# Hanukkah Blessings and Songs

## Blessing Over Candlelighting

### *Traditional*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה

*Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh haolam asher kidshanu bmitzvotav vitzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah*

### *Alternative (Feminine)*

בָּרוּכָה אַתְּ יָהּ אֱלֹהֵתֵנוּ רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדַּשְׁתַּנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתֶיהָ וְצִוָּתָנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה

*B'rucha at Yah Elohateinu ruach haolam asher kideshatnu be'mitzvoteyha v'tzivatnu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah*

**Blessed are You God, Ruler of the Universe, who makes us holy through your commandments and commands us to light the Hanukkah candles.**

## Blessing for Miracles

### *Traditional*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים
לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ [וְלִאִמּוֹתֵינוּ] בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּזְּמַן הַזֶּה

*Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh haolam she'asah nisim la'avoteinu (u'la'imoteinu) bayamim ha'heim bazman ha'zeh*

### *Alternative (Nonbinary)*

בָּרוּכָה אַתָּה יָהּ אֱלָהֵתֵינוּ רוּחַ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים
לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ וּלְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּזְּמַן הַזֶּה

*B'ruche ateh Yah Eloheteinu ruach haolam she'aseh nisim la'avoteinu u'la'imoteinu bayamim ha'heim bazman ha'zeh*

**Blessed are You God, Ruler of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in their day at this season.**

## Blessing for the First Time (First Day of Hanukkah Only)

### *Traditional*

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יהוה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן הַזֶּה

*Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha'olam shehecheyanu, v'kiyimanu, v'higiyanu lazman hazeh*

**Blessed are You God, Ruler of the Universe, who has granted us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this occasion.**

### *Alternative (Creative)*

בָּרוּךְ כָּל-דּוֹר וָדוֹר שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן הַזֶּה

*Baruch kol dor va'dor shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu laz'man ha'zeh*

**Blessed is each generation that has given us life, sustained us, and brought us to this time.**

**Al Hanisim**

*Al hanissim, v'al hapurkan, v'al hag'vurot v'al hat'tshuot v'al hamilchamot sh'asita lavoteinu bayamim hahem baz'man hazeh.*

עַל הַנִּסִּים, וְעַל הַפֻּרְקָן, וְעַל הַגְּבוּרוֹת, וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת, וְעַל הַמִּלְחָמוֹת, שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בַּזְּמַן הַזֶּה.

We thank you -- for the miracles, for the redemption, for the mighty deeds and saving acts, wrought by you, as well as for the wars which you waged for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

**HaNeirot Hallelu**

*Hanerot halalu anu madlikin al hanisim ve'al hanifla'ot ve'al hatshu'ot ve'al hamilchamot sheh asita lavoteinu, v'limoteinu bayamim haheim, bazman hazeh. al yedei kohanecha hakdoshim. vechol shmonat yemei Chanukah hanerot halalu kodesh hen, v'ein lanu reshut lehishtamesh bahen, ela lirotam bilvad. kedei lehodot ulehallel leshimcha hagadol al nisecha, ve'al niflotecha, ve'al yeshuatecha.*

הַנֵּרוֹת הַלָּלוּ אָנוּ מַדְלִיקִין עַל הַנִּסִּים וְעַל הַנִּפְלָאוֹת וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת וְעַל הַמִּלְחָמוֹת שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ, (וְלְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ,) בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם, בַּזְּמַן הַזֶּה עַל יְדֵי כֹּהֲנֶיךָ הַקְּדוֹשִׁים וְכָל שְׁמוֹנַת יְמֵי חֲנֻכָּה הַנֵּרוֹת הַלָּלוּ קֹדֶשׁ הֵן וְאֵין לָנוּ רְשׁוּת לְהִשְׁתַּמֵּשׁ בָּהֶן אֶלָּא לִרְאוֹתָן בִּלְבַד כְּדֵי לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְהַלֵּל לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל עַל נִסֶּיךָ וְעַל נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְעַל יְשׁוּעוֹתֶיךָ

These candles that we light, on the miracles and the wonders and the salvations and the wars, that you did for our ancestors, in those days, at this time. By the hand of your holy priests and all these eight days of Chanukah, these candles, they are holy, and we have no permission to use them, except to see them only, in order to give thanks and to praise your great name, your miracles, your wonders, and your salvations.

**Maoz Tzur**

*Ma'oz tzur yeshu'ati lecha na'eh leshabe'ach*
*Tikon beit tefillati v'sham todah nezabe'ach*
*L'eit tachin matbe'ach mitz'ar ha-menabe'ach*
*Az egmor b'shir mizmor chanukat ha-mizbe'ach*

מָעוֹז צוּר יְשׁוּעָתִי לְךָ נָאֶה לְשַׁבֵּחַ
תִּכּוֹן בֵּית תְּפִלָּתִי וְשָׁם תּוֹדָה נְזַבֵּחַ
לְעֵת תָּכִין מַטְבֵּחַ מִצָּר הַמְנַבֵּחַ
אָז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ

Mighty rock of my salvation, to praise you is a delight. Restore my house of prayer that we may offer thanks. When you prepare defeat for the foe, then I will complete the dedication of the altar with songs of praise.

*See our Tefillah library online, where you can find prayers using traditional/masculine language, feminine language, and nonbinary language, as well as creative alternatives.*