

Candle Lighting

Contributed by [Joseph Zitt](#)

Source: The Velveteen Rabbi's Haggadah by Rachel Barenblat

Blessed is the match consumed in kindling flame.

Blessed is the flame that burns in the secret fastness of the heart.

Blessed is the heart with the strength to stop its beating for honor's sake.

Blessed is the match consumed in kindling flame.

(—Hannah Senesch)

May the light of the candles we kindle together tonight bring radiance to all who live in darkness. May this season, marking the deliverance of our people from Pharaoh, rouse us against anyone who keeps others in servitude. In gratitude for the freedom we enjoy, may we strive to bring about the liberation of all people everywhere. Lighting these candles, we create the sacred space of the Festival of Freedom; we sanctify the coming-together of our community.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוֵּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל שַׁבָּת וְשֶׁל יוֹם טוֹב

*Baruch atah, Adonai, eloheinu ruach ha'olam,
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov.*

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Breath of Life, who sanctifies us with your commandment to kindle the holiday lights.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחַיָּנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנֵן 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.