

Adonai S'fatai Tiftakh

אֲדֹנָי שְׁפָתַי תִּפְתָּח וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתְךָ:

A-do-nai s'fa-tai tif-takh u-fi ya-gid t'hi-la-te-kha.

My Liege, open my lips that my mouth may declare Your praise.

D'rash

My Liege, open my lips that my mouth may declare Your praise—*May these words, before reading the Amidah silently, bolster our kavvanah (focused intention) when our community's combined voices, and the spiritual nourishment they provide, recedes.*

Iyun Tefilla

LIPSERVICE

My Master,
Adonai,
By this name
I call You
As did Your prophets.
By this name I ask:
Please open my lips.
Open my heart
To Your will.
For to praise You
And not to serve
Is to praise nothingness,
And to make a god
Of words,
While You,
Master of all worlds,
Have no need
For words
Alone.
Nora t'hilot
They sang
At the edge of the sea,
Fearing to praise.
And I too fear
To praise You,
Without deeds.
Unless I can count
Myself among the servants,
I will not praise
At all.

Go to <http://www.gatherthepeople.org> for more congregational development and organizing tools.

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