

# לְכָה דוּדִי

## *L'cha Dodi*

This blessing is said toward the beginning of a Shabbat service to welcome in Shabbat.

L'cha dodi means come my friend.

L'cha dodi is a love poem to God and was written about 500 years ago making it one of the newest prayers permanently added to our Shabbat service. We have included four of the nine verses. Some synagogues use two tunes to sing this prayer since it is very long.

L'cha dodi likrat kala, p'nei Shabbat  
n'kab'lah!

לְכָה דוּדִי לְקִרְאֵת כַּלָּה. פְּנֵי שַׁבָּת נִקְבְּלָה :

Shamor v'zachor b'dibur echad,  
Hishmi'anu el hamyuhad.  
Adonai echad u'shmo echad;  
L'shem ul'tiferet v'lit'hila.

שְׁמֹר וְזָכוֹר בְּדַבּוּר אֶחָד,  
הִשְׁמִיעֵנוּ אֵל הַמְיֻחָד .  
יְיָ אֶחָד וּשְׁמוֹ אֶחָד .  
לְשֵׁם וּלְתִפְאֵרֶת וּלְתִהְיֶה :

Likrat Shabbat l'chu v'nelcha,  
Ki hi m'kor ha'bracha.  
Me'rosh mi'kedem n'sucha;  
Sof ma'aseh b'mach'shava t'chila.

לְקִרְאֵת שַׁבָּת לְכוּ וְנִלְכָה .  
כִּי הִיא מְקוֹר הַבְּרָכָה .  
מֵרֵאשׁ מִקְדָּם נְסוּכָה .  
סוֹף מַעֲשֵׂה בְּמַחְשָׁבָה תְּחִלָּה :

Hit'oreri, hit'oreri,  
Ki va orech, kumi ori.  
Uri, uri, shir daberi;  
K'vod Adonai alai'yich nigla.

הִתְעוֹרְרִי הִתְעוֹרְרִי .  
כִּי בָּא אֲרִיךְ קוּמִי אֲוִרִי .  
עוֹרִי עוֹרִי שִׁיר דַּבְּרִי .  
כְּבוֹד יְיָ עָלֶיךָ נִגְלָה .

Bo'i v'shalom, ateret ba'ala,  
Gam b'simcha uv' tzahala.  
Toch emunei am segula;  
Bo'i chala, bo'i chala.

בּוֹאִי בְּשָׁלוֹם עֲטֶרֶת בַּעֲלָה .  
גַּם בְּשִׂמְחָה וּבְצִהְלָה .  
תּוֹךְ אֲמוּנֵי עַם סִגְלָה .  
בּוֹאִי כַּלָּה, בּוֹאִי כַּלָּה :

O, come, my friend, let's greet the bride,  
the Sabbath Presence bring inside.

“Keep” and “Remember” in a sole command  
the solitary God did us command  
“I AM!” is one, the Name is one,  
in name, in splendor, and in praise

Toward the Sabbath, come, make haste,  
for she has every blessing's taste,  
ordained at first, and long ago,  
the last thing made, the first in mind.

Arouse yourself, arouse yourself,  
your light has come, arise and shine,  
awake, awake, pour forth your song,  
on you now shines the Glorious One.

O, come in peace, O divine crown,  
with joy, rejoicing, and with mirth,  
amid the faithful, loved by God,  
come in, O bride, come in, O bride!