

An Immigrant's Prayer for Our Country

BASED ON "RIBON KOL HA-OLAMIM," A PRAYER BY RABBI MAX LILIENTHAL (1846)

TRANSLATED BY JONATHAN SARNA

ADAPTED BY RABBI BETH KALISCH



Master of the Universe,
Who extends peace like a river,
and like a rapid stream the glory of nations:

Look down from Your holy dwelling and bless this land,
the United States of America, where we dwell.

Let not violence be heard in this land,
nor devastation and destruction within its boundaries,
but You shall call its walls "Salvation" and its gates "Praise."

Ordain blessings upon our leaders.
Teach them the good way wherein they should walk
so as to judge the entire people rightly,
the entire nation justly,
and all will see it and delight themselves from the abundance of peace.

Grant peace, goodness and a blessing on all the inhabitants of the land,
that we may lie down with none to make us afraid.
Remove from us every illness and affliction.
Guide us always,
satisfy our soul in times of drought,
give strength to our bones.

And we shall be like a well-watered garden,
like a spring whose waters do not fail.
Let America go from strength to strength.

May this be Your will, and let us say, Amen.

[Original version in Hebrew and English](#)

[Article by Jonathan Sarna about the prayer](#)