

מאתה היתה זאת היא נפלאה בעינינו  
She is a gift from God and a wonder in our eyes

Naming of  
Laurel Ana Patricia  
Dafna Chana  
8 November 1997  
8 Heshvan 5758

Congregation:

ברוכה הבאה בשם יי

*B'ruchah ha-ba-ah b'sheim Adonai*

May she who enters be blessed in the name of the Lord.

Blessed are all who come here on this happy occasion, this simcha.

Barbara: These words welcome Laurel into the holy covenant, the brit, made between God and Israel at Mount Sinai. They are the same words which have been spoken to untold generations of Jews throughout history. Our sources emphasize that the entire Jewish people, women and men, children and infants, born and unborn, were included in the revelation of the law and in its affirmation. To understand this covenant and to live meaningfully by it has always been the sacred endeavor of each Jew in every generation. As we give this child her Hebrew name, we link her with every other Jewish child who was born and who will be born. We give thanks for the opportunity to bring Laurel into this everlasting covenant.

Rebecca : I did not plant you, true,  
But when the season is done,  
When the alternate prayers  
For sun and for rain are counted,  
When the pain of weeding  
And the pride of watching are through,  
I will hold you high.  
A shining sheaf  
Above the thousand seeds grown wild.  
Not by my planting,  
But by heaven,  
My harvest.  
My own child.  
(Anonymous)

### KIDDUSH

Rebecca: On this Shabbat of joy, we share this cup of wine in thankfulness for the fullness of life's blessings.

ברוך אתה יי אל הינו מלך העולם.  
בורא פרי הגפן.

*Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, E-lo-heinu me-lech  
ha-o-lam, bo-rei p'ree ha-ga-fen.*

Barbara: The Eternal is your Guardian, your shade upon your right hand. May he grant you length of days, years full of life and peace. May he guard you from every evil and protect your soul. Amen.

Rebecca : בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם. אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ  
לְהַכְנִיסָהּ בְּבְרִיתָם שֶׁל אַבְרָהָם וְשָׂרָה.

*Barukh attah adonai eloheinu melech ha'olam, asher kideshanu bemitzvotav v'tzivanu lehakhnisah bivritam shel avraham v'sarah.*

Blessed are you God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us with the commandments and commanded us to enter my daughter into the Covenant of Abraham and Sarah.

Participant: As this little child has touched the Torah, so may the Torah touch her life, filling her mind with wisdom, and her heart with understanding. May this mother who has brought her here today always strive to bring her close to the ways of God and of our people. May she teach Torah every day through her words and her deeds. May she raise her daughter to a joyful life of learning, and to deeds of loving kindness.

Participant: I will lift up my hands and reach out to your commandments which I love. Your laws will be on my lips. (Psalms 119:48)

Participant: How precious is Your constant love, O God; You shelter us under your wings. (Psalms 36:8)

Participant: Let all my being praise the Lord Who is clothed in splendor and majesty; wrapped in light like a garment, unfolding the heavens like a curtain. You send forth Your spirit and there is creation. You renew the face of the earth. (Psalms 104:1, 30)

Participant: May God give you of the dew of heaven and the fatness of the earth. (Genesis 27:28)

Participant: You have transformed my lament into dancing; You undid my sackcloth and girded me in joy (Psalms 30:12) Blessed are You, our God, Sovereign of the universe, who redeems us from anguish.

Congregation:

כָּשֶׁם שֶׁנִּכְנְסָה לְבְרִית.                      *K'shem she nich-n'sah la brit, kein ti'ka'nes*  
כֵּן תִּכְנַס לְתוֹרָה וּלְחֻפָּה וּלְמַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים.                      *l'torah ul-chu-pah ul-ma-asim to-vim*

As she has entered the covenant, so may she enter a life devoted to Torah, chupah, and the accomplishments of good deeds.

Rebecca : I dedicate my child to *torah*—to a neverending fascination with study and learning. With a book, she will never be alone.

I dedicate my child to *chupah*—to neverending growth as a human being, capable of giving and receiving love. With loving family and friends, she will never be alone.

I dedicate my child to *ma-asim tovim*, to a neverending concern for family and community, justice and charity. While she cares for others, she will never be alone.

Barbara: In contemplating this child, we contemplate a miracle. She is a miracle of renewal, a new start, a new opportunity. The cycle of life continues. In the presence of this company and Adonai, our God and God of our mothers and fathers, we declare that from this eighth day of Heshvan, 5758, corresponding to the eighth day of November, 1997, this child shall be known in the