

Mizmor Monthly: Rosh Hodesh Nisan

1. Simḥah Rabbah

Lyrics: Bilha Yafeh (1891-1961)

Music: Yedidiah Admon (1894-1982)

Simḥah rabba, simḥah rabba
Aviv higi'a, Pesah ba!
Simḥah rabba, simḥah rabba
Aviv higi'a, Pesah ba!

Taf'ru, taf'ru, taf'ru li beged im kisim
Mil'u, mil'u, mil'u kisai be'egozim

Simḥah rabba...

Sha'ol esh'al, sha'ol esh'al arba kushyot
Shato eshteh, shato eshteh arba kosot

Simḥah rabba...

V'khos g'dolah, v'khos g'dolah imi tavi
L'Eliyahu, L'Eliyahu hanavi

Simḥah rabba...

Hal'vai yavo, hal'vai yavo, hal'vai yasur
Yir'eh oti, yir'eh oti kol kakh hadur

Simḥah rabba...

שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה, שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה,
אָבִיב הַגִּיעַ, פֶּסַח בָּא!
שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה, שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה,
אָבִיב הַגִּיעַ, פֶּסַח בָּא!

תִּפְרוּ, תִּפְרוּ, תִּפְרוּ לִי בְּגֵד עִם כִּסִּים.
מִלְאוּ, מִלְאוּ, מִלְאוּ כִּסֵּי בְּאַגֻזִים.

שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה...

שְׂאוּל אֶשְׂאֵל, שְׂאוּל אֶשְׂאֵל אַרְבַּע קִשּׁוֹת
שְׂתֵה אֶשְׂתֶּה, שְׂתֵה אֶשְׂתֶּה אַרְבַּע כּוֹסוֹת.

שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה...

וְכּוֹס גְּדוּלָה, וְכּוֹס גְּדוּלָה אִמִּי תָבִיא
לְאֵלֶיהוּ, לְאֵלֶיהוּ הַנְּבִיא.

שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה...

הֲלוֹאֵי יָבוֹא, הֲלוֹאֵי יָבוֹא, הֲלוֹאֵי יָסוּר
יִרְאֶה אוֹתִי, יִרְאֶה אוֹתִי כֹל-כֶּךָ הַדּוֹר.

שְׂמֵחָה רַבָּה...

A lot of happiness, Spring is here. Passover is coming! Sew me a cloth with pockets. My pockets were filled up with nuts. I will ask four questions. I will drink four cups of wine. My mother will bring a cup of wine for Elihah the prophet. If only he would come. If only he would turn and see me so splendid.

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2. Aviv

Lyrics: Yaakov Fichman (1881-1958)

Music: Daniel Samburski (1909-1977)

B'sorah tovah heveiti
Ki hagan nimla orah
Uvaya'ar uvah'oresh
Kol tzipor om'rah shirah

Ki v'khol pinah haPesah
Et reiho hatov notein
V'aviv k'var b'artzeinu
Z'man heirut v'gil vahein

בְּשׁוֹרָה טוֹבָה הֵבִיטִי
כִּי הֵגֵן נִמְלָא אוֹרָה
וּבַיַּעַר וּבַחֲרֹשׁ
כָּל צִפּוֹר אוֹמְרָה שִׁירָה

כִּי בְּכֹל פְּנֵי הַפֶּסַח
אֶת רִיחוֹ הַטוֹב נוֹתֵן
וְאָבִיב כְּבָר בְּאַרְצֵנוּ
זְמַן חֵירוּת וְגִיל וְחֵן

I brought good news; for the garden is full of light. And in the forest and in the woods every bird sings a song. Because Passover is at every corner; it gives off its good smell. And spring is already in our land, a time of freedom, joy, and grace.

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3. B'tzeit Yisrael

Text: Psalm 114

Music: As sung by the Slonim Hassidim for Rosh Hodesh Nisan

B'tzeit Yisrael miMitzrayim

Beit Ya'akov mei'am lo'ez

Hay'ta Y'hudah l'kodsho

Yisrael mamsh'lotav

Hayam ra'ah vayanos

HaYardein yisov l'ahor

Heharim rak'du kh'eilim

G'va'ot kivnei tzon

Mah l'kha hayam ki tanus

HaYardein tisov l'ahor

Heharim tirk'du kh'eilim

G'va'ot kivnei tzon

Milifnei adon huli aretz

Milifnei elo'ah Ya'akov

Hahofkhi hatzur agam mayim

Halamish l'may'no mayim

בְּצֵאת יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם,

בֵּית יַעֲקֹב מֵעַם לֵעֹז.

הִיְתָה יְהוּדָה לְקֹדֶשׁוֹ,

יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמְשָׁלוֹתָיו.

הַיָּם רָאָה וַיִּנָּס,

הַיַּרְדֵּן יָסַב לְאַחֹר.

הַהָרִים רָקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים,

גְּבָעוֹת כְּבְנֵי צֹאן.

מַה לְךָ הַיָּם כִּי תָנוּס,

הַיַּרְדֵּן תָּסַב לְאַחֹר.

הַהָרִים תָּרְקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים,

גְּבָעוֹת כְּבְנֵי צֹאן.

מִלִּפְנֵי אֲדוֹן חוּלֵי אֶרֶץ,

מִלִּפְנֵי אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב.

הִהֲפֹכֵי הַצּוּר אֲגַם מַיִם,

חֲלָמִישׁ לְמַעַיְנו מַיִם.

When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob departed from a foreign people. Judah became God's holy one; Israel, God's domain. The sea saw them and fled; the Jordan ran backward. The mountains skipped like rams; and hills like lambs. What alarmed you, sea, that you fled? Jordan, why did you retreat? Mountains, why leap like rams; and hills, like lambs? Tremble, earth, at the presence of Adonai, at the presence of the God of Jacob, who turns the rock into a pool of water, flint into a fountain.

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4. Yom Shabbaton

Text: Yehudah Halevi (1075-1141)

Music: Musikalisher Pinkes, Vilna 1927

Yom shabbaton ein lishkoah
Zikhro k'rei'ah haniho'ah
Yonah matz'ah vo mano'ah
V'sham yanuhu y'gi'ei kho'ah

Yonah matz'ah vo mano'ah v'sham yanuhu y'gi'ei kho'ah

Hayom nikhbad livnei emunim
Z'hirim l'shomro avot uvanim
Hakuk bishnei luhot avanim
Meirov onim v'amitz ko'ah

Yonah matz'ah vo mano'ah v'sham yanuhu y'gi'ei kho'ah

Uva'u khulam bivrit yahad
Na'aseh v'nishma am'ru k'ehad
Ufat'hu v'anu Adonai ehad
Barukh hanotein laya'ef ko'ah

Yonah matz'ah vo mano'ah v'sham yanuhu y'gi'ei kho'ah

Diber b'kodsho b'har hamor
Yom hashvi'i zakhor v'shamor
V'khol pikudav yahad ligmor
Hazeq motna'im v'ameitz ko'ah

Yonah matz'ah vo mano'ah v'sham yanuhu y'gi'ei kho'ah

Ha'am asher na katzon ta'ah
Yizkor l'fokdo b'rit ushvu'a
L'val ya'avor bam mikrei ra'ah
Ka'asher nishbata al mei Noah

Yonah matz'ah vo mano'ah v'sham yanuhu y'gi'ei kho'ah

יום שבתון אין לשכוח,
זכרו כריח הניחח,
יונה מצאה בו מנוח,
ושם ינוחו יגיעי כח
יונה מצאה בו מנוח, ושם ינוחו יגיעי כח

היום נכבד לבני אמונים,
זהירים לשמרו אבות ובנים,
חקוק בשני לחות אבנים,
מרב אונים ואמיץ כח.
יונה מצאה בו מנוח, ושם ינוחו יגיעי כח

ובאו כלם בברית יחד,
נעשה ונשמע אמרו כאחד,
ופתחו וענו יי אחד,
ברוך הנתן ליעף כח.
יונה מצאה בו מנוח, ושם ינוחו יגיעי כח

דבר בקדשו בהר המור,
יום השביעי זכור ושמור,
וכל פקדיו יחד לגמור,
חזק מתנים ואמיץ כח.
יונה מצאה בו מנוח, ושם ינוחו יגיעי כח

העם אשר נע כצאן תעה,
יזכור לפקדו ברית ושבועה,
לבלי יעבר בם מקרה רעה,
כאשר נשבעת על מי נח
יונה מצאה בו מנוח, ושם ינוחו יגיעי כח

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Yom Shabbaton - Translation

One cannot forget the Sabbath day. Its name is as sweet as the sacrificial incense. The dove found a resting place on this day. And it will offer rest for those of spent strength.

The day is honoured by the faithful. Parents and children guard it with care. (It was) carved on two tablets of stone by the mighty, powerful One.

All entered the covenant together: “We will do and we will obey,” they said as one. They further declared: “God is One. Blessed is the One who gives strength to the weary.”

God, in holiness, declared at Mount Sinai: “Remember and keep the seventh day.” Study all of its commandments with girded loins and great strength.

The people who wander like lost sheep, God supports them, remembering His covenant and vow that no evil shall befall them, as God swore at the waters of Noah.

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5. V'asu Li Mikdash / Sanctuary

Hebrew text: Exodus 25:8 and Psalms 115:18

English text: excerpt from the song *Sanctuary* by Randy Scruggs and John W. Thompson

וְעָשׂוּ לִי מִקְדָּשׁ וְשָׁכַנְתִּי בְּתוֹכָם. וְאַנְחֵנוּ נְבָרֶךְ יְהוָה מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם.

V'asu li mikdash v'shakhanti b'tokham. Va'anahnu n'varekh Yah mei'atah v'ad olam.

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true;

With thanksgiving I'll be a living

Sanctuary for You.

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6. Kol Ha'olam Kulo (Gesher Tzar M'od)

Words: Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav (1772-1810) Music: Baruch Chait (1946-present)

Kol ha'olam kulo gesher tzar m'od

כָּל הָעוֹלָם כְּלוֹ גֶשֶׁר צָר מְאֹד

V'ha'ikar lo l'fahed klal

וְהֵעָקָר לֹא לְפַחַד כָּלֵל

The whole world is a very narrow bridge, but the most important thing is not to be afraid at all.

7. Karev Yom

Text: Passover Haggadah

Music: Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav (1772-1810)

Karev yom asher hu lo yom v'lo lailah

Ram hoda ki l'kha hayom af l'kha halailah

Shom'rim hafked l'irkha kol hayom v'khol halailah

Ta'ir k'or yom heshkat lailah

קָרֵב יוֹם אֲשֶׁר הוּא לֹא יוֹם וְלֹא לַיְלָה,
רַם הוֹדַע כִּי לְךָ הַיּוֹם אֶף לְךָ הַלַּיְלָה.

שׁוֹמְרֵי הַפְּקָד לְעִירְךָ כָּל הַיּוֹם וְכָל הַלַּיְלָה,
תְּאִיר כְּאוֹר יוֹם חֶשְׁכַת לַיְלָה.

May the day draw near which is neither day nor night. O God, make known that Yours is the day and also the night.

Appoint guards over Your city all day and all night. Make bright like the day the darkness of the night.

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8. V'hi She'amdah

Text: Passover Haggadah

Music: Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson (1902-1994)

וְהִיא שְׁעֵמֶדָה לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ וְלָנוּ.
שְׁלֹא אֶחָד בְּלִבָּד, עָמַד עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ.
אֶלֶּא שְׁבִכֵּל דּוֹר וָדוֹר, עוֹמְדִים עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ.
וְהַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא מַצִּילֵנוּ מִיָּדָם:

V'hi she'amdah la'avoteinu v'lanu.

Shelo ehad bilvad, amad aleinu l'khaloteinu

Ela sheb'khol dor vador, omdim aleinu l'khaloteinu

V'hakadosh barukh Hu matzileinu miyadam

This promise made to our ancestors holds true also for us. For more than once have they risen against us to destroy us; in every generation they rise against us and seek our destruction. But the Holy One, blessed be He, saves us from their hands.

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9. Go Down Moses

African American Spiritual - Virginia 1853? First published in 1862?

When Israel was in Egypt land
Let my people go!
Oppressed so hard they could not stand
Let my people go!

Go down Moses
Way down in Egypt land
Tell old Pharoah to
Let my people go!

Thus saith the Lord, bold Moses said:
Let my people go!
If not I'll smite your firstborn dead
Let my people go!

Go down, Moses
Way down in Egypt land
Tell old Pharoah to
Let my people go!

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10. Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho

African American Spiritual - 1st half of 19th century - First published in 1882

Joshua fought the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho
Joshua fought the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down!

You may talk about the men of Gideon
You may talk about the men of Saul
But there's none like good old Joshua
And the battle of Jericho!

Joshua fought the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho
Joshua fought the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down!

Up to the walls of Jericho
He marched with spear in hand
"Come blow those ram horns", Joshua said
"Cause the battle is in our hands"

Joshua fought the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho
Joshua fought the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down!

Then the ram horns they began to blow
And the trumpets began to sound
Then Joshua commanded the children to shout
And the walls came tumbling down!

Joshua fought the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho
Joshua fought the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down!

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11. Aleinu - Ein Od

Text: Liturgy

Music: Peter Saltzman

Ein od...ein od...ein od...ein od

Refrain:
אֵין עוֹד...אֵין עוֹד...אֵין עוֹד...אֵין עוֹד

Aleinu l'shabei'ah la'adon hakol
Lateit g'dulah l'yotzer b'reishit
Shelo asanu k'goyei ha'aratzot
V'lo samanu k'mishp'hot ha'adamah
Shelo sam helkeinu kahem
v'goraleinu k'khol hamonam **Ein od...**

Va'anahnu kor'im
Umishtahavim umodim
Lifnei melekh malkhei ham'lakhim
Hakadosh barukh hu
Shehu noteh shamayim v'yosed aretz
Umoshav y'karo bashamayim mima'al
Ushkhinat uzo b'govhei m'romim
Hu eloheinu ein od **Ein od...**

Emet malkeinu, efes zulato
Kakatuv b'torato
V'yadata hayom vahasheivota el l'vavekha
Ki Adonai hu ha'elohim
Bashamayim mima'al
V'al ha'arets mitahat, ein od **Ein od...**

V'ne'emar, v'hayah Adonai
L'melekh al kol ha'arets
Bayom hahu yihyeh Adonai
Ehad, ushmo ehad **Ein od...**

עֲלֵינוּ לְשַׁבַּח לְאֲדוֹן הַכֹּל,
לִתֵּת גְּדֻלָּה לְיוֹצֵר בְּרֵאשִׁית,
שֶׁלֹא עָשָׂנוּ כְּגוֹיֵי הָאֲרָצוֹת,
וְלֹא שָׁמְנוּ כְּמִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאֲדָמָה,
שֶׁלֹא שָׂם חֶלְקֵנוּ כִּהֵם,
וְגִרְלָנוּ כְּכֹל הַמוֹנֵם,
אֵין עוֹד... אֵין עוֹד...

וְאֲנַחְנוּ כּוֹרְעִים
וּמְשַׁתְּחָוִים וּמוֹדִים,
לְפָנֵי מֶלֶךְ מַלְכֵי הַמַּלְכִּים,
הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא.
שֶׁהוּא נוֹטֵה שָׁמַיִם וְיִסַּד אֶרֶץ,
וּמוֹשֵׁב יְקָרוֹ בְּשָׁמַיִם מְמַעַל,
וְשׁוֹכֵנֵת עִזּוֹ בְּגִבְהֵי מְרוֹמִים,
הוּא אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֵין עוֹד.
אֵין עוֹד... אֵין עוֹד...

אֶמֶת מַלְכָּנוּ, אֶפֶס זוּלָתוֹ,
כְּכָתוּב בְּתוֹרָתוֹ:
וַיִּדְעַת הַיּוֹם וְהַשַּׁבָּת אֶל לְבַבָּךְ,
כִּי יְיָ הוּא הָאֱלֹהִים
בְּשָׁמַיִם מְמַעַל,
וְעַל הָאֲרֶץ מִתַּחַת, אֵין עוֹד.
אֵין עוֹד... אֵין עוֹד...

וְנֹאמֵר, וְהָיָה יְיָ
לְמֶלֶךְ עַל כָּל הָאֲרֶץ,
בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יְהִיָּה יְיָ
אֶחָד, וּשְׁמוֹ אֶחָד.
אֵין עוֹד... אֵין עוֹד...

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Aleinu - Translation

We are called to praise the Master of all, to acclaim the Creator, for He has not made us like the nations of the lands and has not emplaced us like the families of the earth; for He has not assigned our portion like theirs nor our lot like all their multitudes.

We bend our knees, bow, and acknowledge our thanks before the Sovereign who reigns over sovereigns, the Holy One, Blessed is He. He stretches out heaven and establishes earth's foundation, the seat of His homage is in the heavens above and His powerful presence is in the loftiest heights. He is our God and there is none other.

True is our sovereign, there is nothing beside Him, as it is written in His Torah: 'You are to know this day and take to your heart that Adonai is the only God - in heaven above and on the earth below - there is none other.'

And it is said: Adonai will be sovereign over all the world - on that day Adonai will be One and His name will be One.

12. V'ne'emar

Text: Liturgy

Music: Cantor Stephen Freedman

V'ne'emar, v'hayah Adonai L'melekh al kol ha'arets Bayom hahu yihyeh Adonai Ehad, ushmo ehad

וְנֵאמָר, וְהָיָה יי
לְמֶלֶךְ עַל כָּל הָאָרֶץ,
בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יִהְיֶה יי
אֶחָד, וּשְׁמוֹ אֶחָד.

And it is said: Adonai will be sovereign over all the world - on that day Adonai will be One and His name will be One.

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13. Varshe

Text: Shmerke Kaczerginski (1908-1954)

Music: Leon Wajner (1898-1979)

S'farshvindt nit di nacht un der tog kumt nit on.
A blutike koyl vert di erd shoyn.
A yid flatert oyf vi a shturmische fon,
A fon inem tol fun di meysim.

In churves dos geto, di yidn - in shlacht,
Der yid shprayzt durch roych un durch flamen,
Nikome! Nikome! - er shturemt di nacht,
Far kinder, far tates, far mames!

Der shney shit un shit un der erd vert nit vays,
Es halt noch dos blut in ayn zidl,
Es ruft noch nikome oyf shneyikn ayz,
Dos blut fun dos heldishe yidl.

Keyn tog vet nit zayn, - ruft der yid - un keyn nacht
Mir veln di velt nit fargebn!
Di velche zaynen gefaln in shlacht,
Eybik in undz veln lebn!

Mir veln gedenken dem vey un dem mut,
Es fibert in gli di nishome.
Krits oys zich in hartsn dray verter fun blut:
Nikome! Nikome! Nikome!

The night doesn't go and the day doesn't come
The earth is becoming a bloody sphere
A Jew flutters like a stormy flag
A flag in the valley of the dead

The ghetto's in ruins, the Jews - in battle
The Jew strides through smoke and through flames
Revenge! Revenge! - He storms at the night,
For children, for fathers, for mothers!

The snow falls and the earth doesn't become white,
It still holds the blood in a boil
It calls for revenge, on snowy ice,
The blood of the heroic Jew.

There won't be any days - calls the Jew - and no nights
We will not forgive the world!
Those who have fallen in battle,
Will forever live in us!

We will remember the pain and the courage
Their spirit glows as if in a fever
Engrave in your hearts three words in blood:
Revenge! Revenge! Revenge!

Mizmor Monthly: Rosh Hodesh Nisan

14. Shpalt Der Himl

Author and Composer unknown - Sung in many camps

Shpalt zich, himl, los di zunenshtaln
Undz bashaynen mit dayn frilings-licht,
Zol der vinter mit der kelt opfaln,
Zol in freydn laychtn dos gezicht.

Grinen grozn, blien shoyndi blumen
Un di velt iz ful mit loyb-gezang,
Vayl der friling iz tsu undz gekumen,
Ales blit un iz ful mit farlang

Shpalt zich, himl, los di zunenshtaln
Undz bashaynen mit dayn frilings-licht,
Zol der vinter mit der kelt opfaln,
Zol in freydn laychtn dos gezicht.

Kumen feyglen, fun der vayt gefloygn
Mit a grus: der friling iz shoyndo!
Genug shoynd fun der kelt gelitn,
Es kumt far undz a gute sho!

Shpalt zich, himl, los di zunenshtaln
Undz bashaynen mit dayn frilings-licht,
Zol der vinter mit der kelt opfaln,
Zol in freydn laychtn dayn gezicht.

Split open, heaven, let the sun's rays
Shine on us with your springtime light
Let winter and the cold drop away
Let your face light up in joy.

Green grass, the flowers are in bud
And the world is full of songs of praise
Because springtime has come to us,
Everything is blooming and full of promise

Split open, heaven, let the sun's rays
Shine on us with your springtime light
Let winter and the cold drop away
Let your face light up in joy.

Birds are coming, flying in from far away
With a greeting: springtime is already here!
Enough suffering from the cold,
A good hour is coming for us.

Split open, heaven, let the sun's rays
Shine on us with your springtime light
Let winter and the cold drop away
May your face light up in joy.

15. L'shanah Haba'ah Birushalayim - Medley

Text: Passover Haggadah

Music: 1. Folk tune, 2. Cantor Yehoshua Weissner (1888-1952) 3. Cantor Moshe Nathanson (1899-1981)

L'shanah Haba'ah Birushalayim

לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם

Next year in Jerusalem!