Welcome to our Friday Shabes gathering – a time to reflect, relax and connect.

Shabes: the first worker’s holiday!

The seventh day is the Sabbath. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor the foreigner within your gates, so that your manservant and maidservant may rest, as you do. --Deuteronomy 5:14

On Shabes we also recognize essential workers, who often labor at more than one job, those the hardest hit by this plague. They often work throughout the entire week. While we are dedicated to changing this inequity, let us appreciate and keep close the awareness that tonight we have the time to be able to gather together in community.

Blessings
We celebrate Shabes in some of the languages Jews have spoken throughout our history.

Blessing over the candles

The Lighting of the Shabes candles marks the transition from the every-day to a special day, from struggling to create the world as it should be to enjoying the beauty in the world as it is. It is a moment rich with spiritual reflection. As we light these candles, we encourage everyone to hold in your mind the thought of one thing that you find beauty in or appreciate about the world as it is - this could be a person, a relationship, a place, or a moment in time.

In Hebrew we say

Boruch Atah Adonoi Elohenu Melech ho'olom
asher kedshani b'mitzvasev vetsivanu l'hadlik ner shel shabbat.

In Ladino we say

Bendicho tu Adonay, nuestro Dio, Rey de el mundo
Ke nos santifiko kon sus enkomendansas
i nos enkomendo por ensender los kandelas de Shabbat

**In Yiddish we say**

Likhtik iz di shayn fun der velt,
Likhtik iz di shayn fun mentshlekhkayt,
Likhtik iz di shayn fun sholem,
Likhtik iz di shayn fun shabes.

**In English that means:**

Radiant is the light in the world,
Radiant is the light in humanity,
Radiant is the light of peace,
Radiant is the light of Shabes.

**Six Days**

Six days we talk
   Tonight we listen
Six days we build
   Tonight we rest
Six days we take care of others
   Tonight we nurture ourselves
Six days we work to change our world
   Tonight we are renewed by what is eternal
Six days we plan for the future
   Tonight we are enveloped in the present
Six days we eat and drink in haste
   Tonight we savor the taste of bread and wine and feel the bond of the world that feeds us
Six days we teach
   Tonight we learn
Six days we hear the clamor
   Tonight we listen for clarity
Six days we struggle to expand our influence
   Tonight we are dissolved in a greater influence
Six days we focus our vision on the task at hand
   Tonight we look beyond what we can see

/[Together]/
May each of us find our Sabbath peace.

**Blessing over the wine**

**In Hebrew we say**
Boruch Atah Adonoi Elohenu Melekh ho’olom
Bo’re pri hagofen.

In Ladino we say
Bendicho el Dio alto con su grasia mos manque vino a nos y a todos Yisrael

In Yiddish we say
Lomir bagrisn dem shabes mit dankshaft un teyln zikh mit der frukht funem vayn.

In English that means
As we come to week’s end, we are grateful that we can share the fruit of the vine together.

SMALL GROUP sharing. This is a time for us to spend some time reflecting together as a community.

Blessing over the challah

In Hebrew we say
Boruch Atah Adonoi Elohenu Melekh ho’olom
hamotzi lekhem min ha’aretz.

In Ladino we say
Bendicho sos Tu, Sinyor, ke azes salir pan de la tierra.

In Yiddish we say
Loytn yidishn mineg, teyln mir khale, di frukht fun der erd.

In English that means
In the tradition of our people, we share bread, the fruit of the earth.

In Closing
As the great doors of night are opening
We are welcomed into the clean quiet room of Shabes

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The next Boston Workers Circle Shabes gathering will be on _____
A donation of $5-10 is appreciated to cover some of the cost of the Shabes gathering.
To contact the Committee: shabes-committee@googlegroups.com

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