

THE HALLEL

Traditionally, The *Hallel* is recited after the *amidah* on the three major festivals (*Pesach*, *Shavu'ot*, and *Sukkot*), *Chanukkah*, and *Rosh Chodesh* (the new moon). The *Hallel* consists primarily of Psalms 113-118. Singing the many melodies written for these psalms adds to the joy of these special days.

According to the Talmud (*P'sachim* 117a, 118a), the prophets established the singing of The *Hallel* "to commemorate times of national deliverance from peril....These psalms were singled out as a unit of praise because they contain five fundamental themes of Jewish faith: the Exodus, the Splitting of the Sea, the Giving of the Torah at Sinai, the future Resuscitation of the Dead, and the coming of the Messiah."

The blessing which begins The Hallel is recited first by the leader of the service and then repeated by each person. This is because each person present is required to "read" or "complete" The Hallel for him/herself. The joy of The Hallel is in the participation!

➡	בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְקַרְא / לְגַמֹּר אֶת הַהִלֵּל.	Bahrooch ahtah ahdonai elohaynoo melech hah-olaham ahsher kid'shahnoo b-mitsvotahv v-tseevahnnoo li-kro / li-gmor et hah-hahlayl.
➡	תְּהִלִּים קִיַּג הַלְלוּיָהּ הַלְלוּ עַבְדֵי יְהוָה, הַלְלוּ אֶת שֵׁם יְהוָה: יְהִי שֵׁם יְהוָה מְבֹרָךְ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם: מִמִּזְרַח שֶׁמֶשׁ עַד מְבֹאוֹ, מִהַלְלֵי שֵׁם יְהוָה:	Psalm 113 Hahl'looYAH Hahl'loo ahvday ahdonai, hahl'loo et shaym ahdonai Y'hee shaym YAH m'vorahch may-ahtah v-ahd olahm Mi-mizrahch shemesh ahd m'vo'o m'hoolahl shaym YAH

Blessed are You, YAH our God, Author of time and space
by whose mitzvot we are hallowed
and who invites us to read / complete the Hallel.

Psalm 113

Celebrate YAH!

You who serve YAH! Celebrate Him.

From the dawn's sun's rising –

Onto his homecoming, past the dusk

YAH's repute is constantly celebrated.

THE HALLEL

רַחֵם עַל כָּל גּוֹיִם יְהוָה, עַל הַשָּׁמַיִם כְּבוֹדוֹ. מִי כִּיְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַמַּגְבִּייהַי לְשַׁבֵּת הַמְשַׁפִּילֵי לְרֹאוֹת, בַּשָּׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ.	Rahm ahl kol goyim YAH ahl hah-shahmahyim k'vodo mee kah-donai elohaynoo hah-mahgbeeyee lah-shahvet hah-mahshpeelee lir-ot bah-shahmahyim oo-vah-ahrets.
מְקִימֵי מַעְפָּר דָּל, מֵאֲשַׁפֵּת יָרִים אֲבוֹן. לְהוֹשִׁיבֵי עִם נְדִיבִים, עִם נְדִיבֵי עַמּוֹ.	M'keemee may-ahfah dahl may-ahshpot yahreem evyon l-hosheev im n'deeveem im n'deevay ahmo
מוֹשִׁיבֵי עֵקֶרֶת הַבַּיִת, אִם הַבָּנִים שְׂמֵחָה הַלְלוּיָהּ:	Mosheev ahkeret hah-bahyit aym hah-bahneem s'maychah. Hahl'looYAH.

YAH transcends all ethnic national divisions.
Her honored glory is sublime.
Can you peak so high as to sit with YAH, our God?
And at the same time encompass and scan both Heaven and Earth?
Getting the poor to stand firm
Raising them from groveling in the dust,
Having dignity in the eyes
Of generous people,
Yes, the people
Of one's own population.
Restore Earth our Mother
As the center of Her household
So as to delight in all her children.
Celebrate YAH!

THE HALLEL

PSALM 114



בְּצֵאת יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם,	B-tsayt yisrah' ayl mi-mitsrahyim
בֵּית יַעֲקֹב מֵעַם לֵעָז.	bayt yah'ahkov may-ahm lo'ayz
הֲיִתָּה יְהוּדָה לְקֹדֶשׁוֹ,	Hahtah y'hudah l-kodsho
יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמְּשֻׁלוֹתָיו.	yisrah' ayl mahmsh'lotahv
הַיָּם רָאָה וַיִּנָּס,	Ha-yahm rah'ah vah-yahnos
הַיַּרְדֵּן יָסַב לְאַחֲזֹר.	hah-yahrdayn yisov l-ahchor
הַהַרְיִם רָקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים,	Heh-hahreem rahk'doo ch-ayleem
גְּבָעוֹת כְּבָנֵי צֹאן.	g'vah'ot ki-vnay tson.

Those who strive with God
Find release from their Egypt,
From their constricting oppression,
Yes, Jacob's house from such as malign them.
Thus Jews held Him sacred,
Thus Israel followed His directions.
Why do you oceans recede?
Why do you, Jordan River, reverse your flow?
Mountains! Why do you frolic like bucks?
Hills! Why do you skip like frisky lambs?

THE HALLEL

PSALM 114

מַה לָּךְ הַיָּם כִּי תָנוּס	Mah l'chah hah-yahm kee tahnoos
הַיַּרְדֵּן תִּסּוּב לְאַחֲזֹר.	hah-yahrdayn tisov l-ahchor
הַהָרִים תִּרְקְדוּ כְּאַיִלִים,	Heh-hahreem tirk'doo ch-ayleem
גְּבֻעוֹת כִּבְנֵי צֹאן.	g'vah'ot kiv-nay tson.
מִלִּפְנֵי אֲדוֹן חוֹלֵי אֶרֶץ,	Mi-lifnay ahdon choolee ahrets
מִלִּפְנֵי אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב.	mi-lifnay elo'ah yah'ahkov.
הַהֶפְכִי הַצּוּר אֶגַם מַיִם,	Hah-hofchee hah-tsoor ahgahm mahyim
חֲלַמֵּיֶשׁ לְמַעַיְנוּ מַיִם:	chahlahmeesh l-maino mahyim .



For such a people as you,
Oceans recede and make space,
Rivers reverse their flow,
Mountains frolic like bucks,
Hills – like frisky lambs.
Before the Master, Earth becomes receptive.
Yes! Before the God of Jacob,
Who can turn boulders into wetlands,
Flint into flowing springs.

THE HALLEL

PSALM 115

יהוה זְכַרְנוּ יְבָרֵךְ,	YHVH z'chah rah noo yivahraych
יְבָרֵךְ אֶת בַּיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל,	Y'vahraych et bayt yisrah'ayl
יְבָרֵךְ אֶת בַּיִת אַהֲרֹן.	y'vahraych et bayt ah'hahron
יְבָרֵךְ יִרְאֵי יְהוָה,	y'vahraych yiray ahdonai
הַקְּטָנִים עִם הַגְּדֹלִים.	hah-k'tahneem im hah-g'doleem.
יֹסֵף יְהוָה עָלֵיכֶם,	Yosayf YAH ahlaychem
עָלֵיכֶם וְעַל בְּנֵיכֶם.	ahlaychem v-ahl b'naychem
בְּרוּכִים אַתֶּם לַיהוָה,	b'roocheem ahtem ladonai
עֹשֵׂה שָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ.	osay shah mah yim vah- ah rets.

YAH, be mindful of us. Bless us.

Bless the house of Israel,

Bless the house of Aharon.

Bless those awed by You.

Both the little with the big.

Keep us and our children growing in blessing.

And we, with the grace of the God

Who fashions Heaven and Earth,

Will bless all of You.

THE HALLEL

PSALM 115

הַשָּׁמַיִם שָׁמַיִם לַיהוָה,	Hah-shahmahyim shahmahyim ladonai
וְהָאָרֶץ נָתַן לְבְנֵי אָדָם.	v-hah-ahrets nahtahn liv-nay ahdam.
לֹא הַמַּתִּים יְהַלְלוּ יְהוָה,	Lo hah-mayteem y'hahl'loo YAH
וְלֹא כָל יַרְדֵּי דוּמָה.	v-lo kol yorday doomah.
וַאֲנַחְנוּ נְבָרְךָ יְהוָה,	Vah-ahnahchnoo n'vahraych YAH
מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם,	may-ahtah v-ahd olahm
הַלְלוּ יְהוָה:	Hahl'looYAH

While Heaven is God's Heaven
Earth is for the children of the soil.
Being dead we cannot celebrate YAH,
Or being downcast and speechless.
Yes! We will bless YAH
In the Now as well as in the long run.
Celebrate YAH!

THE HALLEL: PSALM 117

The shortest psalm teaches the deepest, universal truth.

הָלְלוּ אֶת יְהוָה, כָּל גּוֹיִם,	Hah'l'loo et ahdonai kol goyeem
שִׁבְּחוּהוּ כָּל הָאֲמִיּוֹת.	shahb'choohoo kol hah-ooomeem
כִּי גִבֹר עָלֵינוּ חַסְדּוֹ,	kee gahvahr ahlaynoo chahsdo
וְאֵמֶת יְהוָה לְעוֹלָם	ve-emet ahdonai l-olahm.
הָלְלוּ יְהוָה:	Hahl'looYAH.

All You nations celebrate YAH!
All peoples praise Her.
Overwhelming us with Her Grace
and His Truth.
In time and eternity.
HalleluYAH.

תהלים קיח Psalm 118

הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה כִּי טוֹב,	Hodoo lah-donai kee tov
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ:	kee l-olahm chahsdo
יֹאמְרוּ נָא יִשְׂרָאֵל,	Yomahr nah yisrah'ayl
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ:	kee l-olahm chahsdo
יֹאמְרוּ נָא בֵּית אֶהְרֹן,	Yom'roo nah vayt ah'hahron
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ:	kee l-olahm chahsdo
יֹאמְרוּ נָא יִרְאֵי יְהוָה,	Yom'roo nah yir'ay YAH
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ:	kee l-olahm chahsdo

Psalm 118

YAH is good! Thank Him!
He is kind to all the world's beings.
Israel! Say it out loud;
He is kind to all the world's beings.
Aharon's kin! Say it in public!
He is kind to all the world's beings.
You who are in awe of YAH! Proclaim it!
He is kind to all the world's beings.

THE HALLEL: PSALM 118:5, 14, 19-20, 25

מִן הַמִּצָּר קָרָאתִי יְהוָה, Min hah-maytsahr kahrahtee YAH
עֲנֵנִי בַמֶּרְחֹב יְהוָה. ahnahnee vah-merchahv YAH.

I called on You in my distress.
You, YAH, answered me with largesse.

עֲזֵי וְזִמְרַת יְהוָה, Ozee v-zim'rat YAH
וַיְהִי לִי לִישׁוּעָה. vah-y'hee lee lee-shoo'ah.

[A happy chant of being saved.]
You are my strength and my song, YAH,
You are my redemption.

פִּתְחוּ לִי שַׁעְרֵי צֶדֶק, Pitchoo lee shah-ahray tsedek
אָבָא בָּם אוֹדֶה יְהוָה. ahvo vahm odeh YAH.
זֶה הַשַּׁעַר לַיהוָה, Zeh hah-shah'ahr lah-donai
צִדִּיקִים יִבְאוּ בוֹ. tsahdeekeem yahvo'oo vo.

Gates! Open wide to fairness.
Entering them, I give thanks to YAH.
Truly this is YAH's Gate,
The virtuous gain entrance to it.

אָנָּה יְהוָה הוֹשִׁיעָה נָּא: Ahnah YAH ho'shee'ah nah
אָנָּה יְהוָה הוֹשִׁיעָה נָּא: Ahnah YAH ho'shee'ah nah
אָנָּה יְהוָה הַצְּלִיחָה נָּא: Ahnah YAH hahts'leechah nah
אָנָּה יְהוָה הַצְּלִיחָה נָּא: Ahnah YAH hahts'leechah nah.

Oh, YAH! Do help us!
Oh, YAH! Do help us!
Oh, YAH, let us succeed.
Oh, YAH, let us succeed.

THE HALLEL: PSALM 118:5, 14, 19-20, 25

בָּרוּךְ הַבָּא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה	Bahrooch hah-bah b-shaym YAH
בִּרְכֹנֹכֶם מִבַּיִת יְהוָה:	bayrahchnoochem mi-bayt YAH.
בָּרוּךְ הַבָּא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה	Bahrooch hah-bah b-shaym YAH
בִּרְכֹנֹכֶם מִבַּיִת יְהוָה:	bayrahchnoochem mi-bayt YAH.
אֵל-יְהוָה וַיֵּאָר לָנוּ	Ayl YAH vah-yah'er lahnoo
אֶסְרוּ-חַג בְּעֵבְתַיִם	isroo chahg bah-ahvoteem
עַד קַרְנוֹת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:	ahd kahrnot hah-mizbay'ach.
אֵל-יְהוָה וַיֵּאָר לָנוּ	Ayl YAH vah-yah'er lahnoo
אֶסְרוּ-חַג בְּעֵבְתַיִם	isroo chahg bah-ahvoteem
עַד קַרְנוֹת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ:	ahd kahrnot hah-mizbay'ach.
אֵלַי אַתָּה וְאוֹדְךָ אֱלֹהֵי אֲרוֹמְמֶךָ.	Aylee ahtah v-odekah elohai ahrom'mekah.
אֵלַי אַתָּה וְאוֹדְךָ אֱלֹהֵי אֲרוֹמְמֶךָ.	Aylee ahtah v-odekah elohai ahrom'mekah.
הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה כִּי טוֹב, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ.	Hoodoo la-donai kee tov kee l-olalhm chahsdo.
הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה כִּי טוֹב, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ.	Hoodoo la-donai kee tov kee l-olalhm chahsdo.

As You come in YAH's Name, we greet and bless You
From YAH's home.

As You come in YAH's Name, we greet and bless You
From YAH's home.

YAH enlightens us mightily.
Let's decorate His altar with myrtles,
Attached to the corners of His shrine.

YAH enlightens us mightily.
Let's decorate His altar with myrtles,
Attached to the corners of His shrine.

I am grateful that You are my God, O exalted Divine One.
I am grateful that You are my God, O exalted Divine One.

YAH You are good! Thank You!
You are kind to all the world's beings.
YAH You are good! Thank You!
You are kind to all the world's beings.

AMEN! AFTER HALLEL

יְהַלְלוּךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ כָּל מַעֲשֵׂיךָ,	Y'hahl'loochah YAH elohaynoo kol mah'ahsechah
וְחַסְדֵיךָ צְדִיקִים עוֹשֵׂי רְצוֹנְךָ,	vah-chahseedelechah tsadikkeem osay r'tsonechah
וְכָל עַמְּךָ בַּיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל	v-chol ahmchah bayt yisrah'ayl
בְּרִנָּה יוֹדוּ וַיְבָרְכוּ וַיִּשְׁבְּחוּ	b-rinah yodoo vee-vahrchoo vee-shahb'choo
וַיְפָאֲרוּ וַיְרֹמְמוּ וַיַּעֲרִיצוּ	vee-fah'ahroo vee-rom'moo v-yah'ahreetsoo
וַיִּקְדְּשׁוּ וַיְמַלִּיכוּ אֶת שְׁמֶךָ,	v-yahk'deeshoo v-yahmleechoo et shimchah
כִּי לָךְ טוֹב לְהוֹדוֹת	kee l'chah tov l-hodot
וּלְשִׁמְךָ נֶאֱחָה לְזִמְרָה,	oo-l-shimchah nah'eh l-zahmayr
כִּי מֵעוֹלָם וָעֶד עוֹלָם אַתָּה אֵל.	kee may-olahm v-ahd olahm ahtah ayl.
בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה	Bahrooch ahtah YAH
אֵל מְהֻלָּל בַּתְּשֻׁבָּחוֹת. אָמֵן.	ayl m-hoolahl bah-tishbahchot. Amayn.

All Your creation celebrates You YHVH, our God.
Your devout ones, Tzaddikim, who do what You order,
We all Your people,
the family of God-wrestlers offer gratitude to You in song.
We worship, acclaim, adore, dignify, honor,
and hold Your Name sacred and regal.
Being grateful to You is so good.
It is our pleasure to sing paeans to Your renown.
I am grateful that You are my God,
O exalted Divine One.
YAH You are good! Thank You!
You are kind to all the world's beings.
In all universes You are God.
We worship You YAH,
our Prince, and offer You our adulation.

In the Ashkenazic liturgical tradition (*Nusach Ashkenaz*), the opening blessing of the Hallel is the same regardless of whether one is reciting the “full” or the “half” Hallel and concludes with the words “*li-kro et ha-hallel / to read (or recite) the Hallel.*”

In Nusach S’faradi, that is the liturgical tradition of the Jews of North Africa, one does not recite a blessing at all either before or upon completion of the half Hallel. When reciting the full Hallel, the concluding words of the opening blessing are “*li-gmor et ha-hallel / to complete the Hallel.*”

The Italian Nusach combines these traditions and is the one followed in this *siddur*. Thus, we use “to finish” when the Hallel is complete and “to read” when reciting the half Hallel.