

"I said to the almond tree, 'Sister, speak to me of God.' And the almond tree blossomed." - Nikos Kazantzakis

Songs for a Tu B'Shvat Seder

Congregation Shir Tikvah

Introduced 5769/2009



TZADDIK KATAMAR

Psalm 92

Tzaddik katamar yifrakh, yifrakh
Tzaddik katamar yifrakh
Ke'erez bal'vanon yisgeh
Ke'erez bal'vanon yisgeh,
Ke'erez bal'vanon yisgeh, yisgeh

צדיק כתמר יפרח יפרח
צדיק כתמר יפרח
שגה.כארז בלבנון י
שגה.כארז בלבנון י

FOR WINTER

SEND RAIN

In-muhtoo Yah-lat-lat
(Young Chief Joseph, Nez Perce,
Eastern Oregon)
Adapted by J.D. Kleinke

That all people, may be one people,
Send rain to wash...
The face of the earth.

With one sky above us, and one earth below
The trees watch and listen...
To all that we do.

FOR SPRING

GOD BLESS THE GRASS

Malvina Reynolds
Adapted by Pete Seeger

God bless the grass
that grows through the crack.
They roll the concrete over it
To try and keep it back.
The concrete gets tired of what it has to do,
It breaks and it buckles
And the grass grows through
And God bless the grass.

God bless the truth
That fights toward the sun,
They roll the lies over it
And think that it is done
It moves through the ground
And reaches for the air,
And after a while it is growing everywhere,
And God bless the grass.

God bless the grass
That breaks through cement
It's green and its tender and it's easily bent,
But after a while it lifts up its head,
For the grass is living
And the stone is dead.
And God bless the grass.

God bless the grass that's gentle and low
Its roots they are deep and its will is to grow.
And God bless the truth,
the friend of the poor,
And the wild grass
Growing at the poor man's door,
And God bless the grass

FOR SUMMER

BRANCHING OUT

John Gorka

When I grow up I want to be a tree
Want to make my home with the birds and
the bees
And the squirrels, they can count on me
When I grow up to be a tree

I'm gonna reach, I'm gonna reach
I'm gonna reach, reach for the sky
I'm gonna reach, I'm gonna reach
I'm gonna reach, till I know why

I'll let my joints get stiff,
Put my feet in the ground
Take the winters off - and settle down
Keep my clothes - till they turn brown
When I grow up I'm gonna settle down

When the spring comes by
I'm gonna get real green
If the dogs come by I'm gonna get real mean
On windy days, I'll bend and lean
When I grow up I'm gonna get real green



FOR AUTUMN

VINE & FIG TREE

Book of Micah

And every one 'neath their vine and fig tree
Shall live in peace and unafraid
And every one 'neath their vine and fig tree
Shall live in peace and unafraid

And into plowshares turn their swords,
Nations shall learn war no more
And into plowshares turn their swords,
Nations shall learn war no more