



**EVENT PROGRAM FOR**

# **Cantors & Friends**

**Celebrate Hanukkah**

**Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 p.m.**

Online link

<https://bit.ly/CantorsFriends>





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## Welcome

Welcome to the "Cantors & Friends Celebrate Hanukkah" virtual concert! What a special evening we have in store for you. Thirteen Cantors and Cantorial Soloists have been working together on a monthly basis, since this summer, to prepare and help us celebrate Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights!

Tonight's concert will run for approximately an hour and includes sixteen different songs. Some of the singers will perform live independently. There will also be two jointly recorded songs, using technology that allows physically separated people to sing together. One of the recorded songs will be a lighter, Sephardic rendition of the Hanukkah standard, "Maoz Tzur."

"Boruch Ato" will be the other joint song. "It's just a beautiful song that we all wanted to sing together," Cantor David Barash stated. The idea, he said, is "let's present these two songs that show another side of Hanukkah that people aren't used to."

So, sit back, in your most comfortable chair, sing along if you would like, and enjoy the Celebration of Hanukkah with these very talented performers, all brought to you by Members of Cantors of Wisconsin.

**Members of Cantors of Wisconsin** include cantors and others deeply involved in Jewish music. The members include: David Barash, Jerry Berkowitz, Karen Berman, David Blumberg, Enid Bootzin Berkovits, Marsha Fensin, Nancy Gorens-Edelman, Deborah Martin, Jacob Neimi, Richard Newman, David Perper, Michele Rozansky, Jeremy Stein and Faith Steinsnyder.

A very special Thank You to everyone who was involved in this evening's concert performance, and much appreciation to Jan Lowell (from Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha) for lovingly preparing this event program and Scott Finch for producing the two virtual choir videos!!



## Cast of Performers

### Cantor David Barash

Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Cantor David Barash has served at Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun in Milwaukee, Wisconsin since 2001, and previously served as Cantor for nine years at Congregation Beth Shalom in Kansas City, Missouri. David loves engaging congregants through Jewish music: working with adult and children's choirs; conducting the CEEBJ congregational band; directing annual Purim spiels; leading participatory Shabbat, Festival and High Holy Day services; and teaching all kinds of subjects ranging from Prayer Aerobics to Moods and Modes in the Music of the High Holy Days.



David is happily married to Debra Gorra Barash and between them, they have four children, Natan and Rafi Barash, Janet (Nick) De Voe and Louise (Nick) Rasmussen; and four grandchildren, Wilson and Graham De Voe, and Hailey and Annabelle Rasmussen.

### Enid Bootzin Berkovits

Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid  
Glendale, Wisconsin

Enid Bootzin Berkovits is a founding member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Choral. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy from Alverno College in Milwaukee and has studied master's level choral conducting and voice performance at Northwestern University, DePaul University and The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Ms. Bootzin Berkovits has performed with the Skylight Opera Theatre, The Milwaukee Opera Company, Carousel Productions and the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. She is the choir director at Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid.



### Cantor Jerry Berkowitz

Anshe Poale Zedek Synagogue  
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Cantor Jerry Berkowitz is the cantor and spiritual leader of Anshe Poale Zedek Synagogue of Manitowoc. Born in New York City, he is a graduate of Brooklyn College and the Cantorial Training Institute of Yeshiva University. From 1994 until 2010, he was the Cantor at the former Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue of Mequon. Naomi, his wife, serves as the Disaster Mental Health Coordinator for the Red Cross in Wisconsin and several other states in the mid-west. They have three adult children, seven grandchildren and reside in Port Washington.



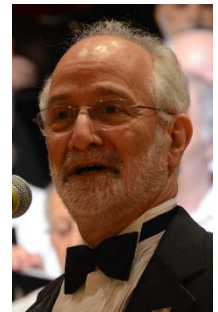




## David Blumberg

Glendale, Wisconsin

David Blumberg has served as a cantorial soloist for twenty years, in both Reform and Conservative congregations in Wisconsin and Illinois. For the past five years, he has helped lead High Holiday services at the Ovation Sarah Chudnow Community in Mequon. He has also been a member of the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus since the fall of 1999. David and his Jewish Educator wife, Sherry, are the proud parents of their son, Joshua, who still lives and works in the Milwaukee area, and of three now-adult, former foster children. When he is not singing, David is a practicing attorney sub-specializing exclusively in Interstate Child Custody Jurisdiction matters.



## Nancy Gorens-Edelman

Beth Hillel Temple  
Kenosha, Wisconsin

Nancy Gorens-Edelman is a Guest Soloist and member of Beth Hillel Temple in Kenosha. Nancy has had a long career in education as a classroom teacher, school principal and teacher licensing advisor in a variety of public, private and Jewish school settings. She has experience as a song leader at camps and in reform congregations Temple Beth El, Madison; Am Shalom, Glencoe; and Congregations Shalom and Emanu-el B'ne Jeshurun, Milwaukee. Her degrees are from the University of Wisconsin and include a music concentration with licensing in K-12 elementary and exceptional education, school administration, and curriculum & instruction.



Additionally, Nancy expresses "To friends and family with Covid – May the Chanukah lights shine and bring a healthy recovery."

## Marsha Fensin

Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha  
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Marsha Fensin has worked for more than 44 years in various capacities as a song leader, cantorial soloist / cantor, hospital chaplain, Judaica and Hebrew teacher and B'nai Mitzvah tutor. She has studied at Stetson University, the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, the cantorial certification program of Hebrew Union College, and Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Joseph Hospital and Aurora Sinai. She has served congregations in Milwaukee, Green Bay, Iowa, Illinois and Oklahoma. She was honored to be named 2017 Jewish Educator of the Year by the Coalition for Jewish Learning, for which she currently serves on the advisory board. She has been married to Lee for 52 years, has two children and is the proud grandmother of five. In addition to her passion for Jewish learning, she loves inter-religious work, is an avid reader and gardener and wrestles with technology.





## Cantor Deborah Martin

Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha  
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Cantor Deborah Martin is the Spiritual Leader at Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha (CEEW). She came to CEEW in July of 2016, prior to that she served as the Cantor of Temple Beth El in Madison, from 1991 to 2015. A mezzo soprano, Cantor Martin obtained her formal vocal training in Boston, with a Bachelor of Music with honors from the New England Conservatory of Music and a Masters of Music Degree from Boston Conservatory. She sang Opera around the country before becoming a Cantorial soloist and then a Cantor. Deborah has two children. Her son, James, lives in Madison with his wife Gena, daughter Rowan and son Harrison. Her child Mika works in Olympia, Washington.



## Cantor Richard Newman

Congregation Sinai  
Fox Point, Wisconsin

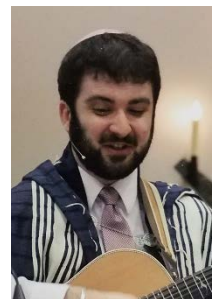
Cantor Richard Newman is honored to be the cantor at Congregation Sinai of Fox Point. He came to Sinai in July, 2017. Cantor Newman was born in Birmingham, UK, and has been interested in music all his life. Before beginning his cantorial training, Richard worked as a professional musician in London, having gained his masters in music at Trinity College of Music, London in 2011. Richard has appeared on TV, radio and numerous recordings over the years. Before moving to the US, Richard was a regular soloist with the Zemel Choir in London, the UK's premier mixed voice Jewish choir, and was a regular service leader at Belsize Square Synagogue in London.



## Cantor Jacob Niemi

Temple Beth El  
Madison, Wisconsin

Cantor Jacob Niemi has served as the cantor at Temple Beth El in Madison, WI since the summer of 2019. He earned a BA in sacred music with a minor in Hebrew language from Florida State University in 2013. He then continued his cantorial studies at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion, earning a master's degree in sacred music in 2017 and ordination as a cantor in 2018.





## Cantor David Perper

Congregation Shalom  
Fox Point, Wisconsin

Cantor David Perper serves Congregation Shalom in Fox Point, Wisconsin. Cantor Perper was born and raised in Silver Spring, Maryland and he finished his undergraduate studies at The Catholic University of America, in Washington, DC. David then worked in retail for a bit before attending The Hebrew Union College – Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music in New York City. David has been joyously looking forward to this concert, and hoping for many more. Married to Cantor Faith Steinsnyder, the pair are looking forward to the opportunity to explore Milwaukee and points of interest in this beautiful state.



## Hazzan Michele Rozansky

Mequon, Wisconsin

Hazzan Michele Rozansky leads a monthly Kabbalat Shabbat service as well as Rosh Hodesh rituals. Those who have participated in her services are known to say that they are unique, experiential, sacred and renewing. Additionally, she has been practicing physical therapy for 40 years, in Mequon, and received her Cantorial Smicha this past January.



## Hazzan Jeremy Stein

Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid  
Glendale, Wisconsin

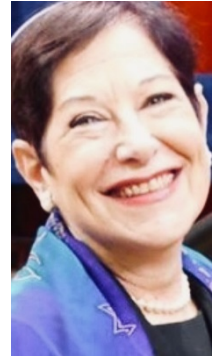
Hazzan Jeremy Stein serves Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid in Glendale, where he is equally passionate about leading services and teaching congregants of all ages. He is currently working on a project detailing the 100-year history of the Abayudaya, the Jews of Uganda. In February, he is scheduled to release an album of new music of Havdalah as a benefit for Jewish summer camps. Hazzan Stein lives with his wife Amanda, a musicologist, who he met on his first full day in Milwaukee. They are proud parents of daughters Mirit and Hadas.



## Faith Steinsnyder

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Faith Steinsnyder has served as cantor and director of music for synagogues across the country. She has taught at New York City's Jewish Theological Seminary, the Academy for Jewish Religion, and still serves on the faculty of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. A featured soloist at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Concert Hall in NYC, Faith has performed and recorded extensively with The Western Wind, Matthew Lazar and Michael Isaacson. Accompanied by members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, she sang the title role in Stephen Richards' chamber opera "The Ballad of Ruth." Faith is featured in the critically acclaimed documentary film "100 voices: A Journey Home." Zamir Choral Foundation's annual North American Jewish Choral Festival features Faith teaching and performing with her husband, David Perper.







## Musical Numbers

### *CANDLE BLESSING FOR HANUKKAH*

Sung by Marsha Fensin

The lights of Chanukah are a symbol of our joy.  
In time of darkness our ancestors had the courage to struggle for freedom:  
freedom to be themselves, freedom to worship in their own way.  
Theirs was a victory of the weak over the strong,  
the few over the many, and the righteous over the arrogant.  
It was a victory for all ages and all people.  
Let the lights we kindle shine forth for the world.  
May they illumine our lives as they fill us with gratitude  
that our faith has been saved from extinction time and again.

*Ba-ruch A-tah, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu, Me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher kid'-sha-nu b'-mits-vo-tav v'- tsi-va-nu l'-had-lik ner shel Chanukah.*

Blessed is Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who hallows us with His Mitzvot and commands us to kindle the lights of Chanukah.

*Ba-ruch A-tah, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu, Me-lech ha-o-lam, she-a-sa ni-sim la-a-vo-tei-nu ba-ya-mim ha-heim ba-z'-man ha-zeh.*

Blessed is Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in days of old, at this time.

### *MAOZ TZUR – MELODY BY MARCELLO (17TH CENT.), SETTING BY MAX HELFMAN*

Sung by Virtual Cantors & Friends Choir

Rock of Ages let our song praise Your saving power.  
You amidst the raging foes were our sheltering tower.  
Furious they assailed us but Your arm availed us.  
And Your word broke their sword when our own strength failed us.



***HANEIROT HALALU MEDLEY – MUSIC BY BORUCH COHON AND  
JEFFREY KLEPPER (ARR. CHASS / PERPER / STEINSNYDER)***

Sung by Cantor David Perper / Cantor Faith Steinsnyder

These candles we have lit, they are for the miracles and wonders which You did for  
our ancestors in those days, and at this time of year.

***AL HANISSIM – BY DOV FRIMER***

Sung by Cantor David Barash

We thank you for the heroism, for the triumphs,  
and for the miraculous deliverance of our ancestors  
in days of old and in our own time.

***LIGHT ONE CANDLE – BY PETER YARROW***

Sung by Cantor Jacob Neimi

**VERSE 1**

Light one candle for the Maccabee children.  
Give thanks that their light didn't die!  
Light one candle for the pain they endured,  
when their right to exist was denied!  
Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice  
justice and freedom demand!  
And light one candle for the wisdom to know  
when the peacemaker's time is at hand!

**CHORUS:**

Don't let the light go out!  
It's lasted for so many years!  
Don't let the light go out!  
Let it shine through our love and our tears.



## **VERSE 2**

Light one candle for the strength we all need  
to never become our own foe!  
Light one candle for those who are suffering  
the pain we learned so long ago!  
Light one candle for all we believe in.  
Let anger not tear us apart!  
And light one candle to bind us together,  
with peace as the song in our heart!

## **CHORUS**

### **VERSE 3**

What is the memory that's valued so highly  
that we keep it alive in that flame?  
What's the commitment to those who have died,  
when we cry out they've not died in vain?  
We have come this far, always believing  
that justice will somehow prevail!  
This is the burden, and this is the promise,  
and this why we will not fail!

## **CHORUS**

### **CODA:**

Don't let the light go out!  
Don't let the light go out!  
Don't let the light go out!

## ***OCHO KANDELIKAS – BY FLORY JAGODA***

Sung by David Blumberg

Beautiful Hanukkah is here, eight candles for me.

### **REFRAIN:**

One candle, two candles, three candles, four candles, five candles, six candles, seven  
candles, eight candles for me.

I will give many parties, with happiness and pleasure.  
I will eat little pastries, filled with almonds and honey.



## ***THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE – BY HARRY DIXON LOES***

Sung by Nancy Gorens-Edelman

*'This Little Light Of Mine' is a gospel song, a timeless tool of resistance, and sung all over the world. It was often reported to be written for children in the 1920s. It became an anthem of the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 60s and a way of expressing unity and support for equal rights, justice, and freedom for everyone. "This Little Light of Mine" has been used to promote tolerance and curb passions during counter-protests such as the one before a crowd of white supremacists and alt-right supporters gathered for the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Va. Lyrics have been adapted and sung by artists that include Jewish contemporary song writers / performers such as Julie Silver, Shira Kline and Princeton Koleinu, as well as other artists such as Bruce Springsteen, Ray Charles, The Everly Brothers, Kingston Trio, Pete Seeger and Odetta.*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Light that shines is the light of love  
Hides the darkness from above  
Shines on me and it shines on you  
Shows you what the power of love can do  
Shine my light bright and clear  
Shine my light both far and near  
In every dark corner that I find  
Let our little lights shine

Chanukah lights burning bright, we're gonna let them shine  
Won't let anyone blow them out ... we're gonna let them shine  
These little lights of mine, we're gonna let them shine  
Let them shine, all 8 days, & everyday

Hold my candle in the air, we're gonna let it shine,  
All up in the house, we're gonna let it shine,  
All Around the world, we're gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Be the light for justice, be the light of love  
Be the light shining in the dark when there's not enough  
Be the light for human rights, Shine.. hope throughout this world  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine



***LICH'VOD HACHANUKAH – LYRICS WRITTEN BY CHAIM NACHMAN BIALIK***

Sung by Hazzan Michele Rozansky

In Honor of Chanukah

My father lit some candles for me  
And a Shamash that looks like a torch.

Do you know why he did so?  
To celebrate Chanukah!

My teacher gave me a dreidel  
Cast in lead.

Do you know why he did so?  
To celebrate Chanukah!

My mother gave me a doughnut,  
A warm, sweet doughnut to eat.

Do you know why she did so?  
To celebrate Chanukah!

My uncle gave me a small gift,  
A coin solitary and worn.

Do you know why he did so?  
To celebrate Chanukah!

***CHANUKAH – MUSIC BY SHOLOM SECUNDA, TEXT BY SHELDON SECUNDA***

Sung by Cantor Richard Newman

When the winter winds start blowing,  
It's just nature's way of showing  
Chanukah will soon be here.

I recall when I was younger,  
how I used to yearn and hunger  
for this special time of year,  
and it's still so very dear.





Chanukah, Chanukah, A holiday that drives away all care.  
Chanukah, Chanukah, The season loved by people everywhere.  
Chanukah, Chanukah, A time for giving gifts to those we love.  
Chanukah, Chanukah, A time for giving thanks to God above.

With pride recalling mighty Judah Maccabee  
and how he bravely fought to set his people free.  
Menorah candles burning through the nights,  
the beauty of the Feast of Lights.  
Chanukah, Chanukah, each home is filled with laughter song and cheer  
falling snow candles glow proclaim that Chanukah is here.

***JUDAH MACCABEE – BY JOEL SUSSMAN AND ROBBIE SOLOMON***

Sung by Hazzan Jeremy Stein

Oh, When I was a boy  
My one and only joy was pretending  
I was living in the past.  
So, to get my little thrills  
I'd storm down from the hills  
A wooden sword held tightly in my grasp.

**CHORUS:**

Oh, Judah Maccabee  
How was I to see what you would mean to me?  
No Syrian decree / Roman cavalry / German infantry  
Could make you bend your knee  
Not Judah Maccabee.

Ah, my friends all thought me strange  
And sometimes would exchange a worried look  
Or word behind my back.  
No, they couldn't understand  
The Romans were at hand  
And they were getting ready to attack.

**CHORUS**



In the Polish underground  
I never made a sound while running through  
The forest late at night.  
Just like Mattathias' sons  
I knew the time would come  
When I would need my courage to survive.

**CHORUS**

Get down Judah, Judah Maccabee  
He defied Antiochus and drove out the Syrian-Greeks  
A little bit of oil lasted for a week.

***I AM THE CANDLE – BY CANTOR JORDAN FRANZEL***

Sung by Cantor David Perper / Cantor Faith Steinsnyder

Eight nights bright lights happened there a miracle might.  
Dark days a great haze our Holy Temple was razed.  
So we had to fight for our freedom.  
Our vision and sight can't stand to reason it's the season of all hope.  
Eight Candles in a row recalling times long ago.  
True faith we had to prevail our courage and strength did not let us fail.  
Spinning around who's lost and who's found.  
Let's play it again and let's pretend one day we'll all be free.

**REFRAIN:**

I am the candle lighting the way, through the darkness of the night.  
I am the candle leading each day to the brightness of the world.  
I am the candle guiding us home, when we feel so lost inside.  
I am the candle righting the wrong, when we kindle every candle everywhere.  
Sometimes I feel the world's a harsh place when there's no humanity in this space.  
It casts a shadow on the wall a certain dullness that can fall.  
But that is my goal, and that is my mission.  
To stand up to tyranny and send back attrition when I brighten the way to you.

**REFRAIN**



*I AM A LATKE – BY DEBBIE FRIEDMAN*

Sung by Cantor Deborah Martin

**VERSE 1**

I am so mixed up that I cannot tell you.  
I'm sitting in this blender turning brown.  
I've made friends with the onions and the flour,  
And the cook is scouting oil in the town.  
I sit here wondering what will come of me.  
I can't be eaten looking as I do.  
I need someone to take me out and cook me,  
Or I'll really end up in a royal stew

**CHORUS**

I am a latke, I am a latke, and I am waiting for Chanukah to come, (2X's)

**VERSE 2**

Every holiday has food so special,  
I'd like to have that same attention, too.  
I do not want to spend life in this blender,  
Wondering what I'm supposed to do.  
Matza and charoset are for Pesach,  
Chopped liver and challah for Shabbat,  
Blintzes on Shavuot are delicious & gefilte fish no holiday's without.

**CHORUS**

**VERSE 3**

It's important that I have an understanding  
Of what it is that I'm supposed to do.  
You see there are so many that are homeless,  
With no jobs, no clothes and very little food.  
It's so important that we all remember,  
That while we have most of the things we need,  
We must remember those who have so little.  
We must help them; we must be the ones to feed.

**CHORUS**



***CHANUKAH – BY PAUL ZIM***

Sung by Cantor Jerry Berkowitz

Kindled candles glow ..... eight successive nights  
Chanukah a symphony festival of lights  
Blessings we recite ..... thanks unto the Lord  
A miracle was seen again the temple was restored

**CHORUS**

Chanukah Chanukah festival of lights  
Let menorahs proudly glow eight successive nights  
Chanukah Chanukah down with tyranny  
We all trace our heritage to Judah Maccabee  
  
Give a gift each night to each girl and boy  
Make your dreidel start to spin Chanukah means joy  
Joyous holiday sing of victory  
Tyrants they were overthrown by Judah Maccabee  
  
Temple was redeemed glow eternal light  
But one flask of oil was found good for just one night  
Through divine decree faith had been returned  
Miracle of miracles eight full days it burned

***EACH CHANUKAH WE GLORIFY – BY BEN ARONIN Z" L' OF  
CONGREGATION ANSHE EMET CHICAGO***

Sung by Marsha Fensin

(To the tune of "O Chanukah")  
Each Chanukah we glorify brave Judah Maccabeus  
Who had the courage to defy Antiochus, and free us,  
Yet it is not fair that we should forget  
Mrs. Maccabeus, whom we owe a debt.  
She mixed it, and fixed it  
She poured it into a bowl  
You may not guess, but it was the latkes  
That gave brave Judah a soul.  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
That gave brave Judah a soul.



The Syrians said: "It cannot be that old Mattathias  
Whose years are more than 83 will dare to defy us!"  
But they didn't know his secret, you see  
Mattathias dined on latkes and tea.

One latke, two latkes  
And so on into the night  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
that gave him the courage to fight.  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
that gave him the courage to fight.

Now this is how it came about this gastronomic wonder  
That broke the ranks of Syria like flaming bolts of thunder  
Mrs. Maccabeus wrote in the dough  
Portions of the Torah then fried them so.  
They shimmered, they simmered,  
Absorbing the olive oil  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
that made the Syrians recoil.  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
that made the Syrians recoil.

Now these little latkes brown and delicious  
must have hit the spot 'cause with appetites vicious  
All the heroes downed them after their toil  
Causing in our Temple a shortage of oil  
One latke, two latkes,  
And so on into the night.  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
that gave us the Chanukah light.  
You may not guess but it was the latkes  
that gave us the Chanukah light.





***I HAVE A LITTLE DREYDL – BY MATI LAZAR / TAYKU; BASED ON A SONG BY  
MICAEL GELBART***

Sung by Enid Bootzin Berkovits

I have a little Dreydl, I made it out of clay  
And when it's dry and ready, Oh Dreydl I shall play.  
Oh Dreydl, Dreydl, Dreydl, I made it out of clay,  
Oh Dreydl, Dreydl, Dreydl, Oh, Dreydl I shall play.

Oh, it had such a lovely body with legs so short and straight  
Oh when it's all tuckered out and tired, it drops and then I win, Oh Dreydl  
Oh my little Dreydl, I made it out of clay  
And when it's dry and ready, Oh Dreydl I shall play.

***BORUCH ATO – MUSIC BY SOLOMON GOLUB, ARR. JOSHUA JACOBSON AND  
LYRICS BY AVROM REIZN***

Sung by Virtual Cantors & Friends Choir

“Boruch Ato” sang my father as he blessed the lights.  
Shadows dancing, soul entrancing, glowing through the night.

Now the fire, glowing higher, shines into his eyes.  
Dear old father, blessed father, how your spirits rise.

Ancient prayers, holy airs, echo through the years.  
I remember voices tender, whispers in my ears.

Songs of yore, sound no more. No! This song shall not die!  
Sing, dear father, Boruch Ato, I am still your child.

“Boruch Ato” sang my father as he blessed the lights.  
Shadows dancing, soul entrancing, glowing through the night.