

**Havdalah Service of Prayer**  
In memory and mourning for  
**the Tree of Life Synagogue, Pittsburgh**  
28 October 2018



**Psalm 121**

Tune by Verminder

Siddur Lev Chadash page 180

**Poem Without an End**

By Yehuda Amichai

Translated by Chana Bloch

Inside the brand-new museum  
there's an old synagogue.  
Inside the synagogue  
is me.  
Inside me  
my heart.  
Inside my heart  
a museum.  
Inside the museum  
a synagogue,  
inside it  
me,  
inside me  
my heart,  
inside my heart  
a museum

**Open up our eyes**  
By Jeff Klepper

Teach us how to live  
Fill our hearts with joy  
And all the love You have to give  
Gather us in peace  
As You lead us to your Name  
And we will know that You are One.

**Shema**  
Tune by Tvika Pik

**Siddur Lev Chadash page 15**

**Prayer for the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh**

Tree of Life,  
Revive our souls,  
Enrich our days,  
Entreating Your blessings.  
Oh, God of Peace,  
Fill our hearts with comfort, a  
Letting Your Torah shine,  
In the fullness of our love.  
Faith in You, our God,  
Eternal Source of blessings.  
Praying for healing  
In the depths of despair,  
Thanking God for the survivors,  
Thanking God for the first responders,  
Sorrow crushing our hearts,  
Bereaved beyond belief,  
United in our love,  
Returning to You in faith,

God of Israel,  
Healer of generations.  
Tree of Life,  
Redeemer of Israel,  
Enliven this moment with healing,  
Enliven this moment with hope.  
Oh, Rock of Israel,  
Forget not the Jews of Pittsburgh.  
Let Your love flow  
In the days ahead  
For justice and peace  
Everlasting.

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## Hashkiveinu

By Dan Nichols

Hashkiveinu adonai Eloheinu l'shalom V'hamideinu malkeinu  
L'chaim

Spread the shelter of your peace over us Guide us in wisdom,  
compassion and trust

Hashkiveinu adonai Eloheinu l'shalom V'hamideinu malkeinu  
L'chaim

Save us for the sake of your name Shield us from hatred,  
sorrow and pain

Hashkiveinu adonai Eloheinu l'shalom V'hamideinu malkeinu  
L'chaim

Hashkiveinu adonai Eloheinu l'shalom V'hamideinu malkeinu  
L'chaim L'chaim L'chaim

**A Prayer for the Dead  
of Tree of Life Congregation  
by Rabbi Naomi Levy**

We are devastated, God,  
Our hearts are breaking  
In this time of shock and mourning.  
The loss is overwhelming.  
Send comfort and strength, God,  
To grieving family members.  
Send healing to the injured,  
Send strength and wisdom  
to their doctors and nurses.  
Bless the courageous police officers who risked their lives  
To protect innocent lives.

Shield us from despair, God,  
Ease our pain.  
Let our fears give way to hope.  
Lead us to join together as a nation  
To put an end to anti-Semitism,  
An end to hatred,  
An end to gun violence.

Teach us, God, to honor the souls we have lost  
By raising our hands  
and voices together  
In the cause of peace.  
Because Torah is a Tree of Life  
And all its paths are peaceful.

Work through us, God.  
Turn our helplessness into action.  
Teach us to believe that we can  
rise up from this tragedy  
And banish the hate

that is tearing our world apart.  
We must never be indifferent  
to the plight of any who suffer.  
We must learn to care,  
To open our hearts  
and open our hands.  
Innocent blood is calling out to us.

God of the brokenhearted,  
God of the living, God of the dead,  
Gather the souls of the victims  
Into Your eternal shelter.  
Let them find peace  
in Your presence, God.  
Their lives have ended  
But their lights  
can never be extinguished.  
May they shine on us always  
And illuminate our way.  
Amen.

### **Mi Shebeirach**

By Debbie Friedman

*Mi sheberakh avoteinu*

*M'kor habrakhah l'imoteinu*

May the source of strength who blessed the ones before us,  
Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing  
And let us say: Amen.

*Mi sheberakh imoteinu*

*M'kor habrakhah l'avoteinu*

Bless those in need of healing with *refuah sh'leimah*  
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit  
And let us say: Amen.

## A Kaddish after Gun Violence: For When Humanity Fails Itself

by Rabbi Paul Kipnes

*Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'may rabba...*

Exalted and Holy be Your great name...

Yet little feels holy today.

Another mass shooting

An incomprehensible horror

Too many dead and too many wounded

And we are left

to mourn

the dead

to heal

the wounded

to wonder

why?

*...b'alma di v'ra chirutei...*

...in the world which You God created, according to plan...

But is this part of Your plan?

That death and destruction emerges from the free will You entrusted to us

That automatic gunfire rains down unceasingly

That people kill people, using weapons we designed and created with the minds You accorded us

*...v'yamlich malchutei, b'chayeichon uv'yomeichon...*

...may Your majestic love be revealed, in the days of our lifetime...

In your Torah we are taught,

When Moses and the Israelites stood praying at the shores of the Red Sea while the Egyptians army was bearing down on

them, You called out to us "Why are you crying out to Me? Tell the Israelites to move on." (Ex 14:15).

So help us move on

Not by forgetting this horror  
Not by explaining it away  
Not by blaming the easy targets  
But by having courage to  
Mourn the dead  
Heal the victims  
Bless the first responders  
Lead with love  
Change the laws  
And save lives

*...y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya, v'chayim aleinu...*

...may there (soon) be abundant peace from heaven, and  
life, for us...

Peace that comes  
because we did NOT  
become inured to the continual violence in our concert venues,  
our schools, our malls and neighborhoods  
and we did NOT  
allow the calls for prayers to turn us away from the actions we  
must take to end mass shootings  
But because we DID  
find the courage to stand up, speak up, act out

*...oseh shalom bimromav, Hu yaaseh shalom aleinu,*

...may the One who creates harmony on high, bring peace to  
us,

*v'al kol Yisrael, v'al kol yoshvei teivel,*

to all Israel, and all the world,

So one day Your world, free from this violence,  
will finally reflect Your exaltedness and holiness.

*...v'imru:*

...and we say:

Amen.

## **Kaddish**

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## **Adon Olam**

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## **Olam Chesed Yibaneh**

By Creditor

Olam chesed yibaneh...tai dai dai (x4)

I will build this world from love...tai dai dai

And you must build this world from love...tai dai dai And if we  
build this world from love...tai dai dai Then God will build this  
world from love...tai dai dai

## **Birchat Havdalah**

Tune by Debbie Friedman

### **CHORUS**

Ya la la..... (2x)

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha'olam

Borei p'ri hagafen (2x)

### **CHORUS**

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha'olam

Borei minei v'samim (2x)

### **CHORUS**

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu melech ha'olam

Borei m'ore ha'eish (2x)

### **CHORUS**

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe

Creator of the fruit of the vine. Blessed are You, Adonai our

God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of all the spices.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe

Creator of the light of fire. Blessed are You, our God, ruler of

the world, who separates the holy from the evil.