



# Berachot Rosh Chodesh -

## Blessings for the new Month

עֲשֵׂה יְרֵחַ לִמּוּעָרִים

*He made the moon to mark the seasons*

*Psalm 104:19*



### Birkat HaChodesh (Sanctification of the Month)

The Birkat HaChodesh is typically said during Shabbat Mevarchim (i.e., the last Sabbath of the month before Rosh Chodesh) to petition the LORD for a good month. It is recited at the synagogue at the end of the Shabbat Torah reading service:



יְהִי רְצֹן מֶלֶפֶנִיךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ,  
שֶׁתְּחִדְשֶׁ עֲלֵינוּ אֶת הַחֶדֶשׁ הַזֶּה לִטוֹבָה וּלְבָרָכָה.  
וְתַהַנֵּן לְנוּ חַיִם אֲרוֹכִים, חַיִם שֶׁל שָׁלוֹם,  
חַיִם שֶׁל טּוֹבָה, חַיִם שֶׁל בָּרָכָה, חַיִם שֶׁל פְּרִנְסָה,  
חַיִם שֶׁל חָלוֹז עֲצָמוֹת, חַיִם שִׁיאַשׁ בָּהֶם יְרָאת שְׁמִים  
וַיְרָאת חֶטֶא, חַיִם שָׁאיַן בָּהֶם בּוֹשָׁה וּכְלָמָה,  
חַיִם שֶׁל עֲשָׂה וּכְבָוד, חַיִם שְׁתַהְאָבֵנוּ אֶחָbet תּוֹרָה  
וַיְרָאת שְׁמִים, חַיִם שִׁימְלָא יְהוָה מְשֻׁאָלוֹת לִפְנֵי לִטוֹבָה.  
אָמֵן, סֶלָה.

*May it be Thy will, LORD, our God and God of our fathers, that You begin for us this month for good and for blessing. May You give to us long life, a life of peace, a life of goodness, a life of blessing, a life of sustenance, a life of physical health, a life in which there is fear of heaven and fear of sin, a life in which there is no shame or humiliation; a life of wealth and honor, a life in which we love Torah and fear God; a life in which the LORD fulfills the requests of our hearts for good. Amen. Selah.*



*Yehi ratzon milefanekha, Adonai Eloheinu veilohei avoteinu,  
shetechadesh aleinu et ha-chodesh hazeh le-tovah ve-livrakhah.*

*Vetiten lanu chayim arukhim chayim shel shalom,  
chayim shel tovah, chayim shel berakhah, chayim shel parnasah,  
chayim shel chillutz atzamot, chayim sheyeish bahem yirat shamayim  
veyirat cheit, chayim she'ein bahem boshah ukhlimah,  
chayim she oseh vekhavod, chayim shetehei vanu ahavat Torah  
veyirat shamayim, chayim sheyemalei Adonai mishalot libeinu letovah.  
Amen. Selah.*

## The Molad (time announcement)

After the invocation for the month's blessing from the LORD, it is customary for the time at which the new moon will appear in Jerusalem to be announced. First the congregation recites *mi she'asah nissim*, "the One who performed miracles":

**מִי שָׁעַשָּׂה נְסִים לְאָבוֹתֵינוּ, וּנְאָל אָוֹתֶם מִעֲבָרוֹת  
לְחֶרֶבֶת, הַוָּא יָנָאָל אָוֹתֵנוּ בְּקָרוֹב, וַיַּקְבִּין נְדָחִינוּ  
מִאַרְבָּע כְּנָפּוֹת הָאָרֶץ, חֶבְרִים כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל.  
וְנִמְרֵא אָמֵן.**

*The One who performed miracles for our forefathers and  
redeemed them from slavery to freedom, may He redeem us  
soon and gather in our exiles from the four corners of the  
earth; then all Israel shall be friends. Let us say: Amen.*

The chazzan (cantor) then announces the precise time of Rosh Chodesh in Jerusalem:

**רָאשׁ חֶדְשׁ (day of the week) יְהִי בְּיוֹם (month)  
הַבָּא עַלְיָנוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל לְטוֹבָה.**

*Rosh Chodesh (Hebrew month) will be on the day (Hebrew  
day of the week) that comes to us and to all Israel for good.*

**Transliteration:**

**יְהִי רָצׁוֹן מֵלֵפְנֵיךְ יְהָוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ**

a-vo-tei-nu      vei-lo-hei      e-lo-hei-nu      Adonai      mi-le-fa-ne-kha      ra-tson      ye-hi  
 our fathers      and God of      our God      LORD      May it be Thy will

**שֶׁתְחִדַּשׁ עֲלֵינוּ אַתְّ הַחְדָּשׁ הַזֶּה לִטוֹבָה וּלְבָרָכָה.**

ve-liv-ra-khah      le-to-vah      haz-zeh      ha-cho-desh      et a-lei-nu      she-te-cha-desh  
 and for blessing      for good      this month      ( ) for us      that You begin

**וְתַתֵּן לְنָנוּ חַיִם אֲרוֹכִים, חַיִם שֶׁל שְׁלוֹם,**

shalom      shel      chayim      a-ru-khim      chayim la-nu      ve-tit-ten  
 a life of peace                                        long life                                  May You give to us

**חַיִם שֶׁל טוֹבָה, חַיִם שֶׁל בָּרָכָה, חַיִם שֶׁל פָּרָנָסָה,**

par-na-sah      shel      chayim      be-ra-kha      shel      chayim      to-vah      shel      chayim  
 a life of sustenance                                a life of blessing                                  a life of goodness

**חַיִם שֶׁל חַלּוֹץ עַצְמוֹת, חַיִם שִׁיאֵשׁ בָּהֶם יִרְאַת שְׁמֶםִים**

shamayim      yir-at      ba-hem      she-yeish      chayim      a-tza-mot      chil-lutz      shel      chayim  
 fear of heaven                                         a life in which there is    a life of physical health

**וְיִרְאַת חַטָּא, חַיִם שְׁאֵין בָּהֶם בֹּשָׁה וּכְלָמָה,**

ukh-lim-mah      bo-shah      ba-hem      she-ein      chayim      cheit      ve-yir-at  
 and humiliation                                        shame    a life in which there is no                                  and fear of sin

**חַיִם שֶׁל עָשָׂה וּכְבָדָר, חַיִם שָׂתְּהָא בְּנָנוּ אֶחָבַת תֹּרַה**

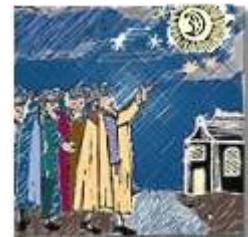
to-rah      a-ha-vat      va-nu      she-te-hei      chayim      ve-kha-vod      o-seh      shel      chayim  
 the love of Torah                                        a life there will be in us    a life of wealth and honor

**וְיִרְאַת שְׁמֶםִים, חַיִם שִׁימְלָא יְהָוָה מְשָׁאַלּוֹת לִבְנֵנוּ לִטוֹבָה.**

le-to-vah      li-bei-nu      mish-a-lot      Adonai      she-ye-ma-lei      chayim      shamayim      ve-yir-at  
 for good    of our hearts    a life in which the LORD fulfills                                and fear of God

**Kiddush Levanah (Sanctification of the Moon)**

The moon is sometimes called *levanah* in Hebrew (from *lavan*, white). *Kiddush Levanah* (sanctification of the moon) is a ceremony that takes place outdoors on a clear night soon after Rosh Chodesh (often on the first Shabbat night that follows Rosh Chodesh). The blessing is normally written in oversized letters in the prayerbook (called *otiot shel kiddush levanah*) since it is intended to be read outdoors by moonlight.

**A Rosh Chodesh Blessing**

Often Psalms are recited or sung, and then, while looking at the new moon, the following blessing may be recited:

יְהִי רָצֵן מֶלֶפְנֵיךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ  
וּאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ שְׁתַחַדֵּשׁ עַלְלֵינוּ חֶדֶשׁ טֹוב  
בָּאֲדָנֵינוּ יְשֻׁועַ הַמֶּשֶׁיחַ אָמֵן

ye·hi ra·tzon mil·fa·ney·kha Adonai E·lo·hey·nu  
ve·lo·hey a·vo·tey·nu she·te·cha·desh a·ley·nu cho·desh tov,  
ba'A·do·ney·nu Ye·shu·ah ha·ma·shi·ach, A·men

“May it be Your will, LORD our God  
and God of our fathers, that you renew for us a good month  
in our Lord Yeshua the Messiah. Amen.”



*Chodesh Tov!*