

תשליך
Tashlich Service

SYMBOLISM OF WATER

There are two great bodies of water according to our tradition: the lower waters – *mayim* – which include the oceans, rivers and lakes; and the upper waters which are the waters found in the heavens – *shamayim*. Today, we stand at the edge of the lower waters and release our sins onto their surface with the hope that they will reach waters above. May our misdeeds depart far from us, vanishing from our midst, so that renewed and restored we may face the year ahead with dignity, with courage, and with faith.

SING FORTH TO THE ETERNAL

selections from Psalm 33

Sing forth to the Eternal, O righteous;
Joyously sing to God a new song.

God loves what is right and just;
The earth is full of God's faithful care.

For the Holy One spoke and the world was;
God commanded and it endured.

Happy is the people whose God is the Eternal,
The people God chosen to be God's own.

God fashions the hearts of all;
God discerns all their doings.

We set our hope on the Eternal,
God is our help and shield.

In God our hearts rejoice,
For in God's holy name we trust.

May we enjoy, Holy One, Your faithful care,
As we have put our hope in You.

TASHLICH: To Cast Away Our Sins

During this season of repentance, we are called upon to do T'shuvah, to return to God in sincerity and in truth. Through prayer and study, reflection and ritual, we strive to begin the new year in a spirit of humility, self-scrutiny, and spiritual renewal.

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

הַשְּׁלִיכוּ מֵעַלְיֵיכֶם אֶת-כָּל-פִּשְׁעֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר פָּשַׁעְתֶּם בָּם
וַעֲשׂוּ לָכֶם לֵב חָדָשׁ וְרוּחַ חֲדָשָׁה וְלָמָּה תָמַתוּ בַּיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל

*Hashlicheinu mei-aleichem et kol pish-eichem asher p'sha-tem bam,
v'asu lachem leiv chadash v'ruach chadashah, v'lamah tamutu beit Yisrael.*

Cast away from yourselves all your transgressions,
and create within yourselves a new heart and a new spirit.

Ezekiel 18:31

אָבִינוּ מִלְּפָנָיו, חֲנֻנוּ וְעֲנֵנוּ כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ

*Avinu malkeinu choneinu va-aneinu, ki ein banu ma-asim;
Aseih imanu tz'dakah vachesede v'hoshi-einu.*

Avinu Malkeinu, graciously answer us, although we are without merits;
Deal with us charitably and lovingly save us.

LET US CAST AWAY

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 greater 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 our people everywhere.

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

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְהוָה | אֵלֶיךָ וְנָשׁוּבָה חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם

Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha v'nashuvah, chadeish yameinu k'kedem.

Cause us to return to You, O God, and we shall return; renew us as in days of old.

מִן־הַמֵּצָר קָרָאתִי יְהוָה עֲנֵנִי בַמְּרֻחָב יְהוָה:

Min ha-meitzar karati Yah, anani vamerchav Yah.

In my distress I cried out to the Eternal; God answered me and set me free.

Psalms 118:5

מִי־אֵל כְּמוֹךָ נִשְׂא עוֹן וְעֵבֶר עַל־פְּשָׁע לְשֹׂאֲרֵית נִחַלְתּוֹ
לֹא־הֶחְזִיק לְעַד אַפּוֹ כִּי־חָפֵץ חֶסֶד הוּא: יָשׁוּב יִרְחַמֵּנוּ יִכְבֹּשׁ
עוֹנֹתֵינוּ וְתִשְׁלִיךְ בַּמַּצְלוֹת יָם כָּל־חַטֹּאוֹתֵם: תִּתֵּן אֱמֶת לְיַעֲקֹב
חֶסֶד לְאַבְרָהָם אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ לְאַבְתֵּינוּ מִיָּמֵי קֶדֶם:

Mi eil kamocha, nosei avon v'oveir al pasha li-sh'eirit nachalato, lo hechezeik la-ad apo ki chafeitz chesed hu. Yashuv y'rachmeinu yichbosh avonoteinu v'tashlich bim-tzulot yam kol chatotam. Titein emet l'Ya-akov chesed l'Avraham asher nishba-ta la-avoteinu mimei kedem.

Who is like You, O God, forgiving iniquity and pardoning the transgression of the remnant of Your people! You do not retain Your anger forever, for You delight in lovingkindness. You will again have compassion upon us, subdue our iniquities, and cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and lovingkindness to Abraham, as You promised our ancestors from days of old.

Micah 7:18-20

לֹא־יָרְעוּ וְלֹא־יִשְׁחִיתוּ בְּכָל־הָר קִדְשֵׁי
כִּי־מִלְאָה הָאָרֶץ דָּעָה אֶת־יְהוָה כַּמַּיִם לַיָּם מְכַסִּים:

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,
for the earth shall be filled with love of the Eternal as waters cover the sea.

Isaiah 11:9

THE THIRTEEN ATTRIBUTES

יְהוָה אֵל רַחוּם וְחַנוּן אֶרֶךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת
נֹצֵר חֶסֶד לְאַלְפִים נֹשֵׂא עוֹן וּפֹשֵׁעַ וְחַטָּאָה וְנִקְיָה

*Adonai , Adonai, eil rachum v'chanun, erech apayim v'rav chesed ve-emet
notzeir chesed la-alafim nosei avon vafesha v'chata-a v'nakeih*

The Eternal is ever-present, all-merciful, gracious, compassionate, patient, abounding in kindness and faithfulness, treasuring up love for a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and pardoning the penitent.

Exodus 34:6-7