בָּרְכוּ

בָּרְכוּ אֶת יְיָ הַמְבֹרָךְ

בָּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְבֹרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

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בָּרְכוּ

Root: ב — ר — כ

Meaning - Bless

Words in the prayer with the same root: בָּרוּךְ הַמְבֹרָךְ בָּרְכוּ

The בָּרְכוּ is found in the beginning of the second section of the Shabbat morning service. This section is called, "The שְׁמַע and its Blessings." The section consists of the שְׁמַע and blessings both before and after it. The בָּרְכוּ is the first blessing in the section.

Just prior to chanting the בָּרְכוּ worshipers recite a number of prayers and special readings to warm up, for the start of the service; to prepare to pray.

The בָּרְכוּ 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 announces our presence to God, and the congregation responds.

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

Vocabulary

*Adonai - יְיָ	bless/praise - בָּרְכוּ
forever and ever - לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד	bless - בָּרוּךְ

Translation

Bless/Praise Adonai, the one to be blessed!
Blessed is Adonai, the one to be blessed, forever and ever.

* יְיָ (with or without vowels) is an abbreviation of יהוה, the name of God in the Torah. We substitute the word "Adonai" for both spellings because the name of God is too powerful and too holy to actually pronounce.

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