

Bar'chu
Yotzeir
 Ahavah Rabbah
 Shima
 V'ahava
 Lmaan tizk'ru
 Vayomer Adonai
 Emet v'Yatziv
 Mi Chamochah

P Throughout the history of the Reform Movement, changes have been made in the prayers in order to remove beliefs that we no longer feel are meaningful. In the last two prayerbooks, *The Union Prayer Book* and *Gates of Prayer*, the line **אור חדש על ציון תאיר** *Or chadash al Tzion ta-ir* ("Shine a new light upon Zion [Israel]") was taken out. However, the editors of *Mishkan T'filah* chose to put this line back into the *Yotzeir*. Why do you think they made this choice? What new light do you think they are envisioning?

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי
 אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מְלֵךְ הָעוֹלָם,
 יוֹצֵר אוֹר וּבוֹרֵא חֹשֶׁךְ,
 עֹשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם וּבוֹרֵא אֶת־הַכֹּל.
 הַמְאִיר לְאֶרֶץ
 וְלְדָרִים עֲלֶיהָ בְּרַחֲמִים,
 וּבְטוֹבוֹ מְחַדֵּשׁ בְּכֹל יוֹם תָּמִיד
 מַעֲשֵׂה בְּרָאשִׁית.
 מַה רַבּוֹ מַעֲשָׂיֶיךָ, יי,
 כָּל־סֵם בְּחֻכְמָה עֲשִׂיתָ,
 מְלֵאָה הָאָרֶץ קִנְיָנֶיךָ.
 תַּתְּבָרֵךְ, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ,
 עַל שְׁבַח מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֶיךָ
 וְעַל מְאֹרֵי אוֹר שְׁעֲשִׂיתָ,
 וְפְאָרֶיךָ סֵלָה.
 אוֹר חֹדֶשׁ עַל צִיּוֹן תְּאִיר,
 וְנִזְכָּה כָּל־נוֹ מִתְּהַרָה לְאוֹרוֹ.
 בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי, יוֹצֵר הַמְּאוֹרוֹת.

בְּרַכּוּ
יוֹצֵר
 אַהֲבָה רַבָּה
 שִׁמָּה
 וְאֲהָבָה
 לְמַעַן תִּזְכְּרוּ
 וְיֹאמְרוּ יי
 אֱמֶת וְיִצְיִב
 מִי־חֻמְחָה

PRAISED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe,
 Creator of light and darkness, who makes peace and fashions all things.
 In mercy, You illumine the world and those who live upon it.
 In Your goodness You daily renew creation.
 How numerous are Your works, Adonai!
 In wisdom, You formed them all, filling the earth with Your creatures.
 Be praised, Adonai our God, for the excellent work of Your hands,
 and for the lights You created, may they glorify You.
 Shine a new light upon Zion, that we all may swiftly merit its radiance.
 Praised are You, Adonai, Creator of all heavenly lights.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי, יוֹצֵר הַמְּאוֹרוֹת.

אור חדש על ציון תאיר *Or chadash al Tzion ta-ir* . . . *Shine a new light upon Zion* . . .
 Classical Reform prayerbook authors in the Diaspora consistently omitted this line with its mention of Zion from the liturgy because of their opposition to Jewish nationalism. With the restoration of this passage to *Mishkan T'filah*, our movement consciously affirms its devotion to the modern State of Israel and signals its recognition of the religious significance of the reborn Jewish commonwealth. *David Ellenson*

יוצר אור ובורא חושך . . . *Baruch atah, Adonai . . . yotzeir or uvorei choshech* . . .
Praised are You, Adonai . . . Who forms light and creates darkness . . . based on Isaiah 45:7

מה רבו *Mah rabu* . . . *How numerous* . . . *Psalm 104:24*