



CONGREGATION
BETH ISRAEL

Songs of Light, Hope, and Strength
Friday, December 19, 2025 · 30 Kislev 5786

“Light These Lights”

By Debbie Friedman

Oh hear my prayer I sing to you
Be gracious to the ones I love
And bless them with goodness and mercy and peace
Oh hear my prayer to you.

Let us light these lights
And see the way to you
And let us say: Amen.

“Al Hanisim”

By Dov Frimer

עַל הַנִּסִּים וְעַל הַפְּרָקָן
וְעַל הַגְּבוּרוֹת וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת
וְעַל הַמַּלְחָמוֹת שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ
בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

*Al hanisim v'al hapurkan,
V'al hag'vurot, v'al hat'shuot,
V'al hamilchamot, she-asita la'avoteinu
Bayamim haheim baz'man hazeh.*

Translation: We thank You for the miracles, for the redemption, for the mighty deeds and saving acts, brought about by You, and for the wars which You waged for our ancestors in the days of old, at this season.

“We Are Lights/Hanukkah Song”

By Stephen Schwartz and Steve Young

A lamp that kept on burning
A miracle, they say
But the world has kept on turning
Are there miracles, today?
Everyone who lights the candles
Has a bit of ancient spark
We are miracles, lighting up the dark

We are lights, lights of memory
Remembering times long gone
We are glowing, growing miracles
We are lights, we are lights
We are lights shining on and on

A row of burning candles
Shines light upon your face
Linking you and me and all of us
To a far off holy place
But the blazing of the candles
Is not the only light
Look at all of us shining here tonight

We are lights, lights of memory
Remembering times long gone
We are glowing, growing miracles
We are lights, we are lights
We are lights shining on and on

“Oh Chanukah”

Oh Chanukah, oh Chanukah, come light the menorah.
Let's have a party, we'll all dance the hora.
Gather 'round the table we'll give you a treat
Shiny tops 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.

“S'vivon, Sov! Sov! Sov!”

סְבִיבּוֹן סֵב סֵב סֵב חֲנֻכָּה הוּא חַג טוֹב
חֲנֻכָּה הוּא חַג טוֹב סְבִיבּוֹן סֵב סֵב סֵב
חַג שְׂמֵחָה הוּא לָעַם גָּדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם
גָּדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם חַג שְׂמֵחָה הוּא לָעַם

*S'vivon, sov, sov, sov! Chanukah hu chag tov;
Chanukah hu chag tov S'vivon, sov, sov, sov!*

*Chag simchat hu la'am, Neis gadol hayah sham;
Neis gadol hayah sham; Chag simchah hu la'am.*

Translation: Dreidel, spin, spin, spin! Chanukah
is a happy holiday. A happy holiday for the
people. A great miracle happened there.

“Maoz Tzur”

מַעוֹז צוּר יְשׁוּעָתִי, לֶךְ נִאֶה לְשַׁבֵּחַ
תִּכּוֹן בֵּית תְּפִלָּתִי, וְשָׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּח.
לֵעֵת תִּכֵּין מִטְבַּח מִצָּר הַמְּנַבֵּחַ.
אֶז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ.

*Ma'oz tzur y'shuati l'cha na'eh l'shabeiach
Tikon beit t'filati v'sham todah n'zabeiach
L'eit tachin matbeiach mitzar hamnabeiach
Az egmor b'sihr mizmor chanukat hamizbeiach*

Rock of Ages, let our song praise Your saving power.
You amid the raging foes 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.

“I Am A Latke”

By Debbie Friedman

I am so mixed up that I cannot tell you,
I'm sitting in this blender turning brown.
I've made friends with the onions and the flour
And the cook is scouting oil in town.
I sit here wond'ring what will 'come of me
I can't be eaten looking as I do.
I need someone to take me out and cook me
Or I'll really end up in a royal stew.

I am a latke, I'm a latke
And I am waiting for Chanukah to come.

Every holiday has food so special.
I'd like to have that same attention too.
I do not want to spend life in this blender
Wondering what I'm supposed to do.
Matzah and charoset are for Pesach,
Chopped liver and challah for Shabbat
Blintzes on Shavuot are delicious
And gefilte fish no holiday's without.

I am a latke, I'm a latke
And I am waiting for Chanukah to come.

It's important that I have an understanding
Of what it is that I'm supposed to do
You see, there are many who are homeless,
With no jobs, no clothes, and very little food.
It's so important that we all remember
That while we have most of the things we need,
We must remember those who have so little.
We must help them, we must be the ones to feed.

I am a latke, I'm a latke
And I am waiting for Chanukah to come.