

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 1. Al Hanissim

**Text:** Liturgy

**Music:** Michael Isaacson (1946-present)

Al hanissim, v'al hapurkan,

V'al hag'vurot, v'al hat'shu'ot

V'al hamilhamot she'asita la'avoteinu

Bayamim haheim baz'man hazeh

V'kav'u sh'monat y'mei Hanukkah eilu

L'hodot ul'hallel l'shimkha hagadol

עַל הַנִּסִּים, וְעַל הַפְּרָקָן,

וְעַל הַגְּבוּרוֹת, וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת,

וְעַל הַמְּלַחְמוֹת, שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ

בְּיָמֵים הָהֵם בְּזִמַּן הַזֶּה.

וְקָבְעוּ שְׁמוֹנֵת יָמֵי חֲנֻכָּה אֵלֶינוּ,

לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְהַלֵּל לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל.

For the miracles, and for the salvation, and for the mighty deeds, and for the victories, and for the battles which You performed for our forefathers in those days at this time.

And they established these eight days of Hanukkah to thank and praise Your great name.

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## 2. Haneirot Hallelu

**Text:** Sofrim 20:6

**Music:** i. Ger Hassidic melody, ii. Bukharian Jewish community

Haneirot hallalu anahnu madlikim

Al hanissim v'al hanifla'ot

V'al hat'shu'ot v'al hamilhamot

She'asita la'avoteinu

Bayamim haheim baz'man hazeh

Al y'dei kohanekha hak'doshim

V'khol sh'monat y'mei Hanukkah

Haneirot hallalu kodesh hem

V'ei lanu r'shut l'hishtamesh bahem

Ela lir'otam bilvad

K'dei l'hodot ul'hallel l'shimkha hagadol

Al nisekha v'al nifl'otekha v'al y'shu'atekha

הַנֵּרוֹת הַלָּלוּ אֲנַחְנוּ מִדְּלִיקִים

עַל הַנִּסִּים וְעַל הַנִּפְלְאוֹת

וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת וְעַל הַמְּלַחְמוֹת,

שְׁעָשִׂיתָ לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ

בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנָן הַזֶּה,

עַל יְדֵי כַּהֲנֵיךְ הַקְּדוֹשִׁים.

וְכָל שְׁמוֹנַת יָמֵי חֲנֻכָּה

הַנֵּרוֹת הַלָּלוּ קֹדֶשׁ הֵם,

וְאֵין לָנוּ רְשׁוּת לְהִשְׁתַּמֵּשׁ בָּהֶם,

אֶלָּא לְרְאוֹתָם בְּלֶבֶד,

כְּדֵי לְהוֹדוֹת וּלְהַלֵּל לְשִׁמְךָ הַגָּדוֹל,

עַל נִסֶּיךָ וְעַל נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ וְעַל יְשׁוּעָתֶךָ.

These lights we kindle for the miracles, the wonders, the salvations, and the battles which You performed for our ancestors in those days at this season through Your holy priests. During all eight days of Hanukkah these lights are sacred, and we are not permitted to make ordinary use of them, but to only look at them in order to express thanks and praise to Your great name for Your miracles, Your wonders and Your salvations.

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 3. Ma'oz Tzur

**Text:** Mordecai Ben Isaac (13th century)

**Music:** Italian Jewish community

Ma'oz tzur y'shua'ti

L'kha na'eh l'shabei'ah

Tikon beit t'filati

V'sham todah n'zabei'ah

L'eit takhin matbei'ah

Mitzar hamnabei'ah

Az egmor b'shir mizmor

Hanukkat hamizbei'ah

מְעוֹז צוֹר יְשׁוּעָתִי

לְךָ נָאֵה לְשַׁבַּח,

תְּכוּן בַּיִת תְּפִלָּתִי

וְשָׁם תוֹדָה נִזְבַּח,

לְעֵת תְּכִין מִטְבַּח

מִצַּר הַמְּנַבַּח,

אֲז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר

חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּיחַ.

Oh mighty Rock of my salvation to praise You is a delight.

Restore my House of prayer and there we will bring a thanksgiving offering. When You will have prepared the slaughter for the blaspheming foe, then I will complete with song and psalm the Altar's dedication.

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 4. Y'vanim (5th stanza of *Ma'oz Tzur*)

**Text:** Mordecai Ben Isaac (13th century)

**Music:** Hassidic melody

Y'vanim nikb'tzu alai  
Azai bimei Hashmanim  
Ufartzu homot migdalai  
V'tim'u kol hashmanim  
Uminotar kankanim  
Na'asah nes lashoshanim  
B'nei vinah y'mei sh'monah  
Kav'u shir urnanim

יָוָנִים נִקְבְּצוּ עָלַי  
אֲזַי בְּיַמֵּי חַשְׁמָנִים,  
וּפָרְצוּ חוֹמוֹת מִגְדָּלַי  
וְטָמְאוּ כָּל הַשְּׁמָנִים,  
וּמְנוֹתַר קַנְקָנִים  
נַעֲשֶׂה נֵס לְשׁוֹשָׁנִים,  
בְּנֵי בִינָה יְמֵי שְׁמוֹנָה  
קָבְעוּ שִׁיר וְרִנָּנִים.

The Greeks gathered against me in the days of the Hasmoneans. They broke down the walls of my towers and defiled all the oils. But from the last remaining flask a miracle was wrought for the Jews. Therefore, the sages established these eight days for song and jubilation.

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 5. Medley of Israeli Hanukkah songs:

### i. Likhvod HaHanukkah

**Text:** Haim Nahman Bialik (1873-1934)

**Music:** Folk melody

Avi hidlik neirot li

אָבִי הִדְלִיק נְרוֹת לִי

V'shamash lo avukah

וְשָׁמַשׁ לוֹ אָבוּקָה

Yod'im atem likhvod mi?

יֹדְעִים אַתֶּם לְכָבוֹד מִי?

Likhvod haHanukkah!

לְכָבוֹד הַחֲנֻכָּה!

Mori hevi kirkar li

מוֹרִי הֵבִיא סְבִיבוֹן לִי

Ben oferet y'tzukah

Yod'im atem...

בֶּן-עוֹפֶרֶת יְצוּקָה יֹדְעִים אַתֶּם...

Imi nat'nah l'vivah li

אִמִּי נָתַנָּה לְבִיבָה לִי,

L'vivah hamah m'tukah

Yod'im atem...

לְבִיבָה חֲמָה, מְתוּקָה יֹדְעִים אַתֶּם...

Dodi natan t'shurah li

דּוֹדִי נָתַן תְּשׁוּרָה לִי:

P'rutah ahat sh'hukah

Yod'im atem...

פְּרוּטָה אַחַת שְׁחוּקָה יֹדְעִים אַתֶּם...

My father lights candles for me. For him, the shamash is a burning torch.

My teacher brings me a dreidel made of cast lead.

My mother gives me a latka, a latka hot and sweet.

My uncle gave me a present, one coin.

**Do you know what this is in honour of? In honour of Hanukkah.**

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## ii. Mi Zeh Hidlik

**Lyrics:** Levin Kipnis (1894-1990)

**Music:** Yedidyah Admon Gorochoy (1894-1982)

Mi zeh hidlik neiroi dakim

Kakokhavim barom?

Yod'im gam tinokot rakim

Ki Hanukkah hayom.

La la la...

Kol ner aliz, kol ner haviv

Dolek, romez, notzetz.

Hatinokot om'dim saviv

V'lasimhah ein ketz.

La la la...

מי זה הדליק נרות דקים

ככוכבים ברומ?

יודעים גם תינוקות רכים

כי חנכה היום.

לה לה לה...

כל נר עליז, כל נר חביב

דולק, רומז, נוצץ.

התינוקות עומדים סביב

ולשמחה אין קץ.

לה לה לה...

Who has lit these thin candles like stars from above? The children themselves know that today is Hanukkah. Every candle is joyful, every candle is dear. The children stand around and the joy is never-ending.

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## iii. Ner Li

**Lyrics:** Levin Kipnis (1894-1990)

**Music:** Daniel Sambursky (1909-1977)

Ner li, ner li, ner li dakik.

BaHanukkah neri adlik.

BaHanukkah neri ya'ir

BaHanukkah shiri ashir.

נֵר לִי, נֵר לִי, נֵר לִי דַקִּיק.

בְּחֲנֻכָּה נֵרִי אֲדַלִּיק.

בְּחֲנֻכָּה נֵרִי יֵאִיר,

בְּחֲנֻכָּה שִׁירִי אֲשִׁיר.

I have a candle, a candle so thin. On Hanukkah my candle I will light. On Hanukkah my candle will glow bright. On Hanukkah my song I will sing.

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## iv. Banu Ḥoshekh L'garesh

**Lyrics:** Sara Levi-Tanai (1910-2005)

**Music:** Emmanuel Amiran Pugatchov (1909-1993)

Banu ḥoshekh l'garesh

בָּאֲנֹו חֹשֶׁךְ לְגַרֵשׁ.

B'yadeinu or va'eish

בְּיַדֵּינוּ אוֹר וְאֵשׁ.

Kol eḥad hu or katan

כָּל אֶחָד הוּא אוֹר קָטָן,

V'khulanu - or eitan

וְכָלֵנוּ – אוֹר אֵיתָן.

**Surah ḥoshekh! Hal'ah sh'hor**

סוּרָה חֹשֶׁךְ! הֲלֵאָה שְׁחוּר!

**Surah mipnei ha'or!**

סוּרָה מִפְּנֵי הָאוֹר!

Tzil - tzil - tzil bapa'amonim

צִיל–צִיל–צִיל בַּפְּעֻמוֹנִים,

Mi anahnu? - S'vivonim

מִי אֲנַחְנוּ? – סְבִיבוֹנִים.

Lanu regel aḥat

לָנוּ רֶגֶל אַחַת,

Im nipol - gam lo nifḥad. **Surah ḥoshekh...**

אִם נִפּוֹל – גַּם לֹא נִפְחָד. סוּרָה חֹשֶׁךְ...

Anu shovavim g'dolim

אֲנֹו שׁוֹבְבִים גְּדוֹלִים,

Alizim v'hol'lim

עֲלִיזִים וְהוֹלְלִים –

Akh nedah yefeh m'od

אָךְ נִדַּע יִפֶּה מְאוֹד

L'saper, lashir, lirkod. **Surah ḥoshekh...**

לְסַפֵּר, לְשִׁיר, לְרַקוֹד. סוּרָה חֹשֶׁךְ...



# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

**Banu Hoshekh L'garesh:** Translation

We came to drive away the darkness  
in our hands is light and fire.  
Everyone's a small light,  
and all of us are a firm light.

**Begone darkness, away blackness!**

**Begone because of the light!**

Ring - ring - ring the bells,  
who are we? - spinning tops.  
We have one leg,  
if we fall - we still won't fear.

**Begone darkness, away blackness!**

**Begone because of the light!**

We're big mischievous kids,  
merry and praise-giving -  
but we'll know very nicely  
to retell, to sing, to dance.

**Begone darkness, away blackness!**

**Begone because of the light!**

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 6. Menorah: Words and Music by: Laura Berkson

In the window of a home in a quiet northern town  
Hung the drawing of a Hanukkah menorah glowing bright.  
Isaac was excited, for the five year-old knew well  
In a few days he would kindle the holiday's first light.

On a chill November evening, the peaceful town was shattered.  
Playing downstairs with his friends, young Isaac never knew,  
As the sting of hatred blanketed his bed with tiny splinters,  
Al because this small boy and his family were Jews.

### **Chorus:**

**Menorah, the flames are burning  
But the window in my soul cannot be broken.  
Menorah, the wheel of time is turning.  
Here the tales of courage still are spoken.**

In the days that followed, other Jewish homes were marked.  
And the shadowed arm of hatred forced the town to face the times.  
The suspects slipped away each time before they could be caught.  
No witness to the criminals but only to their crimes.

You might think this was Kristallnacht, in nineteen thirty eight  
Striking terror in the Jews of Austria and Germany  
But this took place in the foothills of the Rocky Mountain range  
Billings Montana, nineteen ninety three.

### **Chorus:**

The police chief asked the people for a peaceful act of courage  
To respond to the destruction wrought by cowards' acts of rage  
The people found their answer in the next day's morning paper  
A Hanukkah menorah printed large upon a page.

Soon throughout the town no one could tell for certain  
A Jewish from a Christian home, for there for all to see  
Shone the picture of a candelabra framed between the curtains  
The Hanukkah menorah, their sign of unity

### **Chorus:**

The fire in the window doesn't need a flame to burn.  
The spark of love in every heart grows stronger by the hour.  
And those who seek to fan the flames of bigotry shall watch  
As their fires are consumed by those who know that love is power

### **Chorus:**

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 7. O, Ir Kleine Lichtelech:

**Words:** Morris Rosenfeld (1862-1923)

**Music:** Yiddish folksong

O, ir kleine lichtelech,  
Ir dertseilt geshichtelech,  
Maiselech on tsol.  
Ir dertseilt fun blutikait,  
Deryeshaft un mutikait,  
Vunder fun amol, vunder fun amol

Ven ich ze aich shinklending,  
Kumt a cholem finklending  
Redt an alter troim,  
“Yid, du host gekrigt amol,  
Yid, du host gezigt amol”  
Got, dos gloibt zich koim,  
Got, dos gloibt zich koim

S'iz bai dir a tolk geven,  
Bist amol a folk geven  
Host a mol regirt,  
Host amol a land gehat,  
Host amol a hant gehat,  
Och vi tif dos rirt  
Och vi tif dos rirt.

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## O, Ir Kleine Lichtelech: Translation

O you little candles,  
You are telling fairy tales,  
Numberless stories,  
You tell of bloodshed, brotherhood, and valour,  
Wonders from long ago.

As I see you shimmering,  
A dream appears glimmering,  
An old dream speaks:  
“Jew, once you fought battles.  
Jew, once you were victorious.”  
God, it is so hard to believe.

Once you were a whole people,  
Once you were a nation.  
You yourself governed.  
You owned your own land,  
You had a strong arm.  
O how deeply it moves.

## Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

### 8. Ocho Kandelikas: Words and Music by: Flory Jagoda (1923-2021)

Hanukah linda sta aki  
Ocho kandelas para mi  
Hanukah linda sta aki  
Ocho kandelas para mi, oh...

**Una kandelika, dos kandelikas**  
**Tres kandelikas, quatro kandelikas**  
**Sintyu kandelikas, sej kandelikas**  
**Siete kandelikas, ocho kandelas para mi**

Muchas fiestas vo fazer  
Kon alegria i plazer  
Muchas fiestas vo fazer  
Kon alegria i plazer. oh...  
**Una kandelika...**

Los pastelikos vo kumer  
Kon almendrikas i la myel  
Los pastelikos vo kumer  
Kon almendrikas i la myel, oh...  
**Una kandelika...**

## Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

**Ocho Kandelikas:** Translation

It's here, beautiful Hanukkah; eight little candles for me, oh...

**One little candle, two little candles, three little candles,  
Four little candles, five little candles,3  
Six little candles, seven little candles, eight little candles for me.**

I'll throw plenty of parties, full of joy and pleasure,  
I'll throw plenty of parties, full of joy and pleasure, oh...

**One little candle, two little candles, three little candles,  
Four little candles, five little candles,  
Six little candles, seven little candles, eight little candles for me.**

I'll eat little pastries, with almonds and honey,  
I'll eat little pastries, with almonds and honey, oh...

**One little candle, two little candles, three little candles,  
Four little candles, five little candles,  
Six little candles, seven little candles, eight little candles for me.**

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 9. (I'm Spending) Hanukkah in Santa Monica:

Words and Music by: (Tom Lehrer 1928- present)

### (Verse)

I'm spending Hanukkah in Santa Monica  
Wearing sandals  
Lighting candles by the sea  
I spent Shavuot in East St. Louis  
A charming spot  
But clearly not the spot for me  
Those eastern winters, I can't endure 'em  
So every year I pack my gear  
And come out here til Purim  
Rosh Hashana, I spend in Arizona  
And Yom Kippur, way down in Mississippi  
But in December  
There's just one place for me

### (Tag 1)

Amid the California flora  
I'll be lighting my menorah  
Like a baby in his cradle  
I'll be playing with my dreidl  
Spending Hanukkah  
In Santa Monica by the sea!

### (Verse)

### (Tag 2)

Amid the California flora  
I'll be lighting my menorah  
Like a baby in his cradle  
I'll be playing with my dreidl  
Here's to Judas Maccabeus  
Boy, if he could only see us  
Spending Hanukkah  
In Santa Monica by the sea!

# Mizmor Monthly: Hanukkah Edition, Kislev/Tevet 2022

## 10. Oh Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah:

**Words:** Mordechai Rivesman (1868-1924)

**Music:** Folk tune

יְמֵי הַחֲנֻכָּה חֲנֻכַּת מְקוֹדֵינוּ,  
בְּגִיל וּבְשִׂמְחָה מְמַלְאִים אֶת לְבָנוּ,  
לִילָה וַיּוֹם סְבִיבוֹנֵנוּ יִסֹּב,  
סִפְגָּנוּיּוֹת נֹאכַל בָּם לָרֹב.

הָאִירוּ, הִדְלִיקוּ נֵרוֹת חֲנֻכָּה רַבִּים!  
עַל הַנְּסִים וְעַל הַנִּפְלְאוֹת אֲשֶׁר חוֹלְלוּ הַמַּכְבִּים. (2x)

Oy Chanukah oy Chanukah,  
A yontif a sheiner,  
A lustiker a freylicher  
Nito noch a zeyner.

Alle nacht in dreydlech shpiln mir  
Zudik hesse latkes essen mir  
Geshvinder tsindt kinder  
di Chanukah lichtelech on.

Zol yeder bazunder bazingen dem vunder  
un tantzen freylech in kohn (2x)

Oh Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah  
Come light the menorah  
Let's have a party  
We'll all dance the hora  
Gather 'round the table  
We'll give you a treat  
Sivivon to play with and latkes to eat

And while we are playing  
The candles are burning low  
One for each night, they shed a sweet light  
to remind us of days long ago  
One for each night, they shed a sweet light to  
remind us of days long ago.