

Temple Emanu-El Hanukkah Blessings and Songs

Lighting the Hanukkah Candles

Candles are added to the hanukkiyah (menorah) from right to left but are kindled from left to right (Jews, right?). The newest candle is lit first. Light the shamash (the helper candle) first, using it to kindle the rest of the Hanukkah lights.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Holy One of Blessing, Your Presence fills creation, making us holy with your mitzvot and teaching us to kindle the lights of Hanukkah.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שעשה ניסים לאבותינו
ואמותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Holy One of Blessing, Your Presence fills creation, doing wonders for our ancestors at this season in years past.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקימנו
והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.

Holy One of Blessing, Your Presence fills creation, giving us life, sustaining us, and bringing us to this moment of celebration.

Songs

1. Sivivon

*Sivivon, sov, sov, sov, Chanukah, hu chag tov
Chanukah, hu chag tov, Sivivon, sov, sov, sov!
Chag simcha hu la-am, Nes gadol haya sham
Nes gadol haya sham, Chag simcha hu la-am.*

[Dreidel, spin, spin, spin. Chanukah is a great holiday.
It is a celebration for our nation. A great miracle happened there.]

2. Banu Choshech / Light Is Returning

בָּאֲנֵנוּ חוֹשֶׁךְ לְקֹדֶשׁ
בְּיָדֵינוּ אֹרֶךְ וְאֵשׁ
כָּל אֶחָד הוּא אֹרֶךְ קָטָן
וְכָלֵנוּ אֹרֶךְ אֵיתָן

*Banu choshekh l'kadesh
B'yadeinu or va'esh
Kol echad hu or katan
V'khulanu or eitan*

Light is returning
Even though this is the darkest hour
No one can hold back the dawn

Let's keep it burning
Let's keep the light of hope alive
Make safe our journey through the storm

One planet is turning
Circles on her path around the Sun
Earth Mother is calling her children home

בָּאֲנֵנוּ חוֹשֶׁךְ לְקֹדֶשׁ
 בְּיַדֵּינוּ אֹרֶךְ וְאֵשׁ
 כָּל אֶחָד הוּא אֹרֶךְ קָטָן
 וְכָלֵנוּ אֹרֶךְ אֵיטָן

*Banu choshekh l'kadesh
 B'yadeinu or va'esh
 Kol echad hu or katan
 V'khulanu or eitan*

קוּמָה חוֹשֶׁךְ
 עֲלֵה שְׁחֹר
 קוּמָה לְקִרְאֵת הָאֹרֶךְ

*Kumah choshekh
 Aleh sh'chor
 Kumah, likrat ha-or!*

We've come to sanctify the dark,
 in our hands a little spark
 Each of us a tiny light,
 and together we're so bright.

Come up darkness,
 rise up night,
 Come up, to greet the light! (2x)



3. Ocho Kandelikas

*Hanukah linda sta aki
Ocho kandelas para mi,
Hanukah Linda sta aki,
Ocho kandelas para mi.*

Chorus: *Una kandelika
Dos kandelikas
Tres kandelikas
Kuatro kandelikas
Sintyu kandelikas
Seysh kandelikas
Siete kandelikas
Ocho kandelas para mi.*



*Muchas fiestas vo fazer, con alegrias i
plazer.
Muchas fiestas vo fazer, con alegrias i plazer.
Una kandelika...*

*Los pastelikas vo kumer, con almendrikas i la miel.
Los pastelikas vo kumer, con almendrikas i la miel.
Una kandelika...*

[Beautiful Chanukah is here, eight candles for me.

Chorus: One candle, two candles, three candles, four candles, five candles, six candles, seven candles ... eight candles for me.

Many parties will be held, with joy and with pleasure....

We will eat pastelikos (a [Sephardic delicacy](#)) with almonds and honey....]

4. Hanukkah O Hanukkah / Chanukah Oy Chanukah

O Hanukkah, O Hanukkah
 Come light the menorah
 Let's have a party, We'll all dance the horah
 Gather 'round the table, We'll give you a treat
 Dreidels to play with, and latkes to eat.
 And while we are playing,
 The candles are burning low
 One for each night, They shed a sweet light)
 To remind us of days long ago.) 2x

*Chanukah oy Chanukah
 A yontif a shayner,
 A lustiker a freylekher, nisht do nokh azoyner
 Ale nakht mit dreidlech shpiln mir,
 Frishe heise latkes, esn on a shir.
 Geshvinder, tsindt kinder, Di Chanukah likhtlech on,
 Zogt "Al Hanisim", loybt Got far di nisim,)
 Un lomir ale tantsen in kon.) 2x*

[Chanukah, Oh Chanukah, a beautiful celebration. Such a cheerful and happy one, there is none like it. Every night with the [dreidels](#) we will play. Fresh, hot latkes we will eat endlessly. Come quickly children - light the Chanukah candles. Say "Al Hanissim", praise God for the miracles, and we will all dance together in a circle!]

5. Esh Tamid / Which Side Are You On?

אֵשׁ תָּמִיד תִּקְדַּח עַל-הַמִּזְבֵּחַ לֹא תִכָּבֵה

Aish tamid tukad al hamizbayach; lo tichbeh

[Fire always shall be kept burning on the altar; it shall not go out. (Leviticus 6:6)]

Which side are you on my people? Which side are you on?

6. Ha-Nerot Halalu

הנרות הללו
אנו מדליקין

Ha-nerot ,ha-nerot, ha-nerot halalu (2x)
Anu madlikim, anu madlikim
Ha-nerot halalu anu madlikim

Hanukkah, Hanukkah, by this light remember (2x)
When hope stayed alive, the flame remained undimmed (2x)
Hanukkah, Hanukkah, by this light remember (2x)

7. The Dreidel Song

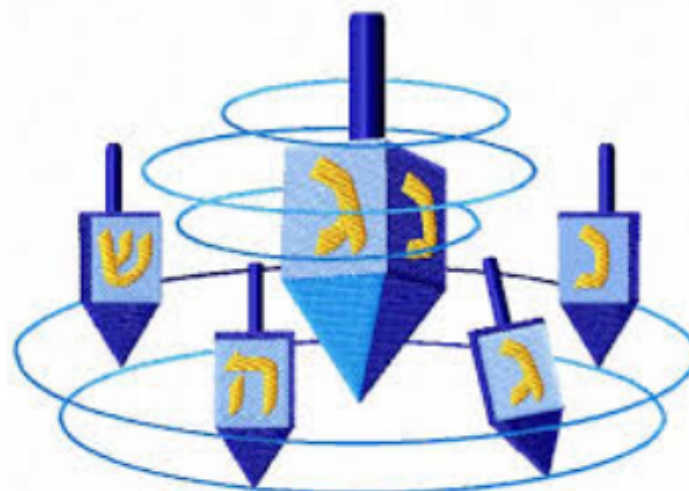
I have a little dreidel
I made it out of clay
And when it's dry and ready
Then dreidel I shall play!

Oh dreidel, dreidel,
dreidel
I made it out of clay
And when it's dry and
ready
Then dreidel I shall play!

It has a lovely body
With legs so short and thin
And when my dreidel's tired
It drops and then I win!

Oh dreidel, dreidel,
dreidel...

My dreidel's always playful
It loves to dance and spin
A happy game of dreidel
Come play now, let's begin!
Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel...



8. Maoz Tzur

מְעוֹז צוּר יְשׁוּעָתִי
 לְךָ נֶאֱחָה לְשִׁבְחֵךְ
 תִּכּוֹן בַּיִת תְּפִלָּתִי
 וְשֵׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּח
 לְעֵת תִּכְיִן מִטְבַּח
 מִצָּר הַמְנַבֵּחַ.
 אֶז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר
 חֲנֻכַּת הַמְּזֻבָּח

*Ma'oz tzur yeshu'ati,
 lecha na'eh leshabe'ach,
 tikon beit tefilati,
 vesham todah nezabe'ach.
 Le'et tachin matbe'ach
 mitzar hamenabe'ach.
 Az egmor
 beshir mizmor
 chanukat hamizbe'ach*

Rock of Ages, let our song, praise Your saving power;
 You, amidst the raging foe, were our sheltering tower.
 Furious they assailed us, but Your arm availed us,
 And Your word broke their sword, when our own strength failed us. (2x)

Children of the Maccabees, whether free or fettered,
 Wake the echoes of the songs where you may be scattered.
 Yours the message cheering that the time is nearing
 Which will see, all people free, tyrants disappearing (2x).

9. Light One Candle

Light one candle for the Maccabee children
 With thanks that their light didn't die
 Light one candle for the pain they endured
 When their right to exist was denied
 Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice
 Justice and freedom demand
 But light one candle for the wisdom to know
 When the peacemaker's time is at hand

Don't let the light go out!
 It's lasted for so many years!
 Don't let the light go out!
 Let it shine through our hope and our tears.

Light one candle for the strength that we need
 To never become our own foe
 And light one candle for those who are suffering
 Pain we learned so long ago
 Light one candle for all we believe in
 That anger not tear us apart
 And light one candle to find us together
 With peace as the song in our hearts

Don't let the light go out...

What is the memory that's valued so highly
 That we keep it alive in that flame?
 What's the commitment to those who have died
 That we cry out they've not died in vain?
 We have come this far always believing
 That justice would somehow prevail
 This is the burden, this is the promise
 This is why we will not fail!

Don't let the light go out! (3X)