

## **Prayer for the Captives**

Each week we sing our people's ancient song of redemption, the melody of freedom that left their lips as they escaped Egyptian slavery. We now sing this melody with a bittersweet feeling-- on one hand we hold the relief and joy of those who have been set free...and we hold the bitter reality of the hostages who are still held captive, whose whereabouts and wellbeing are unknown.

We pray that all those captured be released and reunited with their families. Strengthen their spirit and bring them our prayers that they be protected from all harm.

Grant strength of spirit and courage of heart to all the sons and daughters of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar to release bonds of captivity and allow us all to live in freedom. Amen.

May they imminently be freed so that next Shabbat, reunited with their families, safely returned home, they can again sing this song of freedom.