

Today we come to this body of water to perform the *Tashlich* ceremony, seeking symbolically to “cast away” our accumulated sins and transgressions so that we may purify our hearts and our souls, as the new year begins.

Let us cast away the sin of deception, so that we will mislead no one in word or deed, nor pretend to be what we are not.

Let us cast away the sin of vain ambition, which prompts us to strive for goals which bring neither true fulfillment nor genuine contentment.

Let us cast away the sin of stubbornness, so that we will neither persist in foolish habits nor fail to acknowledge our will to change.

Let us cast away the sin of envy, so that we will neither be consumed by desire for what we lack nor grow unmindful of the blessings which are already ours.

Let us cast away the sin of selfishness, which keeps us from enriching our lives through wider concerns and great sharing and from reaching out in love to other human beings.

Let us cast away the sin of indifference, so that we may be sensitive to the sufferings of others and responsive to the needs of people everywhere.

Let us cast away the sin of pride and arrogance, so that we can worship God and serve God's purpose in humility and truth.

Avinu Malkeinu

Avinu Malkeinu, she-ma ko-lei-nu

Eternal, our God, hear our prayer.

Avinu Malkeinu, we have sinned before you.

Eternal, our God, have mercy upon us and upon our children.

Avinu Malkeinu, inscribe us for blessing in the book of life.

Eternal, our God, grant unto us a year of happiness.

Avinu Malkeinu, Be gracious and answer us, for we have not done enough good deeds. Please love us, be generous with us, and help us.

אָבִינוּ מַלְכֵנוּ חֲנֻנוּ וְעֲנֵנוּ כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ:

Avinu Malkeinu Chanenu va'aneinu (2x) ke ein banu ma'asim.

Aseh imanu tzdakah vachesed -

Aseh imanu tzdakah vachesed, v'hoshi'enu. (repeat)

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I call to You;

Lord, hear my cry, heed my plea.

Be attentive to my prayers, to my sigh of supplication.

Who could endure, Lord, if You kept count of every sin?

But forgiveness is Yours: therefore we revere You.

I wait for the Lord; my soul yearns.

Hopefully I await His word.

I wait for the Lord more eagerly than watchmen wait for dawn.

Put your hope in the Lord, for the Lord is generous with mercy.

Abundant is God's power to redeem;

May God redeem the people Israel from all sin.

Micah 7:18-20

מִי־אֵל כַּמוֹךָ נָשָׂא עוֹן וְעָבַר עַל פֶּשַׁע לַשְּׂאֲרִית גְּחֻלָּתוֹ,
לֹא הִחְזִיק לְעַד אַפּוֹ כִּי חָפֵץ חֶסֶד הוּא. יָשׁוּב יִרְחַמֵּנוּ
יִכַּבֵּשׁ עֲוֹנוֹתֵינוּ וְתִשְׁלִיךְ בַּמַּצְלוֹת יָם כָּל־חַטָּאתָם. תִּתֵּן
אֶמֶת לִיַּעֲקֹב חֶסֶד לְאַבְרָהָם אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ לְאַבְתֵּינוּ מִימֵי קֶדֶם.

Who is a God like You, forgiving iniquity and pardoning the transgression of the remnant of Your people? You do not maintain anger forever but You delight in loving-kindness. You will again have compassion upon us, subduing our sins, casting all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and enduring love to Abraham, as You promised our fathers from days of old.

“The Circle Game” by Joni Mitchell

Yesterday a child came out to wander
Caught a dragonfly inside a jar
Fearful when the sky was full of thunder
And tearful at the falling of a star

And the seasons, they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
We're captive on the carousel of time
We can't return, we can only look
Behind, from where we came
And go round and round and round, in the circle
game

Then the child moved ten times round the seasons
Skated over ten clear frozen streams
Words like, "When you're older" must appease him
And promises of someday make his dreams

And the seasons, they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
We're captive on the carousel of time
We can't return, we can only look
Behind, from where we came
And go round and round and round, in the circle
game

16 springs and 16 summers gone now
Cartwheels turn to car wheels through the town
And they tell him, "Take your time, it won't be long
now
'Til you drag your feet to slow the circles down"

And the seasons, they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
We're captive on the carousel of time
We can't return, we can only look
Behind, from where we came
And go round and round and round, in the circle
game

So the years spin by and now the boy is 20
Though his dreams have lost some grandeur coming
true
There'll be new dreams, maybe better dreams and
plenty
Before the last revolving year is through

And the seasons, they go round and round
And the painted ponies go up and down
We're captive on the carousel of time
We can't return, we can only look
Behind, from where we came
And go round and round and round, in the circle
game
And go round and round and round, in the circle
game