



## THANKSGIVING SEDER

### Reading: For the Blessings

Ruth Brin

For the blessings which You lavish upon us  
in forest and sea, in mountain and meadow, in rain and sun,  
we thank You.

For the blessings You implant within us,  
joy and peace, meditation and laughter,  
we are grateful to You.

For the blessing of friendship and love,  
of family and community,

For the blessings we ask of You  
and those we cannot ask,

For the blessings You bestow upon us openly  
and those You give us in secret,

For all these blessings, O God of the Universe,  
we thank You and are grateful to You.

For the blessings we recognize  
and those we fail to recognize,

For the blessings of our tradition  
and of our holy days,

For the blessings of return and forgiveness,  
of memory, of vision, and of hope -

For all these blessings which surround us on every side  
Dear God, hear our thanks and accept our gratitude.

### Song: Turn, Turn, Turn

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Adapted by: The Byrds

To everything (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time for every purpose, under heaven.

A time to be born, a time to die  
A time to plant, a time to reap  
A time to kill, a time to heal  
A time to laugh, a time to weep.

To everything (turn, turn, turn)...

A time to build up, a time to break down  
A time to dance, a time to mourn  
A time to cast away stones, a time to gather stones together.

To everything (turn, turn, turn)...

A time of love, a time of hate  
A time of war, a time of peace  
A time you may embrace, a time to refrain from embracing.

To everything (turn, turn, turn)...

A time to gain, a time to lose  
A time to rend, a time to sew  
A time to love, a time to hate  
A time for peace, I swear its not too late.

### Sharing

Invite those present to mention something  
for which each is thankful.

**Reading: Deuteronomy 8:7-10**

7 For the ETERNAL your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with streams and springs and fountains issuing from plain and hill; 8 a land of wheat and barley, of vines, figs, and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey; 9 a land where you may eat food without scarcity, where you will lack nothing; a land whose rocks are iron and from whose hills you can mine copper. 10 When you have eaten your fill, give thanks to the ETERNAL your God for the good land, which God has given you.

**Sharing**

Tell stories of how those present and/or family ancestors came to America.

**Reading: He Doesn't Know**

Anonymous child, Terezin Concentration Camp, 1941

He doesn't know the world at all  
Who stays in his nest and doesn't go out.  
He doesn't know what birds know best  
Nor what I want to sing about,  
That the world is full of loveliness

When dewdrops sparkle in the grass  
And earth's aflood with morning light,  
A blackbird sings upon a bush  
To greet the dawning after night.  
Then I know how fine it is to live.

Hey, try to open up your heart  
To beauty; go to the woods someday  
And wave a wreath of memory there.  
Then if tears obscure your way  
You'll know how wonderful it is to be alive.

**Shehechyanu**

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שְׁהַחֲיֵנוּ נוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ  
וְהִגִּיעֵנוּ לְזִמְנוֹ הַזֶּה

*Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melech ha-olam, shehecheyanu, v'kee'yamanu v'higee'yanu lazman hazeh.*

Blessed are you, ETERNAL ONE our God, who has given us life, sustained us and brought us to this time.

**HaMotsi**

A piece of bread is raised as all join in the blessing.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן  
הָאָרֶץ

*Baruch ata Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam ha-motsi lechem min ha-aretz*

Blessed are you, BOUNTIFUL our God, the sovereign of all worlds, who brings forth bread from the earth.

**Thanksgiving Dinner is served.**

**Birkat HaMazon**

(Prayer after the meal)

All join together in prayer and song:

וְאָכַלְתָּ וְשָׂבַעְתָּ וּבֵרַכְתָּ

*V'ahalta v'savata u'veirachta*

You will eat, be satisfied and bless the ETERNAL ONE (Deuteronomy 8:10)

Verse 1  
We ate when we were hungry  
and now we're satisfied.  
We thank the SOURCE OF BLESSING  
for all that God provides.

Verse 2  
We share in a vision  
of wholeness and relief,  
where everyone is nourished  
and we all live in peace.

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