

Kindling the Festival Lights

The Chanukah Blessings

Candles are added to the *chanukiyah* from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first.

First light the *shamash* (the helper candle, set higher or lower than all the rest of the candles); then use it to kindle the rest of the Chanukah lights.

This year we will kindle the first and last candles of Chanukah on Friday evenings. Light and bless the Chanukah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.

ברוך אתה יי אלהנו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנכה.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik neir shel Chanukah.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; You make us holy with Your mitzvot, and command us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

ברוך אתה יי אלהנו מלך העולם שעשה נסים לאבותינו/לאמותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam she-asah nisim la'avoteinu/l'amoteinu bayamim haheim baz'man hazeh.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; You showed wonders to our fathers/mothers in this season in days of old.

On the first night only we add:

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

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam shehecheyanu v'kiymanu v'higyanu laz'man hazeh.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this season.

