

Light and Darkness

From <i>Birkot Hashachar</i> (the blessings to begin the day)	ברכות השחר
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign	בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יִיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר
of the universe, who gave the heart wisdom	
to distinguish between light and darkness.	נָתַן לַשֶּׂכְוִי בִינָה לְהַבְחִין בֵּין יוֹם וּבֵין לָיְלָה.

From Shacharit (the morning service)	שחרית
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who forms light and creates darkness, makes peace and creates everything.	בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, יוֹצֵר אוֹר וּבוֹרֵא חְשֶׁךְ, עֹשֶׂה שֶׁלוֹם וּבוֹרֵא אֶת הַכּּל.

From Ma'ariv (the evening service)	מעריב		
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who through words brings on evenings, through wisdom opens gates, and through understanding changes times, and exchanges the seasons, and orders the stars in their places in the sky. Creator of day and night, rolling away light for darkness and darkness for light, making the day pass and bringing on night and distinguishing between day and night, Adonai Tz'vaot is your name. May the living and enduring God rule over us always and forever. Blessed are You, Adonai, who brings on evenings.	בָּרוּך אַתָּה יִי, אֶלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בִּדְבָרוֹ מֵעֲרִיב עֲרָבִים, בְּחָכְמָה פּוֹתַחַ שְׁעָרִים, וּבִתְבוּנָה מְשֵׁנֶּה עִתִּים, וּמַחַלִּיף אֶת הַזְּמַנִּים, וּמְסַדֵּר אֶת הַכּוֹכָבִים בְּמִשְׁמְרוֹתֵיהֶם בָּרָקִיעַ כִּרְצוֹנוֹ. בּוֹרֵא יוֹם וָלֶיְלָה, גּוֹלֵל אוֹר מִפְּנֵי חְשֶׁךְ, וְחְשֶׁךְ מִפְּנֵי אוֹר. וּמַעֲבִיר יוֹם וּמִבִיא לָיְלָה, וּמַבְדִּיל בֵּין יוֹם וּבֵין לָיְלָה, יִי צְבָאוֹת שְׁמוֹ. אֵל חֵי וְלַיָּם, תָּמִיד יִמְלוֹךְ עָלֵינוּ לְעוֹלָם וַעֶּד. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יִי, הַמַּעֲרִיב עֲרָבִים.		

Shehechiyanu (often said to mark a		
special moment)	שהחינו	
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign	בַּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֵיָנוּ	
of the universe, who gave us life, sustained		
us, and brought us to this time.	וְקִיּמֶנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַיְּמַן הַגָּה.	



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Rosh Chodesh Prayer

By Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg

Dear God, God of our mothers and fathers,
Renew us this month and this year
Direct us
Toward goodness and blessing
Toward the joyful
Toward liberation and challenge, as well as
Toward patience and consolation
Toward becoming ever more human beings.
Let us become capable of supporting ourselves,

Our families and friends,

Let us serve our community in dignity.

Direct us

Toward life and peace

Toward observing our blindness

Toward struggling with our goals

Toward forgiving ourselves and each other.

You brought us near with an intention

You gave us the awareness of the cycles of the moon.

May we use this gift as an opportunity

To understand what you intend for us.

Thank you for inviting us to share your holiness and

This holy moment of the New Moon.

My prayer:			