

Brit Milah Ceremony
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Mohel

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

בָּרוּךְ הַבָּא.

Barukh haba

Blessed is he who comes to enter the covenant.

Chair of Elijah (rabbi/mohel)

An honored presence at every circumcision is the prophet Eliyahu, Elijah. We invoke his memory for Eliyahu 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 הַכֶּסֶה שֶׁל אֱלֹהֵינוּ זְכוּר לְטוֹב. לְיִשׁוּעָתְךָ קוֹיָתִי ה'. שְׂבִירְתִּי לְיִשׁוּעָתְךָ יי, וּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ
עָשִׂיתִי. שְׂבִירְתִּי לְיִשׁוּעָתְךָ ה'. שֶׁשׁ אֲנֹכִי עַל אִמְרָתְךָ כְּמוֹצֵא שְׁלָל רָב. שְׁלוֹם רָב לְאַהֲבֵי
תּוֹרָתְךָ, וְאִין לָמוּ מְכֻשׁוֹל. אֲשֶׁרִי תִבְחַר וּתְקַרֵב יִשְׁכּוֹן חֲצֵרֶיךָ, נִשְׁבְּעָה בְּטוֹב בֵּיתְךָ קְדוֹשׁ
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 mezzuzah, 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 a 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 lives.

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 _____ 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 _____ 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 מִצְוֹת עֲשֵׂה שְׂצֻנּוֹ הַבּוֹרָא יִתְבָּרַךְ, לְמוֹל אֶת-בְּנִי, כְּכַתוּב בְּתוֹרָה:
“וּבֶן שְׁמוֹנַת 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". 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:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל הַמִּילָה.

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

Parents

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ
לְהַכְנִיסוֹ בְּבְרִיתוֹ שֶׁל אַבְרָהָם אֲבִינוּ.

*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 through obligations, and for having ordained that we bring our sons into the covenant of Avraham.

All Present:

כָּשֶׁם שְׁנִכְנַס לְבְרִית בֶּן יַכְנֵס לְתוֹרָה וּלְחֻפָּה וּלְמַעֲשֵׂים טוֹבִים.

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, marriage, and a life of good deeds.

Prayer of Healing (rabbi/mohel)

מִי שֶׁבָּרַךְ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, אַבְרָהָם, יִצְחָק, וְיַעֲקֹב, שָׂרָה, רִבְקָה, רָחֵל וְלֵאָה, הוּא יְבָרַךְ אֶת הַיֶּלֶד
הַרֵךְ הַנִּמּוּל וִירְפֵא אוֹתוֹ וְרַפּוּאָה שְׁלֵמָה, וְיִזְכּוּ אֲבוֹתָיו (קְרוּבֵיו) לְגַדְלוֹ לְתוֹרָה וּלְחֻפָּה
וּלְמַעֲשֵׂים טוֹבִים. וְנֹאמֵר אָמֵן.

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 father and mother 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 humankind.

Rabbi/Mohel, holding cup of wine: NAMING THE CHILD

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדַּשׁ יְדִיד מִבְּטָן וְחַק בְּשָׂארוֹ שֵׁם וְצִיָּאָצְאֵיו חֲתָם
בְּאוֹת קִדְשׁ. עַל בֶּן בְּשִׁכְרֵי זֵאת, אֵל חַי חֲלָקֵנוּ צוּרֵנוּ, צוּה לְהַצִּיל יְדוּת שְׂאֵרֵנוּ מִשְׁחַת,
לְמַעַן בְּרִיתוֹ אֲשֶׁר שָׁם בְּבִשְׂרָנוּ. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' כּוֹרֵת הַבְּרִית.

אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, קַיִם אֶת הַיֶּלֶד הַזֶּה לְאָבִיו וּלְאִמּוֹ, וְיִקְרָא שְׁמוֹ בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל
בְּפָרִי בְטָנָה, כְּכַתוּב: יִשְׁמַח אָבִיךָ וְאִמָּךָ וְתִגַּל יוֹלְדֶךָ. וְנֹאמֵר: וְאֶעֱבֵר עָלֶיךָ וְאָרָאךָ
מִתְבוֹסֶסֶת בְּדַמֶיךָ,

וְנֹאמֵר לְךָ בְּדַמֶיךָ חַיֵּי. v'omar lakh b'damayikh chayee

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וְנֹאמֵר: זָכַר לְעוֹלָם בְּרִיתוֹ, דְּבַר צוּה לְאֶלְפֵי דוֹר. אֲשֶׁר כָּרַת אֶת-אַבְרָהָם וּשְׁבוּעָתוֹ לְיִצְחָק.
וְיַעֲמִידָהּ לְיַעֲקֹב לְחַק, לְיִשְׂרָאֵל בְּרִית עוֹלָם. וְנֹאמֵר: וְיִמַּל אַבְרָהָם אֶת-יִצְחָק בְּנוֹ בֶּן-
שְׁמוֹנֵת יָמִים כְּאֲשֶׁר צוּה אֱתוֹ אֱלֹהִים.

חודו לה' פִּיטוֹב, פִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסִדוֹ. hodu laadonai ki tov, ki l'olam chasdo

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זֶה הַקְּטָן _____ גְּדוֹל יְהִיָּה. כָּשֶׁם שְׁנִכְנַס לְבְרִית, בֶּן יַכְנֵס לְתוֹרָה וּלְחֻפָּה וּלְמַעֲשֵׂים
טוֹבִים, אָמֵן.

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 _____ a long life filled with health and happiness. Amen.

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 to 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 son and daughter 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

בְּרַךְ ה' וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ.

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

יָאֵר ה' פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיְחַנְּדֵךְ.

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

יָשָׂא ה' פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּשִּׂים לְךָ שְׁלוֹם.

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

Shehecheyanu (together)

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁחַחֲיֵנוּ וְקִיְמָנוּ וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמַן 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.

Mazel Tov!

Please join in singing:

סִימָן טוֹב וּמָזֶל טוֹב, מָזֶל טוֹב סִימָן טוֹב, יְהִי לָנוּ וּלְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל

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