O God, You are as near as
the very air we breathe,
yet farther than the farthest star.
We yearn to reach You.
We seek the light and warmth of Your Presence.
Though we say You are near,
we are lonely and alone.
O let our desire be so strong
that it will tear the veil that keeps You from our sight!
Let Your light release our darkness
and reveal the glory and joy of Your Presence.
Baruch atah, Adonai, hamsofik avrim.

On that night of stars
my childhood sought
the Creator of the universe.
The years that stream on like water . . .
neither pain
nor person
can make me forget
distances
that are beyond all distance.

The image of light is a crucial reminder that even in the darkest moments of night, God continues to reassure us and renew us just as the sun rises each day. — SEAMAN ZACHAR

PRAISED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe,
who speaks the evening into being,
skillfully opens the gates,
thoughfully alters the time and changes the seasons,
and arranges the stars in their heavenly courses according to plan.
You are Creator of day and night;
rolling light away from darkness and darkness from light,
transforming day into night and distinguishing one from the other.
Adonai Tzevao is Your name.
Ever-living God, may You reign continually over us into eternity.
Praise to You, Adonai, who brings on evening.
Baruch atah, Adonai, hamsofik avrim.

This image of light is one of the many names that help elucidate God’s attributes. We see God as cosmic designer, creator, and arranger of the universe with order and purpose.