

Zacharti Lach

Egalitarian Minyan

Singer: Natalie Grazin

זְכַרְתִּי לָךְ חֶסֶד נְעוּרַיִךְ אֶהְבֵּת כְּלוּלֹתַיִךְ
לְכַתֵּךְ אַחֲרַי בַּמִּדְבָּר בְּאַרְץ לֹא זְרוּעָה.
וְנֹאמַר: וְזַכַּרְתִּי אֲנִי אֶת בְּרִיתִי אֹתְךָ בְּיָמֵי נְעוּרַיִךְ
וְהִקִּימוֹתִי לָךְ בְּרִית עוֹלָם.
וְנֹאמַר: הֲבֵן יִקִּיר לִי אֶפְרַיִם אִם יִלְדָּ שְׁעֵשׂוּעִים
כִּי מִדֵּי דַבְּרֵי בּוֹ זָכַר אֶזְכְּרֶנּוּ עוֹד
עַל כֵּן הִמּוּ מֵעַי לוֹ רַחֵם אֶרְחַמֶנּוּ, נָא אִם יֵי

**Zacharti lach chesed ne'urayich ahavat ke'lulotayich
Lechtech acharai bamidbar b'erezt lo zeru'ah
V'ne'emar: V'zacharti ani et b'riti otach bi'y'mei ne'urayich
Va'hakimoti lach b'rit olam.
V'ne'emar: Ha'ven yakir li Efrayim im yeled sha'a'shu'im
Ki midei dabri bo zachor ezkerenu od
Al ken hamu me'ai lo rachem arachamenu, ne'um Adonai**

(Thus says the Lord:)

*I remember your youthful devotion, the love of your bridal days
How you followed me through the wilderness through a land unsown.
I will remember the covenant I made with you in the days of your youth;
I will establish an everlasting covenant with you.
Is it because Efraim is my favourite son, my beloved child?
As often as I speak of him I remember him fondly.
My heart yearns for him, I will have pity on him, says the Lord.*

These words are sung during Musaf, evoking the theme of "Remembrance" - another name for Rosh Hashanah is Yom Ha-Zikaron, the Day of Remembrance. The paragraph is a compilation of different verses from Torah, about God remembering His people. The first section is from Jeremiah 2:2, the second from Ezekiel 16:60, and the third from Jeremiah 31:19