

EL ADON...

El Adon is an alephbetically arranged poem: it is thought that because of the holiness of the Hebrew alephbet, it shows much honor and glory to G-d to pray a prayer which begins each line with the letters in order.

אֵל אֲדוֹן עַל כָּל הַמַּעֲשִׂים ,

El A-don' al kol ha-ma-a-sim',
G-d Master over all the works ,

בָּרוּךְ וּמְבָרָךְ בְּפִי כָל נְשָׁמָה ,

Ba-ruch' u-me-vo-rach' be-fi' kol ne-sha-mah',
Blessed and He is blessed by mouth of every soul ,

גָּדְלוֹ וְטוֹבוֹ מְלֵא עוֹלָם ,

gad-lo' ve-tu-vo' ma-le' o'-lam,
greatness His and goodness His fill universe

דַּעַת וְתְבוּנָה סוֹבְבִים אֹתוֹ .

da'-at u-te-vu-nah' so-ve-vim' O-to'.
knowledge and understanding surround Him

הַמְתַּנַּאֵה עַל חַיּוֹת הַקֹּדֶשׁ ,

ha-mit-ga-eh' al chai-yot' ha-ko'-desh ,
the (One Who) is elevated over living celestial beings the holy
(the holy chaiyot)

וְנִהְדָּר בְּכָבוֹד עַל הַמְרָכָבָה ,

ve-ne-he-dar' be-cha-vod' al ha-mer-ka-vah',
and magnificent in glory above the chariot

זְכוּת וּמִישׁוֹר לְפָנָי כִּסְאוֹ ,

ze-chut' u-mi-shor' lif-nei' chi-so' ,
merit, favor and honesty, righteousness before throne His ,

חֶסֶד וְרַחֲמִים לְפָנָי כְּבוֹדוֹ .

che'-sed ve-ra-cha-mim' lif-nei' che-vo-do'.
kindness and mercies before honor, glory His

טוֹבִים מְאֹד מְאֹד שֶׁבָּרָא אֱלֹהֵינוּ , יִצְרָם

To-vim' me-o-rot' she-ba-ra' E-lo-hei'-nu , ye-tza-ram'
good (are) lights that created G-d our He fashioned them

בְּדַעַת בְּבִינָה וּבְהַשְׂכִּיל , פֶּתַח

be-da'-at be-vi-nah' u-ve-has-kel' , ko'-ach
with knowledge with understanding and with intelligence power

וּגְבוּרָה נָתַן בָּהֶם , לְהִיּוֹת מוֹשְׁלִים

u-ge-vu-rah' na-tan' ba-hem' , li-he-yot' mosh-lim'
and strength He gave in them to be rulers

בְּקֶרֶב תֵּבֵל . מְלֵאִים זֵיו וּמְפִיקִים נִגְהָ ,

be-ke'-rev te-vel'. Me-le-im' ziv u-me-fi-kim' no'-gah ,
in midst of Earth . filled with radiance and bringing out brightness

נִאֵה זֵיוֹם בְּכֹל הָעוֹלָם , שְׂמִיחִים *

na-eh' zi-vam' be-chol' ha-o-lam', se-me-chim'
beautiful radiance their in all the world/universe, happy

* ש (sin) instead of ס (samech) for "s" to prevent the poem from perfection, as only G-d is perfect.

בְּצֵאתָם וְשָׂשִׂים בְּבוֹאָם , עוֹשִׂים בְּאֵימָה

be-tze-tam' ve-sa-sim' be-vo-am', o-sim' be-ei-mah'
in going out their and joyful in coming their doing in fright, awe

רְצוֹן קוֹנָם . פֶּאֶר וְכָבוֹד נוֹתְנִים לְשְׁמוֹ ,

re-tzon' Ko-nam'. Pe-er' ve-cha-vod' no-te-nim' li-she-mo',
will of Maker their. Splendor and glory they give to name His

צִהָלָה וְרָנָה לְזֵכֶר מְלִכּוּתוֹ ,

tzo-ho-lah' ve-ri-nah' le-ze'-cher mal-chu-to',
a shout for joy and a ringing cry for remembrance of kingship His,

קָרָא לְעֵמֶשׁ וַיִּזְרַח אֹר , רָאָה וְהִתְקִין

ka-ra' la-she'-mesh va-yiz-rach' or, ra-ah' ve-hit-kin'
He called to the sun and it shone forth light, He saw and caused to form

צורת הלבנה . שבח נותנים לו

tzu-rat' ha-le-va-nah' . She-vach' no-te-nim' lo
form of the moon. Praise (they) give to Him

כל צבא מרום . תפארת וגדלה ,

kol tze-va' ma-rom'. Tif-e'-ret u-ge-du-lah',
all host of high place (heaven). splendor and greatness

שרפים ואופנים וחיית הקדש ---

se-ra-fim' ve-o-fa-nim' ve-cha-yot' ha-ko'-desh ---
seraphim and ofanim and chayot the holy (the holy chayot)

