

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד

בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Baruch shem k'vod malchuto l'olam va-ed.

Blessed is God's glorious majesty forever and ever.

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Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai Echad!

Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One!

The enlarged *ayin* at the end of שְׁמַע *Sh'ma* (Hear) and the enlarged *dalet* at the end of אֶחָד *echad* (one) combine to spell עֵד *eid* (witness). We recite the *Sh'ma* to bear witness to the Oneness of God.

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל *Sh'ma Yisrael* ... Hear, O Israel ... Deuteronomy 6:4