

Grant Peace

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The closing blessing of the Amidah asks for shalom: peace, wholeness, completion. What does this prayer mean to us today? What does it ask of God – and of us? What does it mean to ask for peace in a time of tumult and injustice? How can we ask for something we may not even wholly understand? This offering arises out of those questions and more. We hope it speaks to you, and we hope it helps you to pray some of what's on your heart.

– The Builders at Bayit

Sim Shalom / Grant Peace (Morning Amidah)

שִׁים שְׁלוֹם טוֹבָה וּבְרָכָה.
חַן וְחֶסֶד וְרַחֲמִים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל עַמָּךְ.
בְּרַכְנוּ אָבוּנוּ כְּלָנוּ כְּאֶחָד בְּאוֹר פָּנֶיךָ.
כִּי בְּאוֹר פָּנֶיךָ נִתְּתָה לָנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ תּוֹרַת חַיִּים וְאַהֲבַת חֶסֶד.
וּצְדָקָה וּבְרָכָה וְרַחֲמִים וְחַיִּים וְשְׁלוֹם.
וְטוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ לְבָרֵךְ אֶת כָּל עַמָּךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל
בְּכָל עֵת וּבְכָל שָׁעָה בְּשִׁלּוֹמְךָ:
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה', הַמְּבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשְׁלוֹם:

Sim shalom tovah u'vrakha,
hein v'hesed v'rah'amim aleinu v'al kol Yisrael amekha.
Barkheinu avinu kulanu k'ehad b'or panekha.
Ki b'or panekha natata lanu Adonai eloneinu Torat hayyim v'ahavat hesed.
u'tzedakah u'vrakhah v'rah'amim v'hayyim v'shalom.
V'tov beineikha l'vareikh et kol amkha Yisrael
b'khol eit u'v'khol sha'ah bishlomekha.
Barukh atah Adonai, ha-m'varekh et amo Yisrael bashalom.

Grant peace, goodness, blessing,
grace, loving kindness, and mercy to us and to all Israel Your people.
Bless us, our Parent, all of us as one with the light of Your face.
For by the light of Your face You have given us, Adonai our God, the Torah of life, and love of
kindness, and righteousness and blessing and mercy and life and peace.
May it be good in Your eyes to bless Your people Israel
at all times and in every hour with Your peace.
Blessed are You, YHVH, who blesses Your people Israel with peace.

Light

בְּאוֹר פְּנֵיךָ / "In the light of Your face..."

I know the light of God's face
in how my face shines
when I see yours.
When the song of my heart
finds harmony, that's
the closest thing to wholeness
I know.

R. Rachel Barenblat

Holy Wholeness

*"Kindness and truth have met,
Justice and peace have kissed."¹*

Imagine a circle.
Pick a point on the circle,
Any point.
Call that point, HELLO.

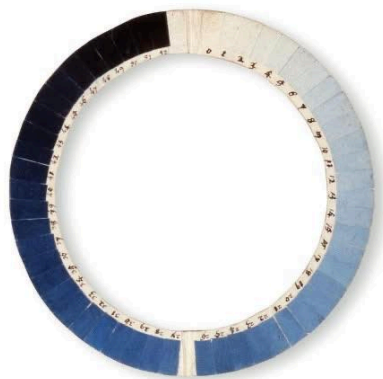
Start at Hello and travel
Around the circle
To the point just before Hello.
Call that point, GOODBYE.

Hello and Goodbye kiss.
Mwah!
Call that kiss, PEACE.
Call the circle, SHALOM.

Imagine kindness,
Truth and justice and
Imagine peace.
Call this, SHLEIMUT.

Imagine Holy Wholeness.
Imagine Sacred Completion.
Imagine Eternal Connection.
Call this, GOD.

Mwah!



colors of the sky

Trisha Arlin

¹ Psalm 85:10, Translation by Robert Alter.

Our Father

I don't often speak to You
Like kids are supposed to speak to their dads.
First of all, I never spoke like that to my father,
There wasn't really a place for that in our relationship.
My father was a human being: fallible and trying hard,
Peaceful at times, often in pain.

I like to think about You and me,
Sitting next to each other on a porch swing,
And we swing
And we talk as we swing,
And we watch what is unfolding between us and around us,
And I want to tell You: It is ok. It is good enough.

Yes, Your world is broken and breaking, yes,
Deep down all of us know that it doesn't add up.
Yes, this all might only be temporary, maybe it will end soon,
And maybe, maybe, it will even become a little worse,
But You know what? You tried. You have given it
You have given us, All.

We have a chance to love and to care, and to hold our faces
In the sun. We have a chance to swim and walk
And hold hands and decide against killing. We do.
We have a chance to be brave, to be kind, to be embracing
Each other. We do.

So what, You failed. We are all failing with You.
Let's hold hands, You and I on our swing set,
The pendulum going back and forth, and back and forth.
You are not leaning Your head on me. I hold mine up, too.
Together, we are speaking of peace and connection,
And some day, some place, this will be true.

Baruch Atah Adonai, HaMevarech et Amo Yizra'el BaShalom.
Blessed are You - You are trying. I am trying with You.



*Words by R. Sonja K. Pilz
Art by Steve Silbert*

Make It So

"A poem cannot stop a bullet. A novel can't defuse a bomb. But we are not helpless. We can sing the truth and name the liars." —Salman Rushdie

May God bless you and protect you!

Be a good Jew,

Sing the truth!

This life should be so beautiful.

May God deal kindly and graciously with you!

Be a naughty child,

Name the liars!

Enjoy saying no to war.

May God shine God's face upon you and grant you peace!

We are here in obligation and doubt,

We are not helpless!

We are not alone.

Kein y'hi ratzon

We will be whole,

We must at least try!

Make it so.

Amen



Words by Trisha Arlin

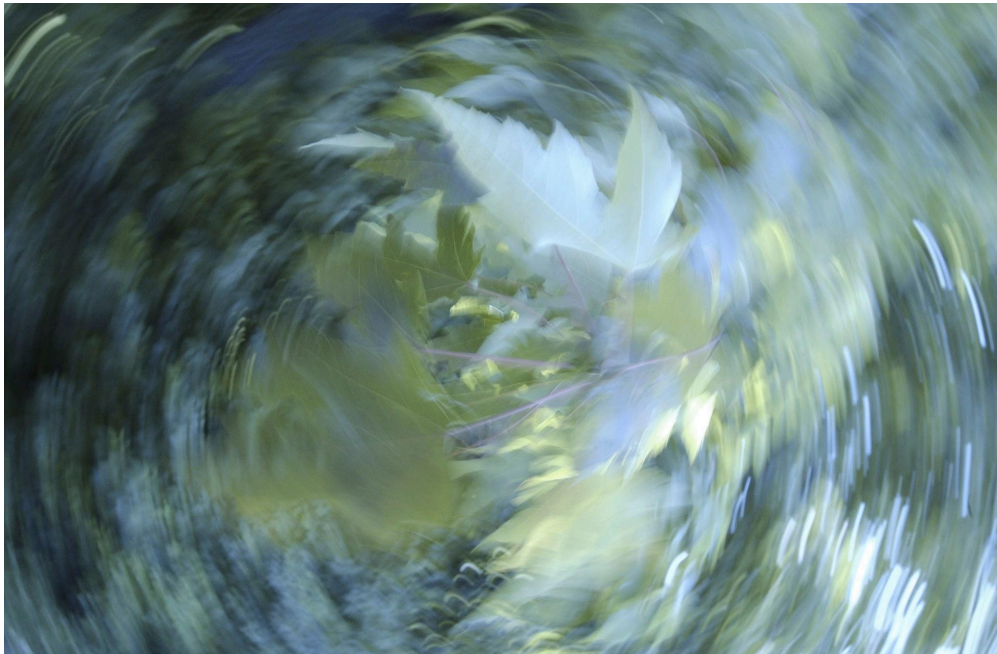
Art by Steve Silbert

Be Peace

“From the least
to the greatest,
from prophet to priest—”²
Jeremiah warned us
about those who howl
“peace peace”
when there is no peace
within themselves.

Want peace?
Be peace!
Be the peace
you want to see.

R. David Zaslow



Art courtesy of Getty Images

² [Jeremiah 6:13-14](#)

In my Hand, Not Yours

I carry a little snail in my hand,
It might break any moment
It is quite frail.
I am carrying
It slowly
So that the dust
Won't
Unsettle.

Rabbi Sonja K. Pilz, PhD
Art by Steve Silbert



Shalom

Shalom, hello
Shalom, goodbye
Shalom, peace.
Hello, goodbye –
opposites joined..
Shalom – peace
In your coming
Shalom – peace
in your going.
Wholeness,
Holiness,
Healing.

Flow

Shalom when I enter
Shalom when I leave
Shalom when it's broken
Shalom makes it whole
Letter by letter – a recipe of sorts

Shin ש
Listen

Lamed ל
Learn

Vav ו
Put it together

Mem מ
Like water

Shalom שלום
The flow



*Words by R. David Zaslow
Art by Steve Silbert*

The World Is On Fire

“To those who do not know the world is on fire, I have nothing to say.” —Bertolt Brecht

How can I pray for peace?
The world is on fire.

The vulgar new rulers,
Outraged at being told
to share power with
The not white, the not Christian,
The not men and the not rich,
Attack us all
With lies and no mercy
And revel in destruction and revenge.

Like five-year-old boys
And thirteen-year-old girls,
Wanting everyone else's toys
And breaking them if they can't,
Rejecting science and the rule of law,
Torturing the innocent,
Predictable and very boring
In their greed and corruption.

I hate these guys, and
The heart boggles.
I fight off despair, and wonder
How did we let this happen?
Surely it cannot be that
We must pray for peace with these mobsters,
I won't!
Don't be stupid.

The world is on fire and
We must put it out.

Class Portrait



*Words by Trisha Arlin
Art by Mike Cockrill*

Grant Peace

Sim shalom / שִׁים שָׁלוֹם / grant peace:

the peace of knowing in our hearts
and feeling in our bones
that we did all we could

the peace that comes in the hospital
when the fever breaks
or the pain lets up
or the IV well goes in smoothly

the peace that comes on the road
when travel flows like water
down an unimpeded stream,
window open to birdsong

the peace of caregiving
when the baby sleeps all night
or the patient gets out of bed
or you know you did what's right

the peace of seasons turning
everything in its right time
as though nature were
constantly reborning

the peace that holds us steady
despite the headlines
despite our worries
despite our heartache

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה', הַמְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשָׁלוֹם:

Barukh atah Adonai, ha-m'varekh et amo Yisrael bashalom.

Blessed are You, amidst life's chaos granting us peace.

R. Rachel Barenblat

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About Us



Co-created by members of Bayit's Liturgical Arts Working Group, 2025.

At Bayit, we empower Jewish community by developing innovative tools and resources that foster spiritual connection, education, and growth. Together our visionary teams of clergy, liturgists, artists, game designers, and educators create, test, refine, and share tools for a Jewish future always under construction.

Find our collaborations here: [Liturgical Arts Working Group](#)

And our bios here: [Builder Biographies](#)