

עַל הַנְּסִים וְעַל הַפְּרָקוֹן, וְעַל הַגְּבוּרוֹת וְעַל הַתְּשׁוּעוֹת, וְעַל הַמְּלַחְמוֹת  
שֶׁעָשִׂיתָ לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ וְלְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ בְּיָמֵים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנָה הַזֶּה

בְּיָמֵי הַתְּנוּעָה לְזִכְיוֹת הָאִזְרָח בְּאַמְרִיקָה, קָמָה קָהֵלֶת הַגָּאִים לְהִלָּחֵם עַל  
הַכְּבוֹד וְהַצְּדָק הַמְּגִיעִים לְכָל בְּנֵי וּבָנוֹת אָנוּשׁ, בְּשִׁמְחָלְלֵי שְׂמֵךְ/שְׂמָה,  
בְּטַעֲנַתָּם שֶׁהֵם שׁוֹנְאִים בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה, עָמְדוּ נֶגֶד בְּנֵיךְ/בְּנֵיךָ וּבָנוֹתֶיךָ/וּבָנוֹתֶיךָ  
לְהַשְׁפִּילֵם וְלְאַסְרֵם, לְהַשְׁמִידֵם וְלִמְחַקֵּם, וּבְרַחֲמֶיךָ/וּבְרַחֲמֶיךָ הַרְבִּים  
עָמַדְתָּ/תָּ לָהֶם בְּעַת צָרָתָם, רַבַּת/תָּ אֶת רִיבָם, דָּנַת/תָּ אֶת דִּינָם, חִזְקַת/תָּ  
אֶת לִבָּם לְעַמֵּד בְּיַחַד, לְפַקֵּחַ אֶת עֵינֵיהֶם וְאֶת עֵינֵי הָעוֹלָם, לְהַבִּין שֶׁהַחַרּוֹת  
וְהַזְּכוּת לְאַהֲבַת שִׁכּוֹת לְכָל יְצִירוֹתֶיךָ/יְצִירוֹתֶיךָ. חִזְקַת/תָּ אוֹתָם וְאוֹתָנוּ כְּדֵי  
שֶׁנִּכְלֵם לְרֵאוֹת נִפְלְאוֹת וְלַעֲשׂוֹת נְסִים, לְהִיּוֹת אֲשֶׁר נִהְיָה וְלְאַהֲבַת אֶת מִי  
שֶׁנִּשְׂאָהֵב, לֹא בְּצֵל מְגוּרֵינוּ אֲלָא בְּאוֹר הַחַיִּים, לְחַיּוֹת כִּיְהוּדִים בְּחִיק הַקְּהֵלָה,  
לְקַדֵּשׁ אֶת אַחוּדֵינוּ וְלִשֵׁשׁ עֲלֵינוּ וְעֲלֶיךָ/וְעֲלֶיךָ. אָבֹן מְאֹסוֹ הַבוֹנִים הִיְתָה  
לְרֵאשׁ פְּנֵה. וְלֹא נְבוּשׁ וְלֹא נִכְלָם לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

We thank You for the miraculous deliverance, for the heroism and for the triumphs in battle of our ancestors in other days, and in our time. In the wake of the civil rights movement lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender people began to organize for the dignity and justice that all of us are due as human beings on this earth. Those who profane your name, claiming that they hate us in the name of God, rose up to criminalize us, pathologize us, brutalize us, and erase us. And You in your great mercy stood with us in the time of our troubles. You fought alongside us, vindicated us, gave us the courage to stand together, to open our eyes and the eyes of the world around us, to see that the freedom and the right to love belongs to all of your creations. You have given us the strength to witness and create wonders, to be who we are and to love whom we love not only in the safety of our homes but outside in the light of the world, to live as Jews in the embrace of community, to sanctify our unions and celebrate ourselves before each other and before You. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. May we never know shame again.

*Al hanisim* prayers of gratitude were created for Purim and Chanukah, neither of which is mentioned in the Five Books of the Torah. Another *al hanisim* was written in the twentieth century to celebrate Israel's independence. This prayer was written in that tradition to express gratitude for the triumph of the human spirit with divine help to overcome oppression. — Ayelet S. Cohen