

# ***Neis Gadol Haya Sham***

*These words, taken from the Chanukah liturgy, summarize the events of this holiday, “a great miracle happened there”. The four Hebrew first letters of these words: nun, gimel, heh and shin are found on the traditional Chanukah children’s toy, the dreidl, a spinning top.*

*Arnold Harris’ arrangement features a slow and contrasting fast section with a lively melody leading to a rousing climax.*

*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***

***Neis gadol haya sham, bayamim haheim bazman hazeh.***

***A great miracle happened there, in those olden days in this season.***

### ***Pronunciation Guide For Hebrew***

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

# Neis Gadol Haya Sham

Traditional lyrics

Music by Arnold Harris ©1990

**Maestoso**  $\text{♩} = 53$  *mf*

SOPRANO/  
ALTO

TENOR/  
BASS

Piano

Neis ga- dol ha-ya sham ba ya -mim ha

Neis ga- dol ha-ya sham ba-ya mim ha

7

heim ba zman ha zeh Neis ga-dol ha - ya sham ba-ya-mim ha

heim ba zman ha zeh Neis ga- dol ha - ya sham ba-ya mim ha

14

heim ba zman ha-zeh.

heim ba zman ha-zeh.

**A**

20

Sopranos

Neis ga-dol ha-ya ha-ya sham, neis ga-dol ha-ya sham

**B**

26

Tutti

Optional A Capella

neis ga-dol. Neis, neis, neis ga-dol neis, neis, neis ga-dol

neis ga-dol. Neis, neis, neis ga-dol neis, neis, neis ga-dol

Optional A Capella

32 **C** *mf*

Neis, neis, neis ga dol neis, neis, neis ga-dol, neis ga- dol ha-ya sham ba-ya- mim

neis, neis, neis ga-dol neis, neis, neis ga-dol. Neis ga\_ dol ha-ya sham ba-ya

39

ha heim ba zman ha zeh Neis ga-dol ha - ya

mim ha - heim ba zman ha - zeh Neis ga\_ dol ha-ya

45

sham ba-ya-mim ha heim ba zman ha -

sham ba-ya-mim ha - heim ba zman ha -

Fast with joy

51

**D**

*f*

zeh. \_\_\_\_\_ Neis ga-dol \_\_\_\_\_ ha-ya sham \_\_\_\_\_ ba-ya-mim \_\_\_\_\_ ha \_\_\_\_\_ heim, ba\_ zman.

*f*

zeh. \_\_\_\_\_ Neis ga- dol \_\_\_\_\_ ha-ya sham \_\_\_\_\_ ba-ya mim \_\_\_\_\_ ha \_\_\_\_\_ heim, ba\_ zman.

Fast with joy

*f*

58

\_\_\_\_\_ ha \_\_\_\_\_ zeh \_\_\_\_\_ Neis ga dol \_\_\_\_\_ ha - ya sham ba-ya mim \_\_\_\_\_ ha \_\_\_\_\_ heim \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ha \_\_\_\_\_ zeh \_\_\_\_\_ Neis ga dol \_\_\_\_\_ ha - ya sham ba-ya mim \_\_\_\_\_ ha \_\_\_\_\_ heim \_\_\_\_\_

**E**

65

Sopranos *mf*

ba \_\_\_\_\_ zman \_\_\_\_\_ ha - zeh. \_\_\_\_\_ Neis ga\_ dol ha\_

ba \_\_\_\_\_ zman \_\_\_\_\_ ha - zeh. \_\_\_\_\_

72 Tutti

ya ha ya sham, neis ga-dol ha - ya sham neis ga dol.

neis ga dol.

**F** 78 *p* Optional A Capella

Neis, neis, neis ga-dol, neis, neis, neis ga-dol, neis, neis, neis ga-dol,

Neis, neis, neis ga-dol, neis, neis, neis ga-dol, neis, neis, neis ga-dol,

Optional A Capella

84 **G** *mf*

neis, neis, neis ga-dol. Neis ga-dol ha-ya sham ba-ya mim ha

neis, neis, neis ga-dol. Neis ga dol ha-ya sham ba-ya-mim ha -

Optional A Capella

90

heim, ba zman ha zeh Neis ga dol ha - ya sham ba-ya-mim

heim ba zman ha - zeh Neis ga dol ha-ya sham ba-ya-mim

96

**Accel & Cresc a fin**

ha heim ba zman ba

ha - heim ba zman ba

**Accel & Cresc a fin**

101

zman ba zman ha-zeh!

zman ba zman ha-zeh!

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*