

# CHANUKAH FLAMES OF REDEDICATION

On Chanukah, as we tell the story of the Rededication of the Sacred Temple, may we remember that the light of Divine Presence dwells in all beings and all the earth.

May the flames of the candles ignite wonder, awe, compassion and love, guiding us to see the Divine in all we encounter.

Let us together rededicate ourselves to offering our light, wisdom and gifts for the well-being and benefit of all.

- Rabbi Yael Levy and the A WAY IN Community

We say these blessings each night as we prepare to light the candles:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלֶם אֲשֶׁר קִדְשְׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתִיו וְצִוְּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק גַר שֵׁל חַנָּכָה.

Barukh atah Yah, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam asher kidishanu b'mitz'votav v'tzivanu l'had'lik neir shel Chanukah. Amen.

Blessed is the Mystery that flows through time and space and calls us into sacred relationship through the kindling of the Chanukah light.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלֶם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָמִים הַהֵם בַּוְּמֵן הַזָּה.

Barukh atah Yah, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam she'asah nisim la'avoteinu bayamim haheim baziman hazeh. Amen. Blessed is the Mystery that flows through time and space and brings forth miracles in every moment.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> CANDLE

As we light this first candle, we marvel at the miracles of creation, naming a moment of beauty and wonder to honor with this first flame.

בָּרוּדְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזּמַן הַזֶּה.

# We add this prayer for the first night:

Baruch atah Yah, Eloheynu Melech ha'olam, shehechehyanu, v'kiy'manu, v'higianu laz'man hazeh. Blessed is the Mystery that flows through time and space, who has given us life, who has raised us up, and brought us to this very moment.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> CANDLE

On this second day of Chanukah, we honor moments of connection and relationship. We recall the sensation of joy and/or gratitude we experienced as we reached out to another, or when someone reached out to us.

#### 3rd CANDLE

On this third day of Chanukah, we wonder about those whose ideas of the world are different from ours. As we light the candles, we call forth some of the people with whom we disagree and surround them with light and love.

# 4th CANDLE

On this fourth day of Chanukah, we reflect on our wishes and hopes for ourselves and for the world. What is something we hope opens for us this year? What is it we deeply long for in the world? We honor our visions and hopes as we light the candles.

#### 5th CANDLE

On this fifth day of Chanukah, we pause before lighting the candles and, with awareness, take three long, even, deep breaths. With each breath, we set an intention to release some of the constriction that might have arisen from the busyness of our day. As we light the candles, we remind ourselves of the sacred power of pausing.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> CANDLE

## Shabbat and Rosh Chodesh Tevet

As we light the Chanukah candles, before we kindle the Shabbat flames, we give thanks for something that touched us this past week. And we recall a moment of beauty.

Standing, we bring our attention to our feet, then to our hearts and then to the crowns of our heads, reminding ourselves that we are here to live in relationship with all beings, and that all of us are channels through which Divine love flows into the world.

# 7th CANDLE

#### Rosh Chodesh Tevet

As we light these candles, we affirm what we do well. We acknowledge the gifts we bring into the world through the words of our mouths, the love of our hearts and the work of our hands.

## 8th CANDLE

#### Rededication

With love and curiosity, we ask ourselves: To what do I want to rededicate myself this season? With gentleness and care, we place upon our hearts a word or a phrase that will help direct our attention and actions to what we most value and love.

As we light the candles, we set an intention to return again and again to these words and intentions that we are placing upon our hearts.



May each night of Chanukah remind us that the sacred Mystery flows through all life and the sacred dwells in all.

May the flames help us remember that we have a great capacity for compassion and love. May we know that everything we do matters.

May this season light the way to understanding and peace.