

Come up to the bimah when invited. Read the English reading, "As these Shabbat...," then light the candles. Cantor Sufrin will then chant the blessing on page 2. After the blessing, return to your seat.

Candle Blessing
Ensheilat Eibys
Kiddush, Em
Kiddush, No
HaChazer
Barbat Heil

You may offer one of these before kindling the lights.

AS THESE SHABBAT CANDLES give light to all who behold them, so may we, by our lives, give light to all who behold us.

As their brightness reminds us of the generations of Israel who have kindled light, so may we, in our own day, be among those who kindle light.

O SOURCE of light and truth, Creator of the eternal law of goodness, help us to find knowledge by which to live. Lead us to take the words we shall speak into our hearts and our lives.

Bless all who enter this sanctuary in search and in need, all who bring to this place the offering of their hearts. May our worship here lead us to fulfill our words and our hopes with acts of kindness, peace and love.

For Kabbalat Shabbat, turn to pages 18-19.
For Festival evening, turn to pages 382-383.

BLESSINGS FOR SHABBAT AND FESTIVALS

The candles are lit before the blessing is recited.

תְּדַלְקֵי נֵרוֹת
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בָּרוּךְ אתה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוֵּינוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל שַׁבָּת (וְשֶׁל יוֹם טוֹב).

BLESSED ARE YOU, Eternal our God, Sovereign of time and space. You hallow us with Your mitzvot, and command us to kindle the lights of Shabbat (and this sacred occasion).

On Festival and the following:

May these Festival lights open our eyes to the joys in life. We are blessed with so much: food enough to sustain us, beauty that delights the eye, the freedom to be ourselves, the knowledge of Torah that shapes our moral being, the heritage of celebration that unites us as a people. Praised be our God, for life, for sustenance, and for this festive day.

בָּרוּךְ אתה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהִקְדַּשְׁתָּנוּ וְצִוֵּינוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵרוֹת. בָּרוּךְ אתה, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהִקְדַּשְׁתָּנוּ וְצִוֵּינוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵרוֹת.

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Shabbat Candle Blessing — Kindling a Shabbat light or lamp in the home is an early rabbinic custom (*M. Shabbat* 2:1f). It allowed people to eat their Shabbat evening meal in comfort since no light could be kindled after sundown. Lighting Shabbat candles as part of the synagogue service is a modern custom. The Shabbat candle blessing is first recorded in the ninth-century prayerbook *Seder Rav Amram*. Interestingly, the Chanukah candle blessing, using the same form, appears earlier, in the Babylonian Talmud (*B. Shabbat* 23a).