

The Shehecheyanu

Contributed by [Leigh Nusbaum](#)

Source:

The Shehecheyanu is a prayer that Jews have been saying for over 2000 years to mark special occasions. Tonight, all of us here together is special occasion. Whether Jewish or not, we have come here under a shared belief that everyone is entitled to be free. We all believe that everyone is entitled to certain inalienable rights. We all believe that we must treat our brothers and sisters with common decency. That is special and meaningful.

To mark this special and meaningful occasion, we all join together in the words of the Shehecheyanu:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שְׁהַחַיְנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ

וְהִגִּישְׁנוּ לְזִמְן הַזֶּה

Baruch atah, Adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam,

shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu lazman hazeh.

Blessed are you, Adonai, sovereign of all worlds, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this moment.