

Al Hanisim

This new arrangement sets a traditional text from the Chanukah liturgy with both a dynamic and powerful melody, and a softer, more reflective one. They are presented both independently and intertwined throughout. Shifting keys also help express the lyrics' thanks to God for His many powerful attributes.

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.

Lyrics

Translation by Rabbi Carl Perkins, Temple Aliyah, Needham, MA

Al hanism	For the miracles
V'al hapurkan	For the redemption
V'al hag'vurot	For the heroism
V'al hat'shuot	And for the deliverance
Sheasita laavoteinu	That you provided for our ancestors
Bayamim haheim	In days of old
Bazman hazeh	At this season of the year

Pronunciation Guide For Hebrew

a	as in <i>ah</i>
e	as in <i>led</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>kite</i>
s	as in <i>sound</i>
sh	as in <i>shoe</i>
ts	as in <i>hits</i>

Al Hanisim

AHM 191

From the Chanukah Liturgy

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$\text{♩} = 90$

Soprano/
Alto

Tenor/
Bass

Piano

Solo
 mf

Al ha-ni_ sim v' - al ha-pur_ kan v' -

f

mf

p

p

p

5

al ha -g'vu_ rot v' - al ha -t'shu_ ot al ha -ni_ sim, ha -

ha -

p

p

p



2

9

pur - kan ha - g'vu - rot ha - t'shu - ot ha - ni

pur - kan ha - g'vu - rot ha - t'shu - ot ha - ni

13

mf

sim. al ha-ni sim v' - al ha - pur_ kan v' - al ha - g'vu_ rot v' -

sim. ha - pur - kan ha - g'vu - rot ha -

17

al ha - t'shu_ ot, ha - ni sim.

t'shu - ot, ha - ni sim.

f

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21

sopranos *f*

she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei - nu

This musical score page shows two staves. The top staff is for the soprano voice, which begins with a rest followed by a melodic line. The bottom staff is for the basso continuo, featuring a bass line and harmonic support. The vocal line includes lyrics: "she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei - nu". The dynamic is marked as forte (*f*). The page number 3 is in the top right corner.

This section continues from measure 21. The soprano part remains silent. The basso continuo part continues with its harmonic and rhythmic patterns. The vocal line resumes at the end of the measure with the lyrics: "ba - ya - mim ha - heim ba-zman ha - zeh.". The dynamic changes to *mp* (mezzo-forte) for the basso continuo.

24

basses *mp*

ba - ya - mim ha - heim ba-zman ha - zeh.

she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei nu

This section continues from measure 24. The soprano part remains silent. The basso continuo part continues with its harmonic and rhythmic patterns. The vocal line resumes with the lyrics: "she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei nu". The dynamic changes to *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the basso continuo.

27

mp

she - a - si - ta la

she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei - nu

This section continues from measure 27. The soprano part remains silent. The basso continuo part continues with its harmonic and rhythmic patterns. The vocal line resumes with the lyrics: "she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei - nu". The dynamic changes to *mp* (mezzo-forte) for the basso continuo.

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30

a - vo - tei nu,
ba - ya - mim ha - heim ba - zman ha -
ba - ya - mim ha - heim ba - zman ha - zeh.
ba - ya - mim ha - heim ba - zman ha,

33

zeh ha - pur - kan ha - g'vu - rot ha - t'shu - ot ha -
Al ha-ni sim v' - al ha - pur kan v' - al ha - g'vu rot v' - al ha - t'shu ot, ha -

37

ni sim al ha - ni sim v' -
ni sim. Ha -

40

al ha - pur kan v' - al ha - g'vu rot v' - al ha - t'shu ot, ha -
pur - kan ha - g'vu - rot ha - t'shu - ot, ha -

43

ni sim, al ha - ni sim.
ni sim, al ha - ni sim.

Sub p

Sub p

Sub p

46

she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei - nu she - a - si - ta la
she - a - si - ta la a - vo - tei - nu she - a - si - ta la

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

Al Hanism

50

rit.

p

pp

a - vo - tei - nu, al ha-ni sim, al ha-ni sim.

p

pp

a - vo - tei - nu, ba - ya - mim ha - heim ba-zman ha - zeh.

rit.

p

pp