

בְּרָכוּ

Root – ב-ר-כ

Meaning – Bless

Words in the prayer with the same root – הַמְבָרֵךְ בְּרָכוּ

בְּרוּךְ

The בְּרָכוּ is found in the beginning of the second section of the Shabbat morning service. This section is called “The Shema and its Blessings.” The section consists of the Shema and blessings both before and after it. The בְּרָכוּ is the first blessing in the section.

Just prior to chanting the בְּרָכוּ worshippers recite a number of prayers and chants to warm up – to prepare to start the service; to prepare to pray.

The בְּרָכוּ signals the beginning of the formal start of the service. It is the official call to the congregation to begin worshipping. The leader of the service formally announces our presence to God and the congregation responds.

The words of the prayer make it clear that we are identifying ourselves with the one God, not just today, but for all time past, present, and future.

Vocabulary and Translation

Praise! - בְּרָכוּ -

Adonai – יי

Forever and Ever –

לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

Bless – בְּרוּךְ -

Translation: Praise God, the one to be blessed!

Blessed is God, the one to be blessed, forever and ever.