

## Prayer for Israel

Rabbi Sheldon Marder in *Mishkan HaNefesh*

Sovereign of All the World —  
accept our plea on behalf of the state and people of Israel;  
pour forth Your blessing on the land and all who call it home.

May Your laws of kindness guide its people;  
and may the teaching of Your prophets live within their hearts and ours —  
“Only to do justice,  
and to love goodness,  
and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)

Awaken Your spirit in the Jewish people and the whole human family;  
implant within us all patience and mutual respect;  
uproot from our midst hatred, violence, coercion, and exploitation.

We pray for strength of body and spirit to journey to the land,  
and to be a true friend of the land and its people — a lover of Zion.  
May life there become “shevet achim gam yachad . . .  
brothers and sisters dwelling together.” (Psalm 133:1)  
And in every corner of the earth,  
spread Your shelter of peace over the House of Israel.

Strengthen the will and stamina of Israel’s soldiers;  
fill with courage the hearts of those who shield the land.  
Let their spirits be resilient and their use of arms pure.  
Valiant in war, ever-striving for peace —  
may they overcome all enemies,  
as You guard them in the shadow of Your wings.

For this, and this alone, we pray:  
Make peace in the land;  
may all its inhabitants be blessed;  
and may this vision of Your prophet soon be achieved —  
“Nation shall not lift up sword against nation;  
Neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Isaiah 2:4)  
Amen.