

## Al Chet

לְפָנֶיךָ שִׁחַטְאָנוּ הֵטְאָ עַל

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha...*

(For the wrong we have done before you...)

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for forgetting that we were all once strangers in a strange land;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for preferring militarized fences to open borders.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for supporting trade policies and murderous regimes that uproot people, families and communities;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for drawing lines and turning away those who come to our country seeking a better life.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for demonizing migrants as threats to be feared;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for labeling human beings as "illegal."

לְנוּ כַפֵּר לָנוּ מְחַל, לָנוּ לַחֵס סְלִיחוֹת אֱלֹהִים כְּלָם וְעַל

*Ve'al kulam eloha selichot selach lanu, mechal lanu, kaper lanu.*

(For all these, source of forgiveness, forgive us, pardon us, receive our atonement.)

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for internalizing and assenting to racist ideologies;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for allowing oppressive systems to continue unchecked.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for our complicity in regularly profiling, incarcerating and murdering people of color;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for denying fair housing, public schools and greater opportunity to our black and brown communities.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for dehumanizing, excluding and murdering gay, lesbian, trans and queer people;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for shaming and stigmatizing the infirm, the mentally and physically disabled, and the elderly.

לְנוּ כַפֵּר לָנוּ מְחַל, לָנוּ סְלַח סְלִיחוֹת אֱלֹהִים כְּלָם וְעַל

*Ve'al kulam eloha selichot selach lanu, mechal lanu, kaper lanu.*

(For all these, source of forgiveness, forgive us, pardon us, receive our atonement.)

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for buying into and promoting the ideology of American exceptionalism;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for oppressing other peoples and nations in the name of American power and influence;

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for profiting off of weapons of death and destruction;  
*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for contributing to the increased militarization of our nation and our world.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for expanding our military budget while we cut essential services here at home;  
*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for believing that militarism and violence will ensure our collective security.

לְנוּ כְּפָר לְנוּ מְחַל, לְנוּ סְלַח סְלִיחוֹת אֱלֹהֵי כָלֵם וְעַל

*Ve'al kulam eloha selichot selach lanu, mechal lanu, kaper lanu.*

(For all these, source of forgiveness, forgive us, pardon us, receive our atonement.)

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for the destruction of homes, expropriation of land and warehousing of humanity;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for a brutal and crushing military occupation.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for blockading 1.8 million Gazans inside an open air prison;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for repeatedly unleashing devastating military firepower on a population trapped in a tiny strip of land.

*Al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for wedding sacred Jewish spiritual tradition to political nationalism and militarism;

*Ve' al chet she'chatanu lifanecha* for rationalizing away Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people.

לְנוּ כְּפָר לְנוּ מְחַל, לְנוּ סְלַח סְלִיחוֹת אֱלֹהֵי כָלֵם וְעַל

*Ve'al kulam eloha selichot selach lanu, mechal lanu, kaper lanu.*

(For all these, source of forgiveness, forgive us, pardon us, receive our atonement.)

(Rabbi Brant Rosen)