

STEPHEN WISE TEMPLE

הִנֵּה מַה טוֹב וּמַה נְעִים שְׁבֵת אַחִים גַּם יַחַד.
HINEI mah tov u-ma-na-im shevet achim gam yachad.
How good and how sweet it is to be together on this day!
Psalm 133:1

Today we come to this body of water to perform the Tashlich ceremony, seeking symbolically to "cast away" our accumulated sins and transgressions so that we may purify our hearts and our souls, as the new year begins.

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֵדָם.
HASHIVEINU Adonai eilechah v'nashuvah, chadesh yameinu k'kedem.
Help us turn to you, Adonai, and we will return. Renew our days as before.
Lamentations 5:21

Here I am again ready to let go of my mistakes. Help me to release myself from all the ways I've missed the mark. Help me to stop carrying the karmic baggage of my poor choices. As I cast this bread upon the waters lift my troubles off my shoulders. Help me to know that last year is over, washed away like crumbs in the current. Open my heart to blessing and gratitude. Renew my soul as the dew renews the grasses.

Rabbi Rachel Barenblat

Even for the little ones like me, one among the throng, for the children of poverty on disappointment's shore, the river hums its song, lovingly hums its song. The sun's soft caress touches it now and then. My image, too, is reflected in waters that flow green, and in the river's depths each one of us is deep. My ever-deepening image streaming away to the sea is swallowed up, erased on the edge of vanishing. And with the river's voice, with the river's psalm, the speechless soul will sing praises of the world.

Leah Goldberg

אֱלֹהֵי נְשָׁמָה שְׁנַתַּתָּ בִּי טְהוֹרָה הִיא.
ELOHAI neshama shenatata bi tehora hi.
My God, the soul you have given me is pure.

God, help us to turn--from callousness to sensitivity, from hostility to love, from pettiness to purpose, from envy to contentment, from carelessness to discipline, from fear to faith. Turn us around, O God, and bring us back toward You. Revive our lives, as at the beginning. And turn us toward each other, for in isolation there is no life.

Rabbi Jack Reimer

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתְּבוּ
L'SHANAH Tovah tikateivu.
May you be inscribed for a year of goodness and blessing.