

Hash·ki·vei·nu

Hash·ki·vei·nu A·do·nai E·lo·hei·nu l'sha·lom,
 v'ha·a·mi·dei·nu mal·kei·nu l'cha·yim,
 u·fros a·lei·nu suk·kat sh'lo·me·cha,
 v'tak·nei·nu b'ei·tzah to·vah mi·l'fa·ne·cha,
 v'ho·shi·ei·nu l'ma·an sh'me·cha

V'ha·gein ba·a·dei·nu, v'ha·seir mei·a·lei·nu
 o·yeiv, de·ver, v'che·rev, v'ra·av, v'ya·gon,
 v'ha·seir sa·tan mi·l'fa·nei·nu
 u·mei·a·cha·rei·nu,
 u·v'tzeil k'na·fe·cha tas·ti·rei·nu.

Ki Eil shom·rei·nu u·ma·tzi·lei·nu A·tah,
 ki Eil me·lech cha·nun v'ra·chum A·tah.
 U·sh'mor tzei·tei·nu u·vo·ei·nu,
 l'cha·yim u·l'sha·lom, mei·a·tah v'ad o·lam.
 ❖ U·fros a·lei·nu suk·kat sh'lo·me·cha.

הַשְׁכִּיבֵנוּ

הַשְׁכִּיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְשָׁלוֹם,
 וְהַעֲמִידֵנוּ מִלְּפָנֶיךָ לְחַיִּים
 וּפְרוֹשׁ עָלֵינוּ סִכַּת שְׁלוֹמְךָ,
 וְתִקַּנְנוּ בְּעֵצָה טוֹבָה מִלְּפָנֶיךָ,
 וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנו לְמַעַן שְׁמֶךָ.

וְהַגֵּן בְּעַדָּנוּ, וְהַסֵּר מֵעָלֵינוּ
 אוֹיֵב, דָּבָר, וְחָרָב, וְרָעָב, וְיָגוֹן,
 וְהַסֵּר שָׁטָן מִלְּפָנֵינוּ
 וּמֵאַחֲרֵינוּ,
 וּבְצֵל כַּנְּפֵיךָ תִסְתַּרְנוּ.

כִּי אֵל שׁוֹמְרָנוּ וּמַצִּילָנוּ אַתָּה,
 כִּי אֵל מְלֶךְ חַנוּן וְרַחוּם אַתָּה.
 וּשְׁמֹר צֵאתָנוּ וּבוֹאָנוּ,
 לְחַיִּים וּלְשָׁלוֹם, מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם.
 ❖ וּפְרוֹשׁ עָלֵינוּ סִכַּת שְׁלוֹמְךָ. ❖

Lay Us Down In Peace

Lay us down, Adonai our God, in peace,
 and awaken us, our Ruler, to life,
 and spread over us Your sukkah of peace,
 and help us with Your good counsel,
 and save us for the sake of Your Name.

Shield us, and remove from us
 enemy, disease, and sword, and hunger, and sorrow,
 and remove the evil forces from before us
 and from behind us,
 and in the shadow of Your wings shelter us.

For God, You watch over us and rescue us;
 for God, You are a gracious and merciful Ruler.
 Watch over our going and coming,
 for life and for peace, from now until forever.
 ❖ And spread over us Your sukkah of peace.

Hash·ki·vei·nu concludes with the second of two blessings after the *Sh'ma*, asking God to spread over us a protecting *sukkah* (canopy) of peace.

Shelter Me With Peace

I imagine Your Presence
 as the gracious, majestic,
 rich-green canopy of a tree
 stretching upward, outward,
 with me nestled quietly against the sturdy trunk,
 resting on sweet smelling leaves and soft moss.

Keep me dry from the rains of sadness.
 Save me from the cold winds of doubt.
 Protect me from the darkness of the unknown,
 so that I may rise and venture forth
 and touch Your world.

Your sacred Breath whisks away
 all but the purest Presence in me;
 Angel wings brush my face.

Watch over me
 as a parent peers on a sleeping child.
 Be the Presence I feel,
 soft, sheltering, strong,
 cradling me to safety,
 Your canopy over me,
 under me,
 surrounding me,
 sheltering me with peace.

Lisa Stark