

Contents

Preface	ix
Introduction	xiii
Abbreviations and Page Number References	xxiii
Weekdays	1
Introduction to Weekday Services	3
<i>Modeh Ani</i> : Giving Thanks upon Awakening	7
<i>Mah Tov</i> : Entering a Place of Prayer	9
<i>Asher Yatzar</i> : Our Bodily Needs	12
<i>Elohai N'shamah</i> : For Our Souls	14
<i>Birhot HaShachar</i> : The Morning Blessings	16
<i>Laasok B'divrei Torah</i> : Blessings before Torah Study	22
<i>Eilu D'varim</i> : The Study of Torah Is Equal to Them All	24
<i>Kaddish D'Rabanan</i> : The Praise of God after Study	26
<i>P'sukei D'zimrah (Z'mirot)</i> : Verses of Song	28
<i>Baruch She-amar</i> : The Blessing before Verses of Song	30
Psalm 145: <i>Ashrei</i> , Three Times a Day	30
Psalm 150: Let All That Breathes Praise God!	32
<i>Yishtabach Shimcha</i> : The Weekday Blessing after Verses of Song	33
<i>Chatzi Kaddish</i> : The Praise of God as Service Marker	35
<i>Bar'chu</i> : The Call to Worship	37
<i>K'riat Sh'ma</i> : The Recitation of the <i>Sh'ma</i>	40
<i>Sh'ma</i> Performance Practices: To Stand? To Sit?	43
The Morning <i>Sh'ma</i> Blessings	46
<i>Yotzeir Or</i> : "Creator of Light"	46
<i>Ahavah Rabbah</i> : "Abundant Love"—The Torah Blessing	48
<i>Emet V'yatziv</i> : "True and Enduring"—The Blessing after Torah	50
The Evening <i>Sh'ma</i> Blessings	54
<i>Maariv Aravim</i> : "Bringer of Twilight"	55

<i>Ahavat Olam</i> and <i>Emet Ve-emunah</i> : “Everlasting Love” and “True and Trustworthy”—The Blessings Surrounding Torah	55
<i>Hashkiveinu</i> : “Grant That We May Lie Down in Peace”— The Evening Prayer	57
Introduction to the <i>T’filah</i> :	
The Core of the Jewish Worship Service	59
The Weekday <i>T’filah</i>	62
First Benediction: <i>Avot V’Imahot</i> — Invoking the Merits of Our Ancestors	62
Second Benediction: <i>G’vurot</i> —God’s Mighty Acts <i>Mishkan T’filah</i> and <i>M’chayei Hameitim</i>	64
Third Benediction: <i>K’dushat HaShem</i> —God’s Holiness and the <i>K’dushah</i> (“Sanctification”)	70
The Weekday Petitions	72
First Closing Benediction: <i>Avodah</i> — For the Acceptance of Worship	74
Second Closing Benediction: <i>Hodaah</i> —Gratitude	76
Third Closing Benediction: <i>Shalom</i> —Peace/Well-Being	78
The Private Prayer after the <i>T’filah</i> : <i>Elohai N’tzor</i> — “My God, Guard My Speech from Evil”	80
Weekday Torah Service	83
Concluding Prayers	87
<i>Aleinu</i>	87
Meditations before the Mourner’s <i>Kaddish</i>	92
The Mourner’s <i>Kaddish</i>	94
Closing Hymns: <i>Adon Olam</i> , <i>Yigdal</i> , <i>Ein K’Eloheinu</i>	99
Weekday Afternoon and Evening Services	102
Shabbat	105
Introduction to Shabbat Services	107
Erev Shabbat <i>Kabbalat Panim</i> :	
Welcoming the Congregation before Welcoming Shabbat	109
<i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> : Welcoming the Sabbath	112

Overview	112
Psalms 95–99, 29	115
<i>L'cha Dodi</i> : Greeting the Bride	117
Psalms 92–93: The Psalm for the Sabbath Day	119
<i>Shalom Aleichem</i> : A Mystical Greeting of the Shabbat Angels	122
The Erev Shabbat Service and the Verses of the Day: <i>V'shamru</i>	124
The Erev Shabbat <i>T'filah</i>	125
The Abbreviated <i>T'filah</i> for Erev Shabbat: <i>Magein Avot V'Imahot</i> — Shield of Our Ancestors	127
The Shabbat Morning Service	130
Psalm 92: A Song for Shabbat	130
<i>Nishmat Kol Chai</i> : The Praise-Song of All Creation	131
Changes in the Shabbat Morning <i>T'filah</i>	133
<i>Seder K'riat HaTorah L'Shabbat</i> : Reading the Torah on Shabbat	135
<i>Seder Hotzaat HaTorah</i> : Removing the Torah from the Ark	135
The Left-Page Additional Texts	138
Torah Blessings	140
Blessings for Those Called to the Torah	143
Haftarah Reading and Its Blessings	144
<i>Seder Hachnasat HaTorah</i> : Returning the Torah to the Ark	146
Prayers for the Community	147
Shabbat Afternoon Service: <i>Atah Echad</i> —“You Are One”	153
<i>Havdalah</i> : Distinguishing between the Sacred and the Ordinary	155
Festivals and Seasons	159
Introduction to the Festivals	161
The Jewish Calendar—and Reform Options	163
The Festival Liturgy: An Overview	169
Festival Evening Service: Opening Readings	172
<i>Kabbalat Panim</i> for Festivals	174
Verses of the Season	176
The Festival <i>T'filah</i>	177
Counting the <i>Omer</i>	180

Festival Morning Service: Opening Readings	183
Psalm 100	184
Festival Morning Service <i>T'filah</i>	
Insertions for Rain and Dew	186
Blessings over the <i>Lulav</i> and Sukkot Customs	188
<i>Hallel</i> : Festival Psalms of Praise	190
The Three <i>M'gilot</i> for the Festivals	196
Festival Additions to the Torah Service	198
<i>Seder K'riat HaTorah</i> on Simchat Torah	200
<i>Yizkor</i> Memorial Prayers	203
Seasonal Inserts in the Weekday Liturgy	207
The <i>T'filah</i> Occasional Insert in the <i>Avodah</i> Benediction:	
<i>Yaaleh V'yavo</i> —For God's Attentiveness during Festivals	210
Marking the Historic Events of Our Times:	
Yom HaShoah	212
Yom HaZikaron	215
Yom HaAtzma-ut	216
Blessings for the Home and Synagogue	217
Songs and Hymns	220
For Further Reading	221
Notes	231