימִינְדְ נֵצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the soul of my beloved wife who has gone to her eternal rest. In tribute to her memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep her soul bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

YIZKOR-In remembrance of a son:

יִוְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְּׁמַת בְּנִי הָאָהוּב מַחְמַד עֵינֵי שֶׁהָלַךְ לְעוֹלָמוֹ. אָנָּא תְהִי נַפְשׁוֹ צְרוּרָה בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וּתְהִי מְנוּחָתוֹ כָבוֹד. שְׂבַע שְּׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּגֵיךְ. נְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְךְּ נֵצָח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the soul of my beloved son who has gone to his eternal rest. In tribute to his memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep his soul bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

YIZKOR-In remembrance of a daughter:

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים נִשְּׁמַת בָּתִּי הָאֲהוּבָה מַחְמַד עֵינֵי שֶּׁהָלְּכָה לְעוֹלָמָה. אָנָּא הְהִי נַפְּשָׁהּ צְרוּרָה בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים. וּחְהִי מְנוּחָתָה כָּבוֹד. שְּׁבַע שְּׂמָחוֹת אֶת־פָּנֵיִדְּ. וְעִמוֹת בִּימִינְדְּ נֶצַח. אָמֵן:

May God remember the soul of my beloved daughter who has gone to her eternal rest. In tribute to her memory I pledge to perform acts of charity and goodness. May the deeds I perform and the prayers I offer help to keep her soul bound up in the bond of life as an enduring source of blessing. Amen.

יָיָ רֹעִי לֹא אֱחְסָר:

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

בָּנָאוֹת דֵשֵׁא יָרְבִּיצֵנִי.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

צַל־מֵי מְנָחוֹת יְנַהֲלֵנִי:

He leads me beside the still waters.

נַפְשִׁי יְשׁוֹבֵב. יַנְחֲנִי בְמַעְגְּלֵי־צֵּדֶ־ק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ:

He revives my spirit;

He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

נַם כִּי־אֵלֵך בְּנֵיא צַלְמֶנֶת. לֹא־אִירָא רָע כִּי־אַחָּה עִפְּדִי.

Though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for You are with me.

שָׁבְטְּך וּמִשְׁעַנְתֵּך הֵמָה וְנַחֲמֻנִי:

Your rod and Your staff comfort me.

.מַעֲרֹךְ לְפָנֵי שְׁלְחָן נֶגֶד צֹרְרָי

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my foes.

רְאַנְתָּ בָשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי כּוֹסִי רְוָיָה:

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

אַר טוֹב וָחֶסֶד וִרְדְפָּוֹנִי כַּלֹ־יִמֵי חַיֵּי.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.

ּוְשַּׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית־יְיָ לְאְֶׂרֶךְ יָמִים:

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

אֵל מָלֵא רַחֲמִים שוֹכֵן בַּמְרוֹמִים הַמְצֵא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנְה מְחַת כַּנְפֵּי הַשְּׁכִינָה בְּמֵעֲלוֹת קְדוֹשִׁים וּטְהוֹרִים כְּזְהַר הָרָקִיעַ מַזְּהִירִים אֶת־נִשְׁמוֹת כָּל־אֵלֶה שָׁהְוַכֵּרְנוּ הַיוֹם לִבְּרָכָה. אָנָא בִּעַל הָרַחֲמִים תַּסְתִירֵם בְּמֵעֶר כְּנָפֵיף לְעוֹלָמִים. וְתִצְרוֹר בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִים אֶת־נִשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם וְיָנְוּחוּ עַל־מִשְׁכְבוֹתָם בְּשָׁלוֹם. וְנֹאמֵר אָמֵן:

Merciful God, who dwells on high and in our hearts, grant perfect peace to the souls of our dearly beloved who have gone to their eternal rest. Shelter them in Your Divine Presence among the holy and pure whose radiance is like the brightness of the firmament. May their memory inspire us to live justly and kindly. May their souls be at peace; and may they be bound up in the bond of eternal life. Let us say: Amen.

EYL MALEY RAHAMIM-Prayer for our martyrs:

אַל מָלֵא רַחֲמִים שׁוֹכֵן בַּמְּרוֹמִים הַמְצֵא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה מַחָת כַּנְפֵּי הַשְּׁכִינָה בְּמַעֻלוֹת קְרוֹשִׁים וּטְהוֹרִים כְּוְהַר הָרָקִיע מַזְהִירִים אָת־נִשְׁמוֹת כָּל־אַחִינוּ בְּנֵי יִשְּׂרָאֵל שֶׁמֶסְרוּ אָת־נַפְשָׁם עַל־קִדּוּשׁ הַשְּׁם. עַל־קִיוּם הָעָם. וְעַל־נִּאְלֵּת הָאֶרֶץ. אָנָּא בַּעַל הָרַחֲמִים הַסְתִירֵם בְּסֵתֶר כְּנָפֵיךּ לְעוֹלְמִים. וְתַצְרוֹר בִּצְרוֹר הַחָיִים אָת־נִשְׁמוֹתִיהָם וְיָנִוּחוּ עַל־מִשְׁבְּבוֹתָם בְּשָׁלוֹם. וְנֹאמֵר אָמַן:

Merciful God, who dwells on high and in our hearts, grant perfect peace to the souls of our martyrs who gave their lives for the sanctification of Your name, for the preservation of our people, and for the redemption of the Holy Land. Shelter them in Your Divine Presence among the holy and pure whose radiance is like the brightness of the firmament. May their memory inspire us to live justly and kindly. May their souls be at peace; and may they be bound up in the bond of eternal life. Let us say: Amen.

W

May the memories of our loved ones inspire us To seek in our lives those qualities of mind and heart Which we recall with special gratitude.

May we help to bring closer to fulfillment Their highest ideals and noblest strivings.

May the memories of our loved ones deepen our loyalty To that which cannot die—

Our faith, our love, and devotion to our heritage.

As we ponder life's transience and frailty, Help us, O God, to use each precious moment wisely, To fill each day with all the compassion and kindness Which You have placed within our reach.

Thus will the memories of our loved ones abide among us As a source of undying inspiration and enduring blessing.

W

THE GIFT OF MEMORY

We thank You, O God of life and love,
For the resurrecting gift of memory
Which endows Your children, fashioned in Your image,
With the Godlike sovereign power
To give immortality through love.
Praised be You, O God,
Who enables Your children to remember.

Morris Adler

יִתְנַדֵּל וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵה רַבָּא. בְּעָלְמָא דִּי־בְּרָאֵ כָרְעוּתֵה. וְיַמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵה בְּחַיֵּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל־בֵּית יַשְּרָאֵל בַּעֲנָלָא וּבִוֹמֵן לָרִיב. וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

יָהֵא שְׁמֵה רַבָּא מְבָרַך לְעָלַם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמֵיָא:

יִתְבָּרֵךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבָּח וְיִתְפָּאַר וְיִתְרֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדֵּר וְיִתְעַלֶּא מִכָּל־בִּרְכָתָא וְשִׁירָתָא תְּשְׁבְּחָתָא וְנָחֶמְתָּא וּלְעֵלָּא מִכָּל־בִּרְכָתָא וְשִׁירָתָא תְּשְׁבְּחָתָא וְנָחֶמְתָּא וּאַמִירוּ אָמֵן:

יָהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל־ יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן:

עשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם בִּמְרוֹמָיו הוא יַעֲשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל־ יִשְׂרָאֵל. וָאָמָרוּ אָמֵן:

Yit-gadal v'yit-kadash sh'mey raba, B'alma di v'ra ḥirutey, v'yam-liḥ mal-ḥutey B'ḥa-yey-ḥon uv-yomey-ḥon uv-ḥa-yey d'ḥol beyt yisrael Ba-agala u-vizman kariv, v'imru amen.

Y'hey sh'mey raba m'varaḥ l'alam ul-almey alma-ya.

Yit-barah v'yish-tabah v'yit-pa-ar v'yit-romam v'yit-na-sey V'yit-hadar v'yit-aleh v'yit-halal sh'mey d'kud-sha, B'rih hu, l'eyla ul-eyla mi-kol bir-hata v'shi-rata Tush-b'hata v'ne-hemata da-amiran b'alma, v'imru amen,

Y'hey sh'lama raba min sh'ma-ya V'ḥa-yim aleynu v'al kol yisrael, v'imru amen.

Oseh shalom bi-m'romav, hu ya-aseh shalom Aleynu v'al kol yisrael, v'imru amen.

HAZKARAT NESHAMOT