



# **Brit Milah Ceremony**

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**Mohel**



# Brit Milah Ceremony

*As the child is brought into the room, all rise and say:*

בְּרוּךְ הַבּוֹא

*Barukh haba*

Blessed is he who comes to enter the covenant.

**Rabbi/Mohel:** Brit Milah, the covenant of circumcision, is a sign of the covenant between God and the Jewish people that was first established with our ancestor Abraham, and then renewed at Sinai when the Jews received the Torah.

**Mohel:** **CHAIR of ELIJAH.** An honored presence at every circumcision is the prophet Eliyahu, Elijah. We invoke his memory for Elijah was passionate about maintaining the covenant between God and the Jewish people. It is Eliyahu who, we are taught, will establish a lasting and loving peace between parents and children for all time.

זֶה הַפֶּסֶחַ שֶׁל אֱלֹהֵינוּ זָכוֹר לְטוֹב. לִישׁוּעָתְךָ קוִיִּיתִי ה'. שְׁבַרְתִּי לִישׁוּעָתְךָ יי, וּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ עָשִׂיתִי. שְׁבַרְתִּי לִישׁוּעָתְךָ ה'. שֶׁשׁ אֲנֹכִי עַל אִמְרָתְךָ כְּמוֹצֵא שְׁלָל רָב. שְׁלוֹם רַב לְאֶהְבֵי תוֹרָתְךָ, וְאִין לְמוֹ מְכַשׁוֹל. אֲשֶׁרִי תִבְחַר וּתִקְרַב יִשְׁכּוֹן הַצָּרִיךְ, גִּשְׁבָּעָה בְּטוֹב בֵּיתְךָ קָדוֹשׁ הַיְכָלְךָ.

## Responsive Reading:

Judaism begins at home. It begins in homes where Torah comes to life, where Jewish values and traditions serve as daily reminders of God's holiness and our sacred partnership with the Holy One.

It begins in homes where Jewish texts are read and the words of our tradition become the vocabulary of our lives, Jewish songs are played and their melodies both rock and stir our souls.

It begins in homes where the children's senses come alive with the scent of the spice box, the vision of Shabbat lights, the sound of blessings, the touch of the mezuzah, and the taste of sweet challah.

It begins in homes where into the deepest layers of a child's growing essence are woven strands of love for our tradition and devotion to the Jewish people.

The sages wisely assigned to parents the task of transmitting the ideals of Torah-learning, Huppah-loving family, and Ma'asim Tovim- a life of good deeds. These are the foundations of our home, the framework upon which the Jewish future shall be built.

Judaism begins in the home. For not only is a home the place where Jews live, it is a holy dwelling in which Judaism is lived.

### **Parents:**

Our God and God of our Ancestors, we are grateful for the joy and blessings which our new son brings to us. As parents we accept the awesome responsibility of raising our son to adulthood, of guiding his life, of determining in large measure the values by which he shall live and the ideals toward which he shall strive. We pray for the wisdom to help our son fulfill his potential, to be strong when he needs us to be strong, to be gentle when he needs us to be gentle, and to be available in mind and body whenever he needs us.

הַנְּנִי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקַיִם מִצְוַת עֲשֵׂה שְׂצַנְנֵנוּ הַבּוֹרֵא הַתְּבָרָה, לְמוֹל אֶת-בְּנִי, כְּפָתוּב בַּתּוֹרָה: "וַיְבֹן שְׁמֹנֶת יָמִים יְמוֹל לָכֶם כָּל-זָכָר לְדֹרֹתֵיכֶם."

*Hin'ni mukhan, u-m'zuman l'kayaim mitzvat asay shetzivanu ha-borei yitbarch lamuhl et b'ni, kakatuv batorah: "u-ven sh'monat yamim yimohl lakhem kol-zakhar l'doroteikhem."*

We are ready to perform the positive commandment enjoined by the Creator, blessed be God, to circumcise our son, as it is written in the Torah: "Every male among you, throughout your generations, shall be circumcised when he is eight days old" (Genesis 17:12). According to custom, responsibility for bringing our son into the covenant falls to us. We hereby authorize you to perform the Brit Milah on our behalf.

**Mohel:** I willingly perform this commandment of Brit Milah, sanctioned by the generations, of bringing this child into the covenant.

*Before the Circumcision:*

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו על המילה

Praised are You, *Adonai*, our God, Ruler of the universe, who sanctified us with Your commandments, and commanded us concerning circumcision.

**Parents after the circumcision:**

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להכניסו בבריתו של אברהם אבינו

*Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivahnu l'hakhniso bevrito shel Avraham avinu.*

Praised are You, *Adonai* our God, ruler of the universe for sanctifying us with Your commandments and ordaining that we bring our sons into the covenant of Abraham.

**All Present Respond:**

כשם שצונס לברית כן יכנס לתורה ולחפה ולמעשים טובים

*K'shaym shenikhnas labrit, kayn yikanes l'Torah, ul'chuppah ul'ma'asim tovim.*

As he has entered the covenant, so may he attain the blessings of Torah, family and a life of good deeds.

## Prayer of Healing

### Mohel:

מי שברך אבותינו, אברהם, יצחק, ויעקב, שרה, רבקה, רחל ולאה, הוא יברך את הילד הרך הנמול וירפא אותו רפואה שלמה, ויזכו אבותיו (קרוכיו) לגדלו לתורה ולחפה ולמעשים טובים. ונאמר אמן.

May God who blessed our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and our mothers, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah, bless this child that healing and strength may come to him speedily. May his parents find joy and fulfillment in rearing him. May his life be dedicated in faithfulness unto You, and may he bring blessing to his parents, to his people and to all humanity.

## Naming the Child

### Rabbi/Mohel: (holding cup of wine)

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם בורא פרי הגפן

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם, אשר קדש ידיד מבטן וחק בשרו שם וצאצאיו חתם באות קדש. על פן בשכר זאת, אל חי חלקנו צורנו, צוה להציל ידוות שארנו משחת, למען בריתו אשר שם בבשרנו. ברוך אתה ה' פורת הברית

אלקנו ואלקי אבותינו, קים את הילד הזה לאביו ולאמו, ויקרא שמו בישראל \_\_\_\_\_ בן \_\_\_\_\_ . ישמח האב ביוצא חלציו ותגל אמו בפרי בטנה, כפתיב: ישמח אביו ואמו ותגל יולדתה. ונאמר: נאעבר עליך נאראך מתבוססת, בךמיה,

נאמר לך בךמיה חיי v'omar lakh b'damayikh chayee

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ונאמר: זכר לעולם בריתו, דבר צוה לאלי דור. אשר פרת את-אברהם ושבועתו ליצחק. ויעמידה ליעקב לחק, לישראל ברית עולם. ונאמר: נימל אברהם את-יצחק בנו בן-שמונת ימים פאשר צוה אתו אלקים

הודו לה' כייטוב, פי לעולם **hodu laadonai ki tov, ki l'olam chasdo**  
חסדו.

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חסדו.

זה הקטן \_\_\_\_\_ גדול יהיה. פשם שונכנס לברית, בן יפנס לתורה ולחפה ולמעשים טובים, אמן.

Our God and God of our Ancestors, sustain this child, and let him be known in the House of Israel as \_\_\_\_\_ corresponding to the English name \_\_\_\_\_. As he has been brought into the covenant of our people, so may the son of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ fulfill the ideals of Torah and be a source of pride to his parents and family, to the Jewish people and to everyone he meets on his path through life. May \_\_\_\_\_ be a strong link in the chain of Jewish tradition fulfilling the dreams of our ancestors and sowing hope for the generations yet to be. Grant him a long life filled with health and happiness. Amen.

### **Responsive Reading:**

Every person born into this world represents something unique. It is the duty of every individual to know and consider their uniqueness in character and respect the individuality of all children.

As members of this community, bound to that covenant which this child now enters, we accept our responsibility to provide the sources of instruction and assistance to enable this child, and all our children, to grow in knowledge, sensitivity, and justice.

May this child be strong enough to know when he is weak, and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid. Send him not only in the path of ease and comfort, but also in the spur of difficulty and challenge. Here let him learn the stand up in the storm. Here let him learn to have compassion on all life.

Grant that this tender child will grow into adulthood with the blessings of nobility, strength, and gentleness. May he be faithful like Abraham, trusting like Isaac, and strong like Jacob. Instill in him the joy of learning and teach him to have compassion for all life.

### **Grandparents' Prayer**

Our God and God of all Generations: We are grateful for new beginnings, for the bond of new life that links one generation to another. Thankful for the blessings of family, for the love and care that bring meaning and happiness to our lives, we rejoice with our children in the birth of their child, our grandson. May they continue to grow together as a family in health and in strength, in harmony, wisdom and love. Amen.

## Blessing the Child

### Parents:

יְשָׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים כְּאֶפְרַיִם וְכַמְנַשֶּׁה.

*Y'simkha Elohim k'Ephriam v'khi M'nasheh*  
May God make you like Ephrayim and Menashe

יְבָרְכֶךָ ה' וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ

*Y'varekh'kha Adonai v'yish m'rekha*  
May your life be one of security and trust.

יָאֵר ה' פְּנֵי אֱלֹהֵיךָ וַיַּחַנְדֵּךְ

*Ya'eir Adonai panav eilekha vichuneka.*  
May your life shine with dignity and freedom.

יֵשָׁא ה' פְּנֵי אֱלֹהֵיךָ וַיַּשֵּׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

*Yisa Adonai panav eilekha v'yaseim l'kha shalom.*  
May your life know the harmony and gift of peace.

## Concluding Blessings

**All present: Shehecheyanu**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהִחַיְנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה

*Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam,  
shehecheyanu, v'kiy'manu v'higi'anu laz'man hazeh.*

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe,  
who has kept us in life, sustained us and enabled us to  
reach this day

***Please join in singing:***

סִימָן טוֹב וּמַזֵּל טוֹב, מְזֵל טוֹב וְסִימָן טוֹב, יְהִי לָנוּ וּלְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל

*Siman tov u'mazel tov, u'mazel tov v'siman tov, yehei lanu  
ul'khol Yisrael.*

Congratulations to you, us, and all Israel!

***Hamotzi***

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ

*Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu melekh ha'olam, hamotzi  
lechem min ha'aretz.*

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe,  
who brings forth bread from the earth.