

Euclid Avenue Temple

Cleveland, Ohio

DR. BARNETT R. BRICKNER, *Rabbi*



V-E DAY SERVICE

1945

5705

Order of V-E DAY Service

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|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| I. Hymn | "O God Our Help"
Psalm 90 | Hymns & Anthems--No. 9 |
| II. Borchu | (Cong. remains standing) | Choir |
| III. Invocation | (Before the open Ark) | Rabbi |

O Lord of Hosts, our Fortress and our Strength, this is the time for which we have hoped, the hour for which we have toiled and waited. Long and bitter have been the years when those of sinful heart have planned evil and wrought destruction. We have seen the truth mocked, justice perverted, mercy despised and millions of Thy children crushed beneath the yoke of suffering and grief. Many were done to death in the tumult of city streets and in distant forests. O Father of mankind, all of us in every land have learned the pain of parting and bereavement, of loneliness and fear. We have been schooled in sorrow and are well acquainted with grief.

O Thou Sun and Shield, we who have walked in darkness now behold the dawning light. The night of oppression at last is ending. The power of the tyrant is broken. His plans are frustrate and void. His armies are scattered and helpless. His air fleets can no longer spread the rain of death over peaceful habitations. We dread no more that terror which flieth by night and the destruction which wasteth at noontime. Thou hast brought us out of the valley of the shadow into the radiant day.

How can we thank Thee, O Lord, for the abundant blessing of this great deliverance? If our lips should overflow with song and our tongues with joyous praise we would still be unable to voice the gratitude which wells up from our hearts. We can but humbly acknowledge our debt to Thee. Not ours, O God, but Thine are the triumph and the glory. Often in the years of danger, when the powers of evil seemed unconquerable, our courage faltered and our faith was shaken. But Thou didst strengthen our hearts and summon us to renew our confidence that by Thy spirit we would yet prevail.

So teach us Thy way, O God. Guide us in Thy truth. Reveal to us the deep solemnity of this triumphant day. In the hour of our exultation let us not forget the multitudes who have suffered and died, many by the hands of the oppressor and many in the carnage of war. Let not our pride in triumphant navies and victorious armies misguide our thoughts to arrogance and to dreams of world domination; for, not ours, but Thine, is the world and all its fullness. We are but Thy servants dedicated to the achievement of the tasks taught us by Thy prophets. May the sacred vision of a peaceful world, so clear to us in the midst of battle, remain unfaded in this hour of victory. The vows we made in the time of trouble let us now fulfill in the day of triumph.

Speed the day, O Father, when our men and women will return home from battle-field and ocean to their dear ones. Send Thy help to the wounded in field and hospital. Shield them from pain, grant them healing and restore them speedily to health. Into Thy hands, O God, we commit the souls of the departed, the helpless victims of the tyrant, and the heroic soldiers who have given their lives that evil may be dethroned; and send Thy consolation to the multitudes of bereaved.

O Lord of Hosts, Thou who hast strengthened us in tribulation, guide us now in this hour of triumph. May the knowledge which sorrow has taught us and the strength we have gained in battle now be placed upon Thine altar and dedicated to the task which Thou hast given us to establish a world where men need never learn the arts of war again. Amen.

V. "May The Words"

Choir

VI. Responsive Reading

Prayer Book--Page 282

VII. Kindling of Victory Lights

Rabbi

In the days of old, our ancestors rejoicing in the victory which Thou didst give them over their enemy, kindled lights in Thy sacred courts. So this day do we kindle these Victory Lights to give thanks and sing praises unto Thy holy and great name.

We kindle this light of victory for our own country,
These United States.

We kindle this light for our great ally, Great Britain.
And, this light we dedicate to Soviet Russia, that has
been a bulwark of strength.

This light we kindle for China.

And, this light to the new France.

And, this candle to the small allied nations now liberated. Grant, O Lord, that we may speedily see the complete and final triumph, for which we pray together.

Bo-ruch At-to Adonoy, E-lo-hay-nu Me-lech ho-o-lom she-he-che-yo-nu
V'kee-y'mo-nu V'hi-gee-o-nu La-z'man ha-zeh.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who hast kept us in life, and hast preserved us, and enabled us to reach this season.

VIII. America The Beautiful

Hymns & Anthems--No. 20

IX. Sermon

Rabbi

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| X. Selection | | Choir |
| XI. Readings | Scripture--Isaiah 14
George Washington
Abraham Lincoln
Franklin Delano Roosevelt | Rabbi |
| XII. Responsive Reading | | Prayer Book--Page 286 |
| XIII. Silent Devotion | | |
| XIV. Closing Prayer | | Rabbi & Congregation |
- We pray Thee, Almighty God, watch over the men in our armed forces and in those of our Allies. Guard them from all mishap. Protect them from all harm. Be Thou their shield and their refuge. Give strength, O Lord, to their arms. Plant courage and fearlessness in their hearts. Guide their steps that they stumble not nor fall. Drive the enemy before them and speed the final victory for which they toil.
- And when the task is done, may justice have been rendered equally to all peoples--the large and small, the powerful and the weak--and to Israel whose dead in proportion exceedeth them all. May its homeless remnants be homeless no more. May they be re-established in their ancient Homeland, Palestine. May they have the right to live anywheres in this world as free citizens.
- Teach us, O Lord, to live together in accordance with Thy will and to abide by Thy law. Make us worthy of Thy loving care and of Thy blessings of freedom and peace. Inspire us and all Thy children among the nations of man to walk and work towards the day when "nations shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more, but, they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." And all men shall know in that day that Thou, O Lord, art One and Thy Name is One.
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| XV. Adoration | | Prayer Book--Page 274 |
| XVI. Kaddish | Dedicated to the Men in our Congregation who have made the Supreme Sacrifice. | Prayer Book--Page 277 |
| XVII. National Anthem | Last Stanza | Hymns & Anthems--No. 21 |
| XVIII. Benediction | | Rabbi |