

With Awe, Trust, and Gratitude:
A Prayer for Healthcare Workers on the Front Lines of COVID-19
by Rabbi Seth Haaz

While most of us close ourselves off in quarantine through these troubling times, you open yourselves to those who are suffering. You may prefer to be at home, safe with your families, but you have answered the call to save our lives – at significant risk to your own.

While the rest of us conduct business through Zoom, Google Hangouts, Facebook Live, or GoToMeeting, no technology can replace intimate, face-to-face medical care. And, it is precisely the face-to-face aspect of your care that puts you at risk. We speak of you as doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, EMTs, and healthcare workers, but we must also recognize that you are sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, beloved partners, parents, and grandparents. You have people at home who love you and depend on you. But we depend on you as well, and, in this unprecedented, tragic time, you have chosen us over your own peace, comfort, and health.

We will owe you our lives and the lives of our loved ones. Yet, we know that with abundant need and scarce resources you will have to make devastating choices that will break your heart and crush your soul. We will support you in those decisions and forgive your shortcomings. Many lives you will not save, but many more you will. We have gratitude for your compassion, and we place our trust in the moral compass that guides your hearts and the skill that guides your hands.

May the One who blessed our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, bless you for honoring God and caring for God's Creation. May God protect and save you from COVID-19 and send blessing and success to the work of your hands along with all others who are doing their part to ease suffering and save lives. May God bless you every time you rise up from your bed, walk out of your home, and go to work, and may you return to your loved ones each and every day in full health. Amen.



HAR ZION
T E M P L E

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