

Shehechianu

Contributed by [Laura Craig Mason](#)

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בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁהַחֵינֵנוּ וְקִיַּמְנֵנוּ וְהַגִּיעְנוּ לְזִמְנֵנוּ הַזֶּה

***Barukh atah Adonai Eloheinu Melekh Ha'Olam she'hecheyanu v'kiyamanu
v'higiyanu lazman hazeh.***

Blessed is the Eternal, for giving us life, for sustaining us and bringing us to this time.

This blessing is said whenever we do something for the first time or for the first time in a while. Tonight is the first time this particular group has gathered together in community to celebrate Pesach. Now is also a great time to welcome everyone who is at their first Seder!

Opening Prayer

All read the bold text together

Long ago at this season, our people set out on a journey.

On such a night as this, Israel went from degradation to joy.

We give thanks for the liberation of days gone by.

And we pray for all who are still bound.

Eternal God, may all who hunger come to rejoice in a new Passover.

Let all the human family sit at Your table, drink the wine of deliverance, eat the bread of freedom:

Freedom from bondage/ **and freedom from oppression**

Freedom from hunger/ **and freedom from want**

Freedom from hatred/ **and freedom from fear**

Freedom to think/ **and freedom to speak**

Freedom to teach/ **and freedom to learn**

Freedom to love/ **and freedom to share**

Freedom to hope/ **and freedom to rejoice**

Soon, in our days/ **Amen.iii**