

How to Add These Songs to Your Worship and Programming

Two are Better Than One

- 1. Two are Better Than One (From Ecclesiastes)** - This song has been a part of services for Healing and Wholeness, the Shabbat during Sukkot when Ecclesiastes is read, and Weddings.
- 2. Where Can I Run? (Psalm 139)** - An exploration of this Psalm through lyrics and music, this song has been a part of services for Healing and Wholeness.
- 3. Sh'ma Koleinu** - This song summarizes the themes of the middle blessings of the weekday Tefillah/Amidah. It is appropriate at a morning or evening service.
- 4. Kotveinu** - Composed as a response to the events of 9/11/2001, Kotveinu deals with hatred, war and peace, forgiveness, and the basic themes of the High Holy Days.
- 5. Ami (Title from the Book of Ruth)**-Ami illustrates the place of symbols of light in Jewish tradition and how they relate to expressions of Jewish identity. It has been sung at Bar/Bat Mitzvah services and on Shavuot, when the book of Ruth is read.
- 6. You Can Open Your Eyes** - Based on the creation prayer following the Barechu, this song has been sung at services for healing and wholeness.
- 7. Mikolot - Psalm 93** - Mikolot was composed to follow the Louis Lewandowski melody for Psalm 92, Tzadik Katamar (both sung in the key of G).
- 8. Maariv and 9. Oheiv Amo** - Both “Maariv” and “Oheiv Amo” were created to follow the reading of an English paragraph for the evening prayers on creation and revelation between the Barechu and Shema. “Oheiv Amo” leads right into any Shema melody.
- 10. Atah Kadosh** - This is a new melody for the third blessing of the evening Tefillah/Amidah on Shabbat and weekdays. The prayer text can be sung with or without the niggun.

A New Beginning

- 1. Let Me Sing My Way Into Your Night** - This song originated as a personal expression about creating community. The addition of a verse from Psalms provided a deeper spiritual dimension that makes the song appropriate for worship.
- 2. God's Name** - This song teaches names of God and the notions within Judaism about redemption being accessible to the righteous among all humanity.
- 3. Wedding Blessing** - This is a Hebrew version of an English paraphrase of the seven wedding blessings that I have used at many marriage ceremonies.

- 4. Mah Asheev - Psalm 116** - This Psalm expresses gratitude to God. It is one of the Psalms that is a part of worship on Sukkot, Passover, Shavuot, Chanukah and Rosh Chodesh.
- 5. At Daybreak** - A combination of two morning prayers/poems, “Sweet Hymns and Songs” (Anim Zemirot) and “Early Will I Seek You” (Shachar Avakeshcha), with lyrics added based on Psalm 5, this song could begin a morning service.
- 6. Gomeil** - This song is based on Psalm 107 and the Gomeil blessing recited after escaping a dangerous or life-threatening situation. It has been sung in services for healing and wholeness.
- 7. Kol Haumim - Psalm 117** - This is also one of the Psalms recited on the major festivals, Chanukah and Rosh Chodesh, but it also encourages us to envision all of humanity praising God’s oneness. This song was my way of declaring that God blesses all nations and all people throughout the world.
- 8. V'hanchileinu** - This is taken from the Sabbath prayer in the Tefillah/Amidah on Shabbat evening and morning. It could be sung at those Shabbat services.
- 9. Zeh Hayom** - The refrain is based on a verse from Psalm 118 (recited along with Psalms 113-115, 116 and 117 on major festivals), but the song is about living life to the fullest. It could be sung as a song about God’s presence in our lives. I have added it to services of healing and wholeness and to worship on Yom Kippur.
- 10. Shiviti** - Psalm 16 is a part of Memorial/Yizkor prayers, but this melody focused on the verse that declares, “My heart will rejoice!” It is been sung at services for healing and wholeness and as a way of expressing the role of God’s presence and essence in our lives.
- 11. For Your Gifts** - A summary of the Modim prayer for Thanksgiving in the Tefillah, “For Your Gifts” was composed in the same key as “Shalom Rav” by Cantor Jeff Klepper and Rabbi Dan Frelander. It could be sung by itself after an English reading based on the Modim prayer or it could flow right into “Shalom Rav.”
- 12. Circle Once More** – I wrote this song to mark my 50th birthday, but the ideas for the lyrics began to take shape around the time of Simchat Torah. It is about the passing of time and how we feel when we celebrate major milestones along the path of life. It has been sung at Bar/Bat Mitzvah services and at special times in the Jewish year. The song contains a paraphrase of the Shehecheyanu prayer.