



Supporting Interfaith Families Exploring Jewish Life

Lighting the Hanukkah candles is an easy activity that the whole family can participate in. On the first night, three prayers are said: over the lighting of the candles, over the miracle of Hanukkah, and for a new experience. On the remaining seven nights, only the first two prayers are said.

Which candles do you light? Facing the hanukkiah (Hanukkah menorah), put a candle in the right-most spot on the first night. On the second night, candles are placed in the right-most spot and the one to its left. Keep adding additional candles to the left for each night. Which candle do you light first? You light the newest night's candle first, so you start by lighting the left-most candle available. (In other words, fill in the menorah from right to left, but light the menorah from left to right.) You light the menorah by lighting the shamash (helper candle - usually the center of the menorah or otherwise distinguished from the others), then using it to light the other candles.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר  
שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

*Barukh ata Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, asher keed'shanu b'mitz'votav  
v'tzee'vanu l'hadleek neir shel Chanukah.*

Blessed are You, Lord our God, sovereign of the universe, who has sanctified us with commandments and commanded us to light the Hanukkah candles.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם  
בְּזִמְנוֹ הַזֶּה.

*Barukh ata Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, sh'asa neeseem la'avoteinu ba'yameem  
ha'hem baz'man ha'ze.*

Blessed are You, Lord our God, sovereign of the universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days and in this season.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁהִחְיֵנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנוֹ הַזֶּה.

*Barukh ata Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, sh'hekheyanu v'kee'y'manu  
v'hee'gee'anu laz'man ha'ze.*

Blessed are You, Lord our God, sovereign of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season.