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Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1932-1933.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

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December 27th, 1932.

Rabbi Abba H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Colleague:

At the meeting of the Commission for the Revision of the Union Prayerbook held in Chicago, December 19, 1932, it was decided to publish a Union Prayer Anthology for the use primarily of the Rabbi. The purpose of the Anthology is to allow variations in the regular service. It is hoped that this Anthology will be revised every five years or so and will thus be used as a means for making available to the rest of the Conference whatever prayers be written by the various Rabbis.

It is the intention of the Commission to include in this Anthology poetry and prose, prayers and meditations from Jewish traditional sources and original material written for the book.

The Commission is anxious to have this first edition of the Anthology in the hands of the members of the Conference as soon as possible. Will you be so kind as to write a prayer for the Anthology and let it be on any subject that you desire, a prayer or a meditation. I would like to have it before January 15th, if possible. Since it is the intention of the Commission to include as many shades of opinions and moods as possible, I should prefer two short prayers to one long one. Please let me know whether you will be able to do this work for us.

Sincerely yours,

Committee on Liturgical Literature.

Solomon B. Freehof
Solomon B. Freehof, Chairman.

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March 3, 1933.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
105th and Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

Owing to Dr. Newfield's illness, I have been requested to answer an appeal made by the chairman of the American Friends of the Hebrew University to the Conference for a contribution to that University. This contribution is to be a tribute to Professor Albert Einstein on the occasion of his fifty-fourth birthday, which occurs on March 14. Will you kindly let me know by return mail whether you favor such a contribution out of Conference funds and, if so, whether we should send \$100?

I do not happen to have the constitution of the Conference and have communicated with Rabbi Marcuson, who wired me that "there is no constitutional objection to contribution to Hebrew University".

You will be pleased to know that Dr. Newfield's secretary informed me that he is doing very well and that she expects him to be up and about in ten days.

Sincerely yours,

Vice-President.

SHG:AS

Macon, Georgia,
May 16, 1933.

REVISION OF THE UNION PRAYER BOOK

Dear Colleague:

The Liturgical Committee is sending you herewith five Morning Services for Week-Days as a first step in its task of the Revision of the Union Prayer Book. These Services will be taken up for adoption at the coming convention of the Conference. Please examine them carefully and send in promptly any corrections or criticisms which you may desire to make. These will be carefully considered by the Committee. Please note particularly the English rendering of the traditional prayers as found in the STANDARD SERVICE as this rendering will be followed in the revision of the Sabbath and Holiday Services. Please send in these corrections promptly so that the Committee may have the benefit of your reaction to the work which it has done so far.

Cordially yours,

Solomon B. Freehof

Solomon B. Freehof, Chairman

Isaac E. Marcuson

Isaac E. Marcuson, Secretary.

IEM:b

MORNING SERVICES FOR WEEK-DAYS

STANDARD SERVICE

I

Reader

How lovely are Thy dwelling-places, O Lord of hosts; better is a day in Thy courts than a thousand elsewhere; happy are they who dwell in Thy house, they are continually praising Thee. Incline Thine ear, answer us, be gracious unto us, O God, and cause us to rejoice, for unto Thee we lift up our souls. Teach us Thy way that we may walk firmly in Thy truth. Show us Thy kindness, grant us Thy salvation. Be with us this day and at all times, O Thou, our God and our Father, our rock and our support.

My God, the soul which Thou hast given unto me came pure from Thee. Thou hast created it, Thou hast formed it, Thou hast breathed it into me; Thou hast preserved it in this body and, at the appointed time, Thou wilt take it from this earth that it may enter upon life everlasting. While the soul animates my being I will worship Thee, Sovereign of the world and Lord of all souls. Praised be Thou, O Lord, in whose hands are the souls of all the living and the spirits of all flesh.

Choir:

Amen.

Responsive Reading

Reader

Happy are they that dwell in Thy house, they are ever praising Thee.

Congregation

Happy are they who thus know Him; happy is the people whose God is the Lord.

I will extol Thee, my God, O King, and I will bless Thy name for ever and ever.

Every day I will bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts.

The glorious splendor of Thy majesty and Thy wondrous works will I rehearse.

And men shall speak of the might of Thy tremendous acts, and I will tell of Thy greatness.

They shall utter the fame of Thy great goodness, and shall sing of Thy righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great mercy.

II.

The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.

Thy kingdom is a kingdom for all ages, and Thy dominion endureth
throughout all generations.

The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that are bowed down.

The eyes of all shall wait for Thee, and Thou givest them their food
in due season.

Thou openest Thy hand and satisfiest every living thing with favor.

The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and gracious in all His works.

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon Him in
truth.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord; and let all flesh bless
His holy name for ever and ever.

Let us praise the Lord henceforth and forever.

(Congregation rises)

Reader

Praise ye the Lord to whom all praise is due.

Choir and Congregation

Praised be the Lord to whom all praise is due for ever and ever.

(Congregation is seated)

Reader

Praised be Thou, O Lord our God, Ruler of the world, who in Thy mercy makest light
to shine over the earth and all its inhabitants, and renewest daily the work of
creation. How manifold are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
The heavens declare Thy glory; the earth reveals Thy creative power. Thou formest
light and darkness, ordainest good out of evil and bringest harmony into nature and
peace to the heart of man.

Great has been Thy love unto us and boundless Thy compassion. Our fathers put their
trust in Thee and Thou didst teach them the law of life. Be gracious also unto us
that we may understand and fulfill the teachings of Thy word. Enlighten our eyes
in Thy law that we may cling unto Thy commandments. Make our hearts one in love
and reverence for Thee; trusting in Thee we shall rejoice in Thy saving power,
for from Thee cometh our help. Thou hast chosen us and drawn us nigh unto Thee to
serve Thee in faithfulness. Therefore, do we joyfully lift up our voices and pro-
claim Thy unity. Praised be Thou, O God, who hast chosen Thy people Israel in love.

ENGLISH AND HEBREW

(Congregation rises)

III.

Reader, then Choir and Congregation

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is One. Praised be His name whose glorious kingdom is for ever and ever.

(Congregation is seated)

Reader

Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart. Thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt speak of them when thou sittest in thy house, when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be for frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the doorposts of thy house and upon thy gates. That ye shall remember and do all His commandments and be consecrated unto God.

ENGLISH AND HEBREW

Responsive Reading

Reader

True and enduring is Thy word which Thou hast spoken through Thy prophets.

Congregation

Thou art the living God, Thy words bring life and light to the soul.

Thou art the strength of our life, the rock of our salvation; Thy kingdom and Thy truth abide forever.

Thou has been the help of our fathers in time of trouble and art our refuge in all generations.

Thou art the first and the last, and besides Thee there is no redeemer nor helper.

As Thou hast saved Israel from Egyptian bondage, so mayest Thou send Thy help to all who are oppressed.

May Thy law rule in the hearts of all Thy children, and Thy truth unite them in bonds of fellowship.

May the righteous of all nations rejoice in Thy power and exult in Thy grace.

O God, who art our refuge and our hope, we glorify Thy name now as did our fathers in ancient days:

Choir

Mi Chomocho

Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the mighty? Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness, extolled in praises, working wonders?

Reader

Thy children acknowledge Thy sovereign power, and exclaim:

Choir

Adonoi Yimloch

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.

Reader

O Rock of Israel, redeem those that are oppressed and deliver those that are persecuted. Praised be Thou, our Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

Choir

Amen

Reader

Praised be Thou, O Lord our God, God of our fathers, of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, great, mighty, revered and exalted. Thou bestowest lovingkindness upon all Thy children. Thou rememberest the devotion of the fathers, and, in love, bringest redemption to their descendants for the sake of Thy name. Thou art our King and Helper, Savior and Protector. Praised be Thou, O Lord, Shield of Abraham.

Eternal is Thy power, O Lord, Thou art mighty to save. In lovingkindness Thou sustainest the living; in the multitude of Thy mercies, Thou preservest all. Thou upholdest the falling, healest the sick; bringest freedom to the captives and keepest faith with Thy children in death as in life. Who is like unto Thee, Almighty God, Author of life and death, Source of salvation? Praised be Thou, O Lord, who hast implanted within us immortal life.

ENGLISH AND HEBREW

SANCTIFICATION

(Congregation rises)

Reader

We sanctify Thy name on earth, even as the heavens declare Thy glory and in the words of the prophet we say:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory.

Choir and Congregation

Kodosh, etc.

Reader

Praised be the glory of God throughout the world.

Choir and Congregation

Bourch Kevod, etc.

V.

Reader

The Lord will reign forever, thy God, O Zion, from generation to generation.
Hallelujah!

Choir and Congregation

Yimloch, etc.

(Congregation is Seated)

Reader

Atoh Chonain

HEBREW AND ENGLISH

Reader

Heavenly Father, who graciously bestowest knowledge on man and endowest him with reason, send us the light of Thy truth, that we may gain an ever clearer insight into the wisdom of Thy ways. Banish from our hearts every desire and thought of evil, that we may truly revere Thy holy name. Forgive our sins, pardon our failings, and remove from us suffering and sorrow. May the erring and the wayward be led to know Thy lovingkindness, and to serve Thee in newness of heart; and may those who love virtue and do the right, ever be glad of Thy favor. Bless our land with plenty and our nation with peace; may righteousness dwell in our midst and virtue reign among us.

O Thou who knowest our needs before we utter them, and ordainest all things for the best, in Thee do we forever put our trust.

Reader

Look with favor, O Lord, upon Israel, Thy people, and may their service at all times be acceptable unto Thee. Praised be Thou, O God, whom alone we serve in reverence.

Reader and Congregation

We gratefully acknowledge, O Lord, our God, that Thou art our Creator and Preserver, the Rock of our life and the Shield of our help. We render thanks unto Thee for our lives which are in Thy hand, for our souls which are ever in Thy keeping, for Thy wondrous providence and for Thy continuous goodness, which Thou bestowest upon us day by day. Truly, Thy mercies never fail and Thy lovingkindness never ceases. Therefore do we forever put our trust in Thee.

Special Prayers for Hanukah, Purim and the Semi-Holidays, Pages ?

Reader

Grant us peace, Thy most precious gift, O Thou eternal source of peace, and enable Israel to be its messenger unto the peoples of the earth. Bless our country that it may ever be a stronghold of peace, and the advocate of peace in the council of nations. May contentment reign within its borders, health and happiness within its homes. Strengthen the bonds of friendship and

VI

fellowship among all the inhabitants of our land. Plant virtue in every soul, and may the love of Thy name hallow every home and every heart. Praised be Thou, Giver of peace.

Choir
Amen

Silent Devotion

O God, keep my tongue from evil and my lips from speaking guile. Be my support when grief silences my voice, and my comfort when woe bends my spirit. Plant humility in my soul, and strengthen my heart with perfect faith in Thee. Help me to be strong in trial and temptation and to be meek when others wrong me, that I may readily forgive them. Guide me by the light of Thy counsel, and let me ever find rest in Thee, who art my Rock and my Redeemer. Amen.

Choir

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

(See pp. ?)

ADORATION

(Congregation Rises)

Reader and Congregation

Let us adore the ever-living God, and render praise unto Him who spread out the heavens and established the earth, whose glory is revealed in the heavens above and whose greatness is manifest throughout the world. He is our God; there is none else. We bow the head in reverence and worship the King of kings, the Holy One, praised be He.

Choir
Vaanachnu, etc.

(Congregation is seated)

Reader

May the time not be distant, O God, when Thy name shall be worshiped in all the earth, when unbelief shall disappear and error be no more. We fervently pray that the day may come when all men shall invoke Thy name, when corruption and evil shall give way to purity and goodness, when superstition shall no longer enslave the mind, nor idolatry blind the eye, when all who dwell on earth shall know that to Thee alone every knee must bend and every tongue give homage. O may all, created in Thine image, recognize that they are brethren, so that, one in spirit and one in fellowship, they may be forever united before Thee. Then shall Thy kingdom be established on earth and the word of Thine ancient seer be fulfilled: The Lord will reign for ever and ever.

VII

Congregation

On that day the Lord shall be One and His name shall be One.

Reader

Out of the depths we lift up our souls to Thee. Amid the storms and struggles of life, we trust in Thee and have no fear. The generations of men come and go and brief is their existence. Many are the tasks still unfinished, the plans unfulfilled, the dreams unrealized, when we are summoned to leave this earthly home. Yet our little day may find its permanence as part of Thine eternity and our work its completeness in Thee. Our hopes would be forever void hadst Thou not implanted love in the heart of Thy children. By love are we remembered and in memory we live. At this hallowed hour, we turn our thoughts to our beloved departed and recall the tender companionship of their earthly presence. Though their mortal career has ended, they have not vanished from our hearts. We mourn and we remember. O Eternal Father, in whom we live, grant us strength and blessing through the memory of our departed. May every noble purpose which inspired them and every high ideal which they cherished endure in our thoughts and live in our actions. We rise in reverence of Thee who dost bind the generations each to each and conquerest death forever. Amen.

(Mourners Rise)

Reader

Extolled and hallowed be the name of God throughout the world which He has created according to His will. And may He speedily establish His kingdom of righteousness on earth. Amen.

Congregation

Praised be His glorious name unto all eternity.

Reader

Praised and glorified be the name of the Holy One, though He be above all the praises which we can utter. Our guide is He in life and our redeemer through all eternity.

Congregation

Our help cometh from Him, the creator of heaven and earth.

Reader

The departed whom we ever remember abide in the perfect peace of life eternal. They still live on earth in every act of goodness they performed. May God, who gives grace to all who revere Him, grant that their memory live on in splendor and be a blessing unto us who treasure it. Amen.

Congregation

Amen

VIII

Reader

May the Father of peace send peace to all who mourn, and comfort all the bereaved among us.

Congregation

Amen

(Mourners are seated)

Reader

KADDISH Hebrew same except omission of words: Vechulko tovo lechayai olmo deosai and the addition of word Vechino before Vechisdo and omit Verachamai.



II

MORNING SERVICE FOR WEEK DAYS

Reader

This is the sanctuary of Israel. It was born out of Israel's thirst for the living God. It has endured like the everlasting hills. It has been to Israel throughout his endless wanderings a visible token of the presence of God in the midst of the people. It has shed a beauty that is the beauty of holiness and has ever stood on the high places as the champion of a social order of justice and brotherhood and peace. It is not for Israel alone, for its truths are true for all men, its love is a love for all men, its God is the God of all men. It is Israel's sublime gift to the world, even as was prophesied of old, My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Come then, ye who inherit and he who share the fellowship of Israel, ye who hunger for righteousness, ye who seek the Lord of Hosts, come and let us together lift up our hearts in worship.

Reader and Congregation, then Choir

Borechu and Boruch Adonoi

(Hebrew and English)

Reader

(From I Kings VIII)

O Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like Thee, in heaven above or on the earth beneath, who keepest covenant and mercy with them that walk before Thee with all their heart. Behold heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain Thee, how much less this house which I have builded! Yet have Thou regard for my prayer that Thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day. Whatever prayer and supplication be made by any man of all Thy people Israel, for every man knoweth the burden of his own heart, hear Thou in heaven, Thy dwelling place, and render to every man according to all his ways. Moreover concerning the stranger that is not of Thy people Israel, when he shall come and pray toward this house, do according to all that the stranger calleth to Thee for; that all the peoples of the earth may know Thy name, to fear Thee, as doth Thy people Israel and that they may know that Thy name is called upon this house. The Lord our God be with us as He was with our fathers; that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord, He is God, there is none else.

Reader

Let us now proclaim the supreme truth of our faith. It is heard round the world; for there is no land and no age wherein this watchword of Israel has not risen to heaven. In every crisis of his life, on the high places of rapture, in the depth of despair, and in the very presence of death, has the Jew affirmed his faith in the one and only God. By this he has endured the fury and suffering of centuries and risen to a sublime ministry of service. So do we take up the ancient cry of our fathers, thus binding generation to generation in an everlasting covenant.

Reader and Congregation, then Choir

Shema and Boruch Shem

Veahavta
(Hebrew and English)

Responsive Reading

Reader

And now, O Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee; but to fear the Lord thy God, to love Him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

Congregation

Behold, unto the Lord thy God belongeth the heaven, and the heaven of heavens, the earth, with all that is therein.

For the Lord our God, executeth justice for the fatherless and the widow and loveth the stranger.

And the Lord said, I will make of thee a great people and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Now, therefore, if ye will indeed keep My covenant, ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests and a holy people.

Ye are My witnesses, saith the Lord, and My servant whom I have chosen, that ye may know and believe that I, even I, am the Lord, and beside Me there is no savior.

Behold My servant, whom I uphold; Mine elect, in whom My soul delighteth.

I have put My spirit upon him; he shall make the right to go forth to the nations.

I, the Lord, have called thee in righteousness, and have taken hold of thy hand,

And kept thee and set thee for a covenant of the people for a light to the nations.

Also the sons of the stranger that join themselves to the Lord and take hold of His covenant, even them will I bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer.

For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Choir

Mi Chomochoh and Adonoi Yimloch

Reader

Boruch attch Mogen Avraham
(Hebrew and English) as in Standard Service
Kedushah as in Standard Service

Reader

O Thou who givest meaning to the strivings of men, attune our hearts for communion with Thee. The strength to bear the travails of life, the incentive to scale the mystic peaks of thought, these come not from ourselves alone. We need Thy staff to lean on, and Thine assurance to lead us on our dim and groping way. How often when everything else fails us, do we yearn for Thee. In the stillness of the night, in the press of the crowd, in the agony of an inner conflict, we bow our heads, and lo, Thou art in our hearts and we are at peace. We know not, O Lord, whether the gifts for which we ask are for our good, whether our trials and tribulations may not be blessings in disguise, whether even the fragments of our shattered hopes and loves may not minister to the upbuildings of other lives and the fulfillment of Thine unfathomable plan. So we do not pray unto Thee to make our lives easy, to give us happiness without alloy. Rather do we pray unto Thee to aid us to be uncomplaining and unafraid. Help us to face life with faith and courage that we may see the blessings hidden away even in its discords and struggles and sorrowings. May we realize that it calls us not to the mere enjoyment of the fatness of the earth but to the joy and the thrill of heights attained after the toil of climbing, of victory wrested from the discipline of pain. Thus will our darkness be illumined by Thy light and our weakness made strong by Thy strength, lifting us above fear and defeat, shaping our deeds into the crown of a good name, and sustaining our steps with an immortal hope. Praised be Thou, O Lord, the stay and trust of the righteous.

Silent Devotion

O Lord, I shut out the din and fret and littleness of things that I may feel myself alone with Thee in the silence. As a child yields itself to loving arms, I yield myself to Thee, asking for nothing, complaining about nothing; content only to sense Thee as close as the very pulse of my blood. What if my labor is hard, what if my lot is humble, what if my dreams turn into futile tears, if only there is the peace of Thy nearness in my heart. In this serene mood I feel drawn so much closer to my fellowmen, yearning to pour forth in their behalf the love that is stored up within me. There comes to me in the stillness, out of the very terror and tumult of life, a trust in a goodness that nourishes the roots of the grassblade, and glows in the flaming planet, and come to fulfillment in the soul of man; a trust that makes me unafraid in the face of the inscrutable years, and helps me to see that everything happens for the best. O God, how healing and hallowing is this communion with Thee! If only I could always abide in it! But I must go forth again to the struggle for our daily bread, to the fret of desire and the fear of pain, to the tragic disillusionment of dreams that never come true. Let me not go forth alone, O God. Abide Thou deep in the solitude of my heart, so that no matter where I go, I may know that an unfailing Friend goes with me. No matter what happens, may I have the vision to see that Thy design is to be measured not by a fleeting span of years on this little earth, but by worlds and years without end. Amen.

Choir

Let the words

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

ADORATION

"The travails of
life"

for us
"disillusionment"
"fate" "fear"

not enough
restraint

Reader

At this time of sacred memorial, we call by name those who are bound to us by the ties of love and sweet remembrance. We feel them so close that we renew the old companionship, more precious than all the treasure of earth and sky. They are peaceful with a peace that is like the falling of light on grass and flower. They evoke memories that move us to gentle impulses and a wider fellowship with sorrow. They whisper to us of a world where years and horizons have no meaning and where our hearts' desires come more abidingly into their own. Help us to understand, O Lord, that grief and love go hand in hand, that the sorrow of loss is but a token of the love that is stronger than death. Even though we cry in the bereavement of our hearts when our beloved are taken from this earth, may it be as a child cries who knows his father is near and who clings unafraid to a trusted hand. In this spirit, O Thou who are the master of our destiny, do we commit all that is precious to us into Thy keeping, as we repeat the words hallowed by the generations:

KADDISH

BENEDICTION

III

Reader

O God, and God of our fathers, we come into Thy house with gladness, we enter Thy courts with praise. For it is here that we are reminded of the high and holy purpose with which Thou hast endowed us. Open our eyes that we may behold the wondrous things out of Thy law; give us understanding that we may keep Thy commandments. Then shall we truly serve Thee and declare Thy name amongst the peoples.

Responsive Reading

(I Chronicles XVI 8 - 22)

Reader

O give thanks unto the Lord, call upon His name; make known His doings among the peoples.

Congregation

Sing unto Him, sing praises unto Him; speak ye of all His marvelous works.

Glory ye in His holy name; let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord.

Seek ye the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually.

Remember His marvelous works, His wonders and His judgments.

He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth.

Remember His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations;

The covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath unto Isaac.

And He established it unto Jacob for a statute, to Israel for an everlasting covenant.

When they went about from nation to nation, and from one kingdom to another people

He did suffer no man to destroy them, yea, for their sake He reproved kings:

Touch not Mine anointed ones and do My prophets no harm.

BORECHU AND BORUCH

(Hebrew and English)

Reader

O Lord of all the worlds, in Thy lovingkindness Thou causest the morning dawn to give light to all earth's creatures. By Thy will the marvels of creation are daily renewed. The heavens declare Thy glory and the earth reveals Thy handiwork. Creator of light and of goodness, Thou art constantly praised in the beauty and harmony of all Thy works.

Reader and Congregation

Great has been Thy love unto us and boundless Thy compassion. Our fathers put their trust in Thee and Thou didst teach them the law of life. Be gracious also unto us that we may understand and fulfill the teachings of Thy word. Enlighten our eyes in Thy law that we may cling unto Thy commandments. Make our hearts one in love and reverence for Thee; trusting in Thee, we shall rejoice in Thy saving power, for from Thee cometh our help. Thou hast chosen us and drawn us nigh unto Thee to serve Thee in faithfulness. Therefore do we joyfully lift up our voices and proclaim Thy unity. Praised be Thou, O God, who hast chosen Thy people Israel in love.

SHMA and BORUCH SHEM

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Praised be His name whose glorious kingdom is forever and ever.
And Thou shalt love, etc.

(Hebrew and English)

Responsive Reading

Reader

God is one; His presence prevades the worlds and binds them together in harmony.

Congregation

Therein we see the manifold signs of His wisdom and goodness.

We learn to love God with all our hearts, with all our soul and with all our might.

With each awakening day and each recurring evening, we perceive anew the fatherly love that guides and protects us.

In the sunshine of happiness and the shadow of sorrow, we are upheld by Thine everlasting arms.

Thus at all times shall the thought of God sustain us, in our work and in our play, in our duties and in our desires.

Reader

Praised be Thou, O Lord our God, God of our fathers, of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, great, mighty, revered and exalted. Thou bestowest lovingkindness upon all Thy children. Thou rememberest the devotion of the fathers, and, in love, bringest redemption to their descendants for the sake of Thy name. Thou art our King and Helper, Savior and Protector. Praised be Thou, O Lord, Shield of Abraham.

Reader

Eternal is Thy power, O Lord, Thou art mighty to save. In lovingkindness Thou sustainest the living; in the multitude of Thy mercies, Thou preservest all. Thou upholdest the falling, healest the sick, bringest freedom to the captives and keepest faith with Thy children in death as in life. Who is like unto Thee, Almighty God, Author of life and death, Source of salvation? Praised be Thou, O Lord, who hast implanted within us immortal life.

Reader and Congregation

God and Father, bless our lives with peace and happiness. We know that Thy wisdom and justice ordain the path of our pilgrimage of mingled laughter and tears, of gladness and pain. We ask not for absence of pain, but for courage to endure it; not for freedom from sorrow and trial, but for deliverance from fear and faintness of heart. Endow us with the strength of faith. Implant within us an abiding assurance that we may walk with Thee, as a child with its father. Through fields of joy and success, or barren wastes of suffering and disappointment, we walk with Thee; even in the valley of the shadow, we shall fear no evil, for Thou art with us, Thy rod and Thy staff shall comfort us. Amen.

Reader

O Lord God, creator of all the world, in Thine infinite wisdom Thou hast made man highest of all Thy creatures. Thou hast blessed him with noble powers. Teach us to seek the good that we may wisely use these powers. We thank Thee for the privilege which Thou hast given the people of Israel, to bear Thy word unto the children of men. Make us worthy of this sacred task. Enlighten us that we may approach it with an understanding of the message that we bring. May we be filled with zeal for knowledge lest ignorance render us powerless. Strengthen Thou our own faith, that we may kindle the light of Thy presence in the hearts of others.

Congregation

May there be no unworthy pride within us. Help us to keep our hearts humble and our spirit lowly, that we may bear our message with modesty and make Thy name known in love and truth unto the children of men.

Reader

A wanderer among the nations, we have often been the victim of hate and persecution. Yet we have survived through centuries of humiliation and abasement, while many proud peoples and mighty empires have passed from the paths of men. Is there significance in this survival, or is it but the purposeless clinging of the dead leaf to the branch? We, the people of Israel, can alone give answer to this question. We must prove that we have place and purpose in the life and progress of this age. Each of us must be conscious of the common heritage and the common destiny of all Israel and make our lives a testimony of our love and loyalty to the high task of our faith.

Sermon
and
prayer

(Silent Devotion)

O God, grant that I may understand my duty to Thee and to my people. May I so bear myself that my life may be a sanctification of Thy name. Strengthen my will that I do not impair the heritage of love and devotion that has been Israel's glory of bygone years, but pass it on undiminished to the Israel of the future. Let me not be discouraged by the sneers of the cynical, or dismayed by the attacks of the hostile. May I never become apologetic for my faith or my people, but avow and defend them with an ever firmer allegiance. Grant me courage boldly to proclaim Thy name. Strengthen me, O Father, when I am weak, and illumine my pathway that I may walk in the light of Thy law. May I, by my conduct, hasten the day when all mankind shall be joined in the fellowship of spirit, and acknowledge Thee as their God and Father.

Sermon

Congregation and Reader .

O Lord, God of all the world, show Thou the pathway of peace unto all the children of men. Soften the hardness of their hearts that hatred, pride and obstinacy be banished. Imbue them with the desire for peace and for the goodwill of brotherliness which alone can bring enduring peace. May Israel ever strive to bring to the nations the realization that the triumphs of war turn to ashes and that justice and righteousness are better than conquest and dominion. For it is not by might nor by power, but by Thy spirit alone that the blessings of peace are made secure. May Israel be a messenger of peace to all men that they seek to deal fairly and kindly with one another and become as the disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing it and thus glorifying Thy name over all the face of the earth. Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

(Isaiah II - 2-5, XI - 1-10)

HYMN
SERMON
ADORATION

Reader

To you, who are mourning for the loss of loved ones, let there come the comfort of the hope that, though the dust returns to the earth as it was, the spirit returns to God who had given it. Death is not the end. Our dear ones have but passed through the gateway of the grave into the endless peace of the life that endureth always. We know that all of us must tread the same path, though we know not when the hour may strike for any one of us. Let us so live that the coming of that hour shall find us unafraid, that by our deeds the memory of our loved ones be honored and their names revered in the reverence of our conduct. In the cherished memory of our loved ones whom Thou hast called unto Thyself and in the unshaken trust that what Thy wisdom and lovingkindness have decreed is for the best, we give praise unto Thy name, O heavenly Father:

KADDISH

BENEDICTION

IV

READER

This is the house of worship. Here our fathers gathered to renew their courage and to reaffirm their faith. Here, throughout the ages, the hearts of our people poured forth their ardent prayers. Here, we have come this morning to attune our souls to Israel's hallowed memories and visions, to examine our conduct in the light of eternity, and to join our spirits in common aspiration for the pursuit of wisdom, the enthronement of justice, and the triumph of love in our life.

Responsive Reading

Reader

Hearken unto Me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is
My law;

Congregation

Fear ye not the taunt of men, neither be ye dismayed at their
revilings.

Be not afraid of sudden terror, neither of the evil of the wicked when it
cometh.

For My favor shall be for ever and My salvation unto all
generations.

Devise not evil against thy neighbor; envy thou not the man of violence,
and choose none of his ways.

Withhold not good from him to whom it is due, when it is in the
power of thy hand to do it.

Let not kindness and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck, write them upon the tablet of thy heart.

Hatred stirreth up strife; but love covereth all transgressions.

It hath been told thee, O man, what is good, and what the Lord doth require of thee;

Only to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.

Reader

We recall at this hour that in humanity's long and arduous warfare against idolatry, Israel's history has often been the world's battleground. Our patriarchs and prophets have waged relentless warfare against ignorance and superstition. They discarded the multitude of idols patterned after the passions of man. They demolished the altars dedicated to human sacrifice. Through centuries of loneliness and martyrdom, they summoned the world to an enlightened faith. Undaunted by the ever present contrasts and clashes in nature, unbowed by the ceaseless succession of strife and struggle in life, they discerned the one Spirit of the universe, whose wisdom rules the cycles of times and seasons, whose glory leads the constellations in their infinite courses, and whose law of love links all mankind in universal brotherhood. Harmony and holiness, unity and faith have thus become the message of the synagogue, the essence of religion, the word of God in the heart of man.

Shema Yisroel and Boruch Shem Kevod (Hebrew and English)

And thou shalt love, etc. (as in standard service)

Choir

Mi Chomocho, etc. through Adonoi Yimloch

Reader

At this hour, we lift our voices in gratitude, for the manifold bounties with which we are blessed, and in prayer for the fulfillment of our highest hopes. But how can we, finite mortals, thank the Infinite and honor the Eternal, particularly when we recall our readiness to murmur whenever our wishes are not fulfilled? How often have we approached holy duties and consecrated altars light-heartedly, before cleansing ourselves of the petty habits which keep the soul enmeshed? Have we not prayed at times for our own pleasure, and ignored the welfare of our fellowman? Let us therefore unite our hearts in a communion of worship, and repeat the benedictions which have voiced the longings of the people of Israel:

Responsive Reading

Reader

We offer thanks for the memories and ideals which link us with our fathers and children in family union.

Congregation

We pray to be worthy of our heritage and for strength to transmit it untarnished.

May we so fashion the souls of those dependent upon us that they add honor to the name of Israel.

May we guard and enrich for future ages the truth revealed through our forbears.

From of old our sages taught us to emulate the attributes of God through acts of unselfish kindness.

May we never falter in our effort to heal the sick, to teach the ignorant, to uphold the falling, to break every yoke and chain.

Through diligent instruction and faithful observance, Israel has borne witness to the sanctity of life.

In joyous obedience to the Torah, our fathers upheld a network of duties designed to hallow their homes and their conduct.

In the grandeur of each manifestation of nature, and in the emotions of every human heart, they sensed the presence of God.

May we be worthy to discern and to reveal the beauty of holiness, and by reverence to keep undefiled every vision of the Divine.

Complete Kedushah

Choir

Kodosh, Kodosh, Kodosh, Adonoy tzvoos

Reader

We pray for peace, the supreme need of man, and for the establishment of righteousness, which alone can assure the permanence of peace among the peoples of the earth. We invoke this blessing upon all countries and institutions dedicated to human freedom and welfare. May those entrusted with public duties remain true to their charge. May they be blessed with wisdom in their battle against poverty, disease and war. May the recognition of a common destiny unite all mankind in a covenant of peace, and the triumph of love transform the world into a home for all the children of men.

Silent Devotion

In the silence of this sanctuary, I commune in my heart and hear the still small voice often lost in the clamor and confusion of the world. I probe the recesses of my inmost being, and lay bare the secret promptings of my life. Have my hands refrained from evil, my tongue from speaking guile? Have I refused to call any

man brother, knowing that one Father has created us and appointed for us a common destiny? Have I shared my morsel with my brother, seeing that he might perish in his want? Have I entered into the sorrow of my fellowman? Did my faith guide me in temptation and uphold me in trial? In my work and play, in my sorrow and joy, may I always remember that we ascend the mountain of the Lord only when our hands are clean and our heart is pure.

Choir

Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable unto Thee, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

Standard version of ADORATION

Reader

At this hour we call to mind those who have been gathered to the eternal home. We know that our beloved ones are now beyond the pain and the dangers which beset the path of the living. They abide in the shelter of unforgetting hearts. In the homes which they helped to build, in the lives which they helped to illumine, they will continue as an immortal inspiration, as an everlasting incentive to unselfish conduct and blessed labor. In deep gratitude for their life and love, and with unflinching courage to carry on the work of our hands in the face of our inscrutable destiny, we rise and repeat the memorial words of our fathers:

KADDISH

HYMN

BENEDICTION

V

Choir

Ma Yokor Hasdecho

How precious is Thy lovingkindness, O God!
And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Thy wings.
They are satisfied with the abundance of Thy house;
And Thou makest them drink of the rivers of Thy pleasures.
For with Thee is the fountain of life;
In Thy light, do we see light.

Responsive Reading

(From Psalm LXXXIV)

Reader

How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!

Congregation

My soul yearneth, yea, even pineth for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy unto the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young;

Thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.

Happy are they that dwell in Thy house, they are ever praising Thee.

Happy is the man whose strength is in Thee; in whose heart are Thy ways.

They go from strength to strength, everyone of them appeareth before God in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.

For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand elsewhere; I had rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord God is a sun and a shield; the Lord giveth grace and glory;

No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, happy is the man that trusteth in Thee.

Reader

O God, Thou art hidden from the eyes of all the living and art beyond the gaze of all creatures. We are overcome with wonder and with awe as we behold the external garb of Thy majesty, revealed in the vast array of suns and stars. The keenest eye fails to penetrate the smallest portion of Thy universe, and the mind of genius cannot comprehend more than a broken fragment of Thy glory. The tongues of poets and sages falter as they seek to express Thine unfathomable wisdom and might. Yet though Thy greatness surpasses our understanding, we feel Thy nearness. Thy laws guide the creatures of earth even as they direct the planets on high. Within ourselves, too, we sense the stirrings of a heaven-soaring spirit. This emboldens us, finite creatures, to seek Thy presence, O infinite Creator, firm in our faith that we shall find Thee if, with sincere hearts, we seek Thee. As the flowers of the field drink of the dew of heaven and of the radiance of the sun, so would we, lifting our spirits unto Thee, drink of the pure fountains of holiness. In Thee our souls rejoice, for Thou art our life and our song. Amen.

Borechu and Boruch Adonoi
(Hebrew and English)

Reader

Thine, O Lord, are the heavens, Thine also the earth; the world and the fulness thereof, Thou hast founded them. The universe with its myriads of wonders sings of Thy wisdom, and daily proclaims the marvels of creation. Thy might upholds the

circling spheres and guides their courses in the heights of heaven. Though they shall wax old as a garment, Thou shalt endure for ever, and Thy years have no end. The mysteries of decay and death, as of life and growth, manifest Thy workings. Thy throne is established from of old; Thou art from everlasting. The whole universe, O ever-living God, is Thy sanctuary, resounding with praise of Thy glory.

Reader and Congregation

In the heart of man, too, Thou reignest supreme. Above the floods of passion and the torrents of hate, Thy heavenly voice rings within us proclaiming the law of right and duty. Open our eyes to Thy truth, endow our spirits with faith in Thy life-giving behests, and imbue our hearts with courage to translate them into deeds of loving-kindness. Consecrate us anew to the task to which our fathers joyfully dedicated themselves: to speed the dawn of the new day when all men shall be united in bonds of brotherhood, and, in one accord, shall acclaim Thee their Father and their God.

Reader and Congregation and then Choir

Shma and Boruch Shem

(Hebrew and English)

And thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, etc. (as in standard service)

Responsive Reading

(Hebrew and English)

Reader

Thou, O Lord, givest being to all things and sustainest all creation.

Congregation

In Thee Israel has found the strength to meet every trial and peril.
We trust not in the might of arms; neither do we rely upon our own power to save us.

A sun and a shield hast Thou been unto us, bestowing grace and glory.
In the pillar of cloud Thou hast led us by day, and in a pillar of fire by night.

Thy spirit has instructed us and opened our eyes to the wonders of Thy law.

Trusting in Thee we have carried aloft undismayed the torch of Thy truth unto the nations.

Continue to be our inspiration in the tasks which confront us, in the noon-tide of joy or in the night of adversity.

Send forth Thy light and Thy truth to lead us; let them bring us unto Thy holy mountain.

When doubts and confusion assail us, aid us to remain constant in our devotion unto Thee.

Deepen our loyalty to the sacred obligations which rest upon us as children of Israel.

Let not our hearts turn back from Thy covenant, and let our lives testify to our faith in Thee.

Choir

Mi Chomochoh and Adonoi Yimloch

Regular Shemonah Esrah

Reader

Gracious and merciful God! Thou hast dowered us above all earth-born creatures with a spark of Thine intelligence. We thank Thee, O God, for the gift of reason whereby we may search after knowledge and gain mastery over nature. Let not this gift be so used as to darken Thy light and to defeat Thy sacred purposes. In the pride of intellect may we not become laws unto ourselves and reject Thy benign statutes. O God, our hearts are filled with discord as they grow estranged from Thee. The lower desires often threaten to subdue the nobler inclinations. As we grow in knowledge, may we grow also in reverence and humility. Let the fruit of the tree of knowledge yield more abundant life and happiness and not pain, misery, and death. May the vision of Thee never fade from our sight. May the consciousness of Thy presence be the music of our lives, bringing harmony into our existence and raising us to the heights of true humanity and of creative achievement. Praised be Thou, O Lord, gracious Giver of knowledge.

Silent Prayer

Heavenly Father! Thou art with us whenever we forsake evil and turn unto Thee in sincerity. We pray for Thy support as we struggle to free ourselves from thoughts that lead astray and from desires that defeat our better nature. Give us unity of heart and firmness of will to follow unswervingly Thy laws of health, goodness and truth. When we stray from Thee into places of darkness and of the shadow of death, aid us to find our way back to Thee. Deliver us from the idolatry of self, from vain pride and from arrogance, and imbue us with a deeper regard for others. Let the fire of sacrificial service ever glow upon the altar of our hearts, and zeal for brotherhood and for peace flame within our souls. Restore us to the joy of Thy presence that we may behold Thy way in holiness and Thy will in truth, in justice and in love. Amen.

Choir

Let the words of my mouth

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

HYMN

SERMON

ADORATION
(As in Standard Service)

Reader

O Living Fountain, whence our healing flows, unto Thee the stricken look for comfort, and the sorrow-laden for consolation. In grief Thou art our refuge and in distress, our deliverer. Though we walk in the valley of the shadow of death, we shall fear no evil for Thou art with us. Thy rod and Thy staff are our stay and support. Cause Thy peace to abide with all troubled spirits. Turn our sorrows into gladness, and our grief into sacred joy. Amid the darkness that envelops us, may we behold Thy light; and, in submission to Thine inscrutable will, find strength for our daily tasks.

KADDISH

HYMN

BENEDICTION



prayer for country -
for family -

Handwritten: dnd
Handwritten: CCAR

August 15, 1933.

Rabbi Edward L. Israel,
Har Sinai Temple,
Bolton and Wilson Sts.,
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Rabbi Israel:

I received a copy of the proposed Holy Day message of the Social Justice Commission for 1933. I am no longer a member of the Executive Board of the C.C.A.R. and I therefore do not know whether my opinion should be given on this message. However, I wish to indicate my general approval of its spirit and to suggest one or two modifications.

1. The whole tone of the message ought to be elevated a bit. Phrases such as "to pump a little altruism," a "trough worth dipping one's hands into," etc. detract a bit from the dignity of the message.

2. I believe that paragraph three might very well be omitted. It is the broadest kind of generalization and criticism of the pulpit which is reminiscent of the katzenjammer indulged in by the "Menorah" and "Opinion." It is not true that the average congregation "wants the religious institution and the pulpit to be the symbols of complacency or reaction." Liberalism and progressivism are quite "de rigueur" in the pulpit today. If I were a cynic I would say that it takes a truly courageous man to be a reactionary today.....

3. While pointing out the socially desirable implications of the N.R.A., and asking for cooperation, the message should also warn against its possible abuses. It may be the entering wedge for an American Fascism. The Conference ought not to join the universal and uncritical ballyhoo in behalf of an economic experiment whose social utility is still to be established.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:EK

CCAR

June 15, 1933.

Dr. Solomon Freehof,
5401 Cornell Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Sol:

I have had occasion to run over the draft of the morning services for week days. I have been very crowded with work since my return from abroad and I have not had sufficient time to make a careful study of these services. Generally speaking, they are quite satisfactory although they are far from distinguished. I suppose that you really can't do much with a week day service.

Some of the prayers such as those on pages three and six are not sufficiently restrained -- too much of the "klogmutter" motif -- too much "futile tears," too much "disillusionment," too much travails of life" and "barren wastes of suffering and disappointments." I noticed too a strange prayer, "We ask not for absence of pain." Why not?

On page seven there is a prayer which begins, "A wanderer among the nations." This is a sermon, not a prayer. The first paragraph of the second service beginning, "The sanctuary of Israel" should be completely rewritten. It is extremely awkward in style.

Somewhere in the service there should be a brief prayer of the physical and spiritual welfare of our children and families and our country.

With all good wishes, I remain, as ever

Yours,

AHS:BK