

Baby Naming: Zoey Penelope Pearl

January 2, 2022

Cantor Danielle Rodnizki

OPENING NIGGUN

WORDS OF WELCOME

A Jewish baby naming ceremony – a *Simchat Bat* – is the celebration of a daughter. We have come together to welcome Zoey, recognize her Jewish heritage and bestow her Hebrew name.

B'ruchah haba'ah b'shem Adonai

Blessed is she who comes in the name of God.

Zot hak'tanah – g'dolah t'hiyeh

This is the child. May she grow to fulfill her destiny.

COVENANT THROUGH TALLIT WRAPPING

Zoey's first months have been filled with many swaddlings, cozy nights wrapped up in her sleep sack. This imagery of wrapping and covering is a symbol of protection and embrace. The Torah is covered; the Shabbat table is covered; indeed, covering someone you love is an intimate expression of caring. As we prepare to bless Zoey and welcome her into the covenant, we wrap her in this tallit as a symbol of our love for her and the hopes that her connection to Jewish tradition will bring her comfort, support, and protection as she grows.

After wrapping:

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, zocheir hab'rit b'atifah batzitzit.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who is mindful of the covenant through being wrapped inside a garment with *tzitzit*.

COVENANT BLESSING

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam,
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hachnisah bivrit am Yisrael.*

Blessed are You, O God, whose presence fills creation,
who has made us holy through Your commandments
and commanded us to bring this child into the Covenant of the people of Israel.

NAMING

*Eloheinu v'Eilohei Avoteinu v'Imoteinu,
kayeim et hayaldah hazot l'aviha ul'imah,
v'yikarei sh'mah b'Yisrael:
Zehava Peliah bat Rosa Ite v'Jason.
Yismach ha'av b'yotzei chalatav
v'tageil imah bif'ri vit'nah.
Zot hak'tanah, g'dolah t'hiyeh.
K'sheim shenichn'sah lab'rit,
kein tikaneis l'torah ul'chuppah ul'ma'asim tovim.*

Our God and God of our mothers and fathers:
Sustain this child through her parents' loving care.
Let her be known among our people Israel by the name
Zehava Peliah bat Rosa Itz'v' Jason,
Zoey Penelope Pearl,
daughter of Andrea and Jason Pearl.
May her name be a source of joy to her,
and inspire her to serve our people and all humankind.
May her parents rejoice in her growth of body and soul.
May she lead a life filled with the blessings of learning and community,
loving relationships,
and the pursuit of good deeds.
And together we say: Amen.

EXPLANATION OF NAME – DANIELLE

- Connection to Zeide Valentin (*Ze'ev*) and Jason's mom, Penny
- Name means "golden miracle"
- Difficulty with conceiving/fertility leading to the birth of this wondrous child

L'CHI LACH - DANIELLE

Segue into SHEHECHEYANU – DANIELLE

A Wish for You, My Daughter - Andrea (on behalf of her and Jason)

If there could only be one thing in life for me to teach you,
I would teach you to love.
To respect others so that you may find respect in yourself.
To learn the value of giving,
so that if ever there comes a time in your life that someone really needs,
you will give.
To act in a manner that you would wish to be treated;
To be proud of yourself.
To laugh and smile as much as you can,
in order to help bring joy back into this world.
To have faith in others;
to be understanding.
To stand tall in this world and to learn to depend on yourself.
To only take from this Earth those things which you really need,
so there will be enough for others.
To not depend on money or material things for your happiness,
but to learn to appreciate the people who love you,
the simply beauty that God gave you
and to find peace and security within yourself.
To you, my daughter, I hope I will teach all these things, for they are love.

Poem of Thanksgiving – Tía & Tío

This gift of new life brings for us
The blessing of being grandparents.
The unsurpassed joy of holding, loving, and nurturing the child of my child.
The pride undeniable in watching the one I raised
Reach this new stage of life;

The satisfaction of knowing that a new generation will carry on
The names and the memories, the spirit and the stories,
The light of generations past.
For all this, we give You thanks, O God.
We pray for the ability to watch [ZOEY] grow.
We pray for good health and long life,
We pray for many years of pride and love.

Ashley

We are grateful for new beginnings,
for the bond of new life that links one generation to another.
Thankful for the blessings of family,
for the love and care that brings meaning and happiness to our lives,
we rejoice at the naming of our niece.

May You Always Have Enough – Jessica

May you always have –
Enough happiness to keep you sweet,
Enough trials to keep you strong,
Enough hope to keep you happy,
Enough failure to keep you humble,
Enough success to keep you eager,
Enough friends to give you comfort,
Enough wealth to meet your needs,
Enough enthusiasm to look forward,
Enough faith to banish depression,
Enough determination to make each day better than yesterday,
And let us all say: Amen.

FOREVER YOUNG

May God bless and keep you always
May your wishes all come true
May you always do for others
And let others do for you

May you build a ladder to the stars
And climb on every rung
And may you stay forever young

May you grow up to be righteous
May you grow up to be true
May you always know the truth
And see the lights surrounding you
May you always be courageous stand upright and be strong
And may you stay forever young

May your hands always be busy
May your feet always be swift
May you have a strong foundation
When the winds of changes shift
May your heart always be joyful
May your song always be sung
May you stay forever young

PRIESTLY BLESSING