

AHM 231

\$2.00

SATB

M'at Ohr

“A Little Light”

Music by Arnold Harris

A Hebrew Song for the Chanukah Season



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M'at Ohr

Arnold Harris has set to music the words of Rabbi Bachya Ibn Pakuda (c1050-1120), one of the great Jewish philosophers of the Golden Age of Judaism in medieval Spain. Ibn Pakuda is well known for his book "Duties of the Heart". The lyrics of this song, "M'at ohr docheh harbei min ha-choshech", "A little light can dispel much darkness." (translation by Rabbi Carl Perkins), are very appropriate for Chanukah, the "Festival of Lights." Every day during Chanukah an additional candle is lit, signifying the beauty and power of increasing light.

Chanukah celebrates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after it was recaptured from the Syrian Greeks in 165 BCE. The miracle referred to is the fact that when the priests returned to the Temple, they found only enough oil to last for one day, but it lasted for eight. Thus, holiday candles are lit on all eight days. The menorah, with its eight branches, one for each candle, has become the symbol of Chanukah.

Translation by Rabbi Carl Perkins

M'at ohr docheh– A little light can dispel

harbei min ha-choshech – much darkness

Pronunciation Guide For Hebrew

a	as in <i>ah</i>
e	as in <i>lei</i>
i	as in <i>ski</i>
o	as in French <i>beau</i>
u	as in <i>zoo</i> (no diphthong)
ei	as in French <i>blasé</i>
ch	as in German <i>buch</i>
g	as in <i>good</i>
h	as in <i>house</i>
k	as in <i>kites</i> as in <i>sound</i>
sh	as in <i>shoe</i>
ts	as in <i>hits</i>

M'at Ohr

Docheh Harbei Min Ha Choshech

Words by Bachya Ibn Pakuda (c.1050 - 1120)

Music by Arnold Harris ©2025

$\text{♩} = 120$

p

Soprano
M' - at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

Alto
M' - at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

Tenor
M' - at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

Bass
M' - at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

f *mf*

cheh har - bei min ha - cho-shech m' - at ohr

f *mf*

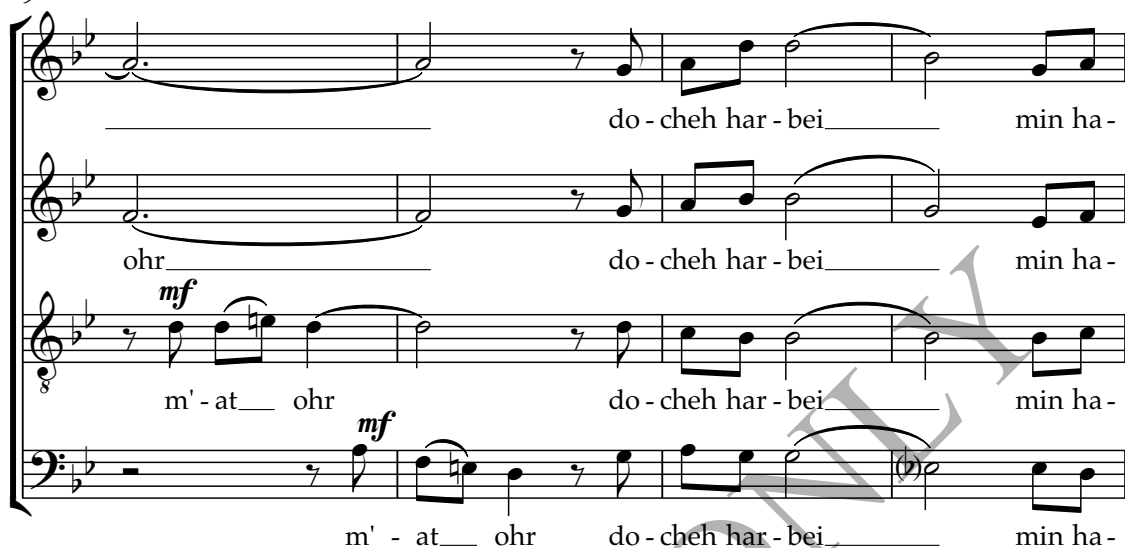
cheh har - bei min ha - cho-shech m' - at

f

cheh har - bei min ha - cho-shech

f

cheh har - bei min ha - cho-shech



do - cheh har - bei min ha -

ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

mf m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

mf m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -



13 *p*

cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei

p cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei

p cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei

p cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei



18 *mf* *p*

min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

mf *p* min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

mf *p* min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

mf *p* min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

25

mf

cho-shech m' - at_ ohr do-

mf

cho-shech m' - at_ ohr do-

mf

cho-shech m' - at_ ohr do-

mf

cho-shech m' - at_ ohr do-

29

pp

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr

pp

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr

pp

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr

pp

ch eh har - bei miin ha - cho - shech m' - at ohr

34

mf

do - cheh har - bei min ha cho - shech

mf

do - cheh har - bei min ha - cho - shech

mf

do - cheh har - bei min ha - cho - shech

mf

do - cheh har - bei min ha - cho - shech

f *p* *mf*

ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

f *p* *mf*

ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

f *p* *mf*

ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

f *p* *mf*

ohr do - cheh har - bei min ha -

f *p*

cho-shech ohr do - cheh har - bei

f *p*

cho-shech ohr do - cheh har - bei

f *p*

cho-shech ohr do - cheh har - bei

f *p*

cho-shech ohr do - cheh har - bei

mf

min ha - cho-shech m' - at ohr

mf *mf*

min ha - cho-shech m' - at ohr

mf *mf*

min ha - cho-shech m' - at ohr

mf *mf*

min ha - cho-shech m' -

50

do - cheh har - bei _____ min

do - cheh har - bei _____ min

do - cheh har - bei _____ min

at _____ ohr do - cheh har - bei _____ min

54

ha _____ cho - shech m' - at _____ ohr do -

ha _____ cho - shech m' - at _____ ohr

ha _____ cho - shech m' - at _____ ohr

ha _____ cho - shech m' - at _____ ohr do -

57

ch eh har - bei do - cheh har - bei do - cheh har - bei min ha -

m' - at ohr min ha -

m' - at ohr min ha -

ch eh har - bei do - cheh har - bei do - cheh har - bei min ha -

6
61

p

cho-shech m' - at ohr m' - at

p

cho-shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei do - cheh har -

p

cho-shech m' - at ohr do - cheh har - bei do - cheh har -

p

cho-shech m' - at ohr m' - at

64

// *mp*

ohr min ha - - cho - shech m' -

// *mp*

bei do - cheh har - bei min ha - - cho - shech m' -

// *mp*

bei do - cheh har - bei min ha - - cho - shech m' -

// *mp*

ohr min ha - - cho - shech m' -

68

at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

at ohr, m' at ohr,, do - cheh do -

at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

at ohr, m' at ohr, do - cheh do -

73

f *mf*

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho shech cho-shech m'-

f

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho shech cho-shech

f

8 ch eh har - bei min ha - cho shech cho-shech

f

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho shech cho-shech

77

at_ ohr do-cheh har-bei

mf

m' - at_ ohr do-cheh har-bei

mf

8 m' - at_ ohr do-cheh har-bei

mf

m' - at_ ohr do-cheh har-bei

81

// *p*

min ha - cho-shech min ha - cho-shech m' -

// *p*

min ha - cho-shech min ha - cho-shech m' -

// *p*

8 min ha - cho-shech min ha - cho-shech m' -

// *p*

min ha - cho-shech min ha - cho-shech m' -

8
84

rit.

a tempo primo

♩ = 120

*mf**pp**pp**pp**pp*

at ohr m' - at ohr m' -

at - - ohr m' - at - ohr

at ohr m' - at - ohr

at ohr m' - at - ohr

88

at ohr do -

m' - at ohr do -

m' - at ohr do -

m' - at ohr do -

91

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho-shech

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho-shech

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho-shech

ch eh har - bei min ha - cho-shech