



My People's Prayer Book, Vol. 8: Kabbalat Shabbat (Welcoming Shabbat in the Synagogue)

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"The prayer book is our Jewish diary of the centuries, a collection of prayers composed by generations of those who came before us, as they endeavored to express the meaning of their lives and their relationship to God. The prayer book is the essence of the Jewish soul."

This stunning work, an empowering entryway to the spiritual revival of our times, enables all of us to claim our connection to the heritage of the traditional Jewish prayer book. It helps rejuvenate Jewish worship in today's world, and makes its power accessible to all.

Vol. 8?Kabbalat Shabbat (Welcoming Shabbat in the Synagogue) features the authentic Hebrew text with a new translation designed to let people know exactly what the prayers say. Introductions tell the reader what to look for in the prayer service, as well as how to truly use the commentaries and to search for?and find?meaning in the prayer book.

Framed with beautifully designed Talmud-style pages, commentaries from many of today's most respected Jewish scholars from all movements of Judaism examine *Kabbalat Shabbat* from the perspectives of ancient Rabbis and modern theologians, as well as feminist, halakhic, Talmudic, linguistic, biblical, Chasidic, mystical, and historical perspectives.

Contributors include:

Marc Brettler • Elliot N. Dorff • David Ellenson • Ellen Frankel • Alyssa Gray • Joel M. Hoffman • Lawrence A. Hoffman • Reuven Kimelman • Sharon Koren • Lawrence Kushner • Daniel Landes • Nehemia Polen • Wendy I. Zierler

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Review

"Excellent.... Stimulating."

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?*Louisville Community*

"Absolutely fascinating."

?*Liberal Judaism*

About the Author

Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman, PhD, has served for more than three decades as professor of liturgy at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. He is a world-renowned liturgist and holder of the Stephen and Barbara Friedman Chair in Liturgy, Worship and Ritual. His work combines research in Jewish ritual, worship and spirituality with a passion for the spiritual renewal of contemporary Judaism.

His many books, written and edited, include seven volumes in the *Prayers of Awe* series: *Who by Fire, Who by Water?* Un'taneh Tokef; *All These Vows?* Kol Nidre; *We Have Sinned: Sin and Confession in Judaism?* Ashamnu and Al Chet; *May God Remember: Memory and Memorializing in Judaism?* Yizkor; *All the World: Universalism, Particularism and the High Holy Days*; *Naming God: Avinu Malkeinu?* Our Father, Our King; and *Encountering God: El Rachum V'chanun?* God Merciful and Gracious. Hoffman also edited the ten-volume series *My People's Prayer Book: Traditional Prayers, Modern Commentaries*, winner of the National Jewish Book Award; and coedited *My People's Passover Haggadah: Traditional Texts, Modern Commentaries*, a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award (all Jewish Lights).

Rabbi Hoffman cofounded and developed Synagogue 2/3000, a transdenominational project to envision and implement the ideal synagogue of the spirit for the twenty-first century. In that capacity, he wrote *Rethinking Synagogues: A New Vocabulary for Congregational Life* (Jewish Lights).

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