סדר קידוש לבנה

Sanctification of the Moon) Kiddush Levanah

In Kabbalistic tradition, the new moon is sanctified seven days after its appearance, under a clear sky, standing facing east. It may be said as early as three days after the new moon, and as late as a day before the full moon (the moon should still be visibly waxing). It is the custom in the month of Av to wait to sanctify the moon until after Tisha b'Av, and in Tishrei to wait until after Yom Kippur. In a minyan, the Aleinu prayer and kaddish are traditionally added at the end.

Psalms 148:1-6

ָּבֶּלְלוּיָה, הַלְלוּ אֶת יהוה מִן הַשָּׁמַיִם, הַלְלוּהוּ בַּמְּרוֹמִים: הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל מַלְאָכִיו, הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל צְבָאָיו: הַלְלוּהוּ שֶׁמֶשׁ וְיָרֵחַ, הַלְלוּהוּ כָּל כּוֹכְבֵי אוֹר: הַלְלוּהוּ שְׁמֵי הַשָּׁמִיִם, וְהַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר מֵעַל הַשָּׁמִיִם יִהַלְלוּ אֵת שֵׁם יהוה כִּי הוּא צָוָּה וִנְבָרַאוּ: וַיַּעֲמִידֵם לַעַד לְעולַם, חָק נַחַן וְלֹא יַעֲבוֹר:

Praise Yah! Praise YHVH from the skies, praise the One in the heights. Praise the One, all angels, praise the One, all the hosts. Praise the One, sun and moon, praise the One, all stars of light. Praise the One, skies above skies, and water that is beyond the sky. They will praise YHVH's name, for God commanded and they were created, and God set them up ever forever, giving them a law, and it will not be erased.

בַּרוּך אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם

Blessed be You YHVH Adonai, our God, ruler of all space and time

אֲשֶׁר בְּמַאֲמָרוֹ בָּרָא שְׁחָקִים, וּבְרוּחַ פִּיו כָּל צְבָאָם

who with God's word created galaxies, and with the breath of God's mouth all of their hosts

חֹק וּזְמַן נָתַן לָהֶם שֶׁלֹּא יְשַׁנּוּ אֶת תַּפְקִידָם

law and time God gave to them, so they would not change their course

שַשִּׁים וּשִׁמֶחִים לַעֲשׁוֹת רְצוֹן קוֹנָם

joyful and happy to do the will of the One who possesses them,

פּוֹעֵל אֱמֶת, שֶׁפְּעֵלָתוֹ אֱמֶת וְלַלְּבָנָה אָמַר שֶׁתִּחַדֵּשׁ

True Worker whose work is true. And God said to the moon levanah, "Renew yourself!"

עַטֶרַת תִּפָאֵרָת לַעַמוּסֵי בַטַן

a crown of beauty to the womb-laden (or: those carried in the womb)

שֶׁהֵם עֲתִידִים לְהִתְחַדֵּשׁ כְּמוֹתָהּ, וּלְפָאֵר לִיוֹצְרַם

who are destined to renew themselves like her, and to glorify the One who formed them

על שם כבוד מלכותו:

by the name of glory of God's kingdom.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה מְחַדֵּשׁ חָדָשִׁים:

Blessed be You, YHVH Adonai, who makes new the renewing-moons m'chadesh chodashim!

Each of the following lines is said three times as a kind of incantation up to the new moon): *Feel free to say what is enjoyable and leave out what seems extraneous.*

בָּרוּך עוֹשֵׂך, בָּרוּך יוֹצְרַך, בָּרוּך בּוֹרְאֵך, בָּרוּך קוֹנַך.

Barukh oseikh, barukh yotsreikh, barukh boreikh, barukh koneikh

Blessed be your Maker, blessed be your Former, blessed be your Creator, blessed be your Possessor.

Jump with joy towards the moon each time you say the next line:

Just as I leap (and dance) opposite you and cannot touch you,

so may enemies be unable to touch each other for harm (traditional: so may my enemies be unable to touch me for harm.)

תָּפֹּל עֲלֵיהֶם אֵימֶתָה וָפַחַד בִּגְדֹל זְרוֹעֲךְ יִדְמוּ כָּאָבֶן. כָּאָבֶן יִדְמוּ זְרוֹעֲךְ בִּגְדֹל וָפַחַד אֵימֶתָה עֲלֵיהֶם תִּפֹּל:

There will fall upon them terror and fear, through your arm's greatness let them fall silent like a rock. (*Exodus 15:16*)

Like a rock let them fall silent through your arm, with greatness and fear, terror upon them will fall.

David King of Israel lives! David melekh yisrael chai v'kayam!

דַּוָד מֶלֶךְ יִשְׂרַאֶל חֵי וְקַיַּם

Exchange greetings with three people:

Unto you peace! Aleikhem shalom

עַלִיכֶם שַׁלוֹם!

Peace unto you! Shalom Aleikhem

ישָׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם!

A good omen and a good sign for us and for all Israel! Siman tov umazel tov y'hei lanu ud'khol Yisra'el!

סְמָן טוֹב וּמַזָּל טוֹב יְהֵא לָנוּ וּדְכָל יִשְׂרָאֵל אַמֵן

קוֹל דּוֹדִי הָנֵּה זֶה בָּא מְדַלֵּג עַל הָהָרִים מְקַפֵּץ עַל הַגְּבָעוֹת. דּוֹמֶה דוֹדִי לְצְבִי אוֹ לְעֹפֶר הָאַיָּלִים. הָנֵּה זֶה עוֹמֵד אַחַר כָּתְלֵנוּ, מַשְׁגִּים מו הַחַלֹּנוֹת, מֵצִיץ מו הַחַרְכִּים:

The voice of my beloved, here this one is coming, skipping over mountains, jumping over valleys. My beloved, be like an antelope or a doe of the deers! Here this one stands, beyond our wall, peering from the windows, peaking through the cracks. (Song of Songs 2:8-9)

Psalm 121

שִׁיר לַפַּעֲלוֹת, אֶשָּׂא עִינֵי אֶל הָהָרִים, מֵאַיִן יָבֹא עֶזְרִי: עֶזְרִי מֵעָם יְיָ עֹשֵׁה שָׁמֵיִם וָאָרֶץ: אַל יִתַּן לַמּוֹט רַגְלֶּדְּ, אַל יָנוּם שׁמְרֶדְּ: הַבָּה לֹא יָנוּם וְלֹא יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׁרָאֵל: יְיָ שׁמְרֶדְּ, יָיָ צִלְּדְּ עַל יֵד יְמִינֶדְ: יוֹמֶם הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לֹא יַכֶּכָּה, וְיָרֶם בַּלָּיְלָה: יְיָ יִשְׁמְרְדְּ מִכְּל רָע: יִשְׁמֹר אֵת נַפִּשֵּׁדְ: יִי יִשְׁמֵר צֵאתִדְּ וּבוֹאֶדְ, מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם:

אָמֵר ר אָסִי אָמֵר ר יוֹחָנַן כֶּל הַמְּבָרַךְּ עָל הַחֹדֶש בִּזְמָנוֹ כְּאִילוּ מְקָבֵל פְנֵי שְׁכִינָה. הָנָא דְבֵי רַבִּי יִשְׁמָעֵאל, אִלְמָלֵי לֹא זָכוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶלָא לְהַקְבִּיל פְּנֵי אֲבִיהֶם שֶׁבַּשְׁמַיִם פַּעַם אַחַת בַּחֹדֶשׁ דַּיָם. אָמַר אַבַּיֵי: הַלְכַּךְּ צָרִיךְ נֵימְרִינְהוּ מְעָמַד.

All who bless the "new one" *chodesh* (the moon) in its time, it's as if they received the face (presence) of *Shekhinah*. It was taught in the house of R. Yishmael: If Israel merited to receive the face of their Father in heaven only once a moon, it would be enough for them. Abaye said: Therefore we should say (the blessing over the moon) standing. (*Sanhedrin 42a*)

Who is this arising from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved? (Song of Songs8:5) מִי זֹאָת עוֹלָה מָן הַמִּדְבֶּר מָתְרַפֶּקֶת. עַל דּוֹדָה

ַויהִי רָצוֹן מִלְפָנֶיךּ יָיָ אֱלֹבִי וֵאלֹבֵי אֲבוֹתֵי לְמַלֹּאֹת פָּגִימַת הַלְּבָנָה, וְלֹא יִהְיֶה בָּה שׁוּם מִעוּט, וִיהִי אוֹר הַלְּבָנָה כְּאוֹר הַחַמָּה וּכְאוֹר שָׁבְעַת יְמֵי בְרֵאשִׁית, כְּמוֹ שֶׁהָיְתָה קוֹדֶם מִעוּטָה, שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר וַיַּעַשׁ אֱלֹהִים אֶת שְׁנֵי הַמְּאֹרת הַגְּדֹלִים

May it be Your will YHVH, my God and my ancestors' God, to fulfill the blemish of the "white one" *levanah* (the moon), and may there be no diminishing at all in her; and may the light of the white one be like the light of the "hot one" *chamah* (the sun), and like the light of the seven days of beginning creation, like it was before she was diminished, as it says "And God formed the two great lights."

(based on Talmud Chulin 60b; for a Kabbalistic interpretation see astillsmallvoice.org/pdf/evolving_feminine_women_and_orthodoxy.pdf)

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