

## Humanistic Ideals for

# Hanukkah Candle Lighting

### The Shamash

The Helping Candle: Just as this candle is used to light the others, we are called to help all of our sisters and brothers in need.

### 1st Candle

*Horef* (winter). We light this first candle to call to mind our natural world, the changing of seasons, and our obligation to work for a safe and clean environment.

### 2nd Candle

*Nayrot* (lights). We light the second candle to be reminded that in our lives, we must create our own lights that will brighten the darkness.

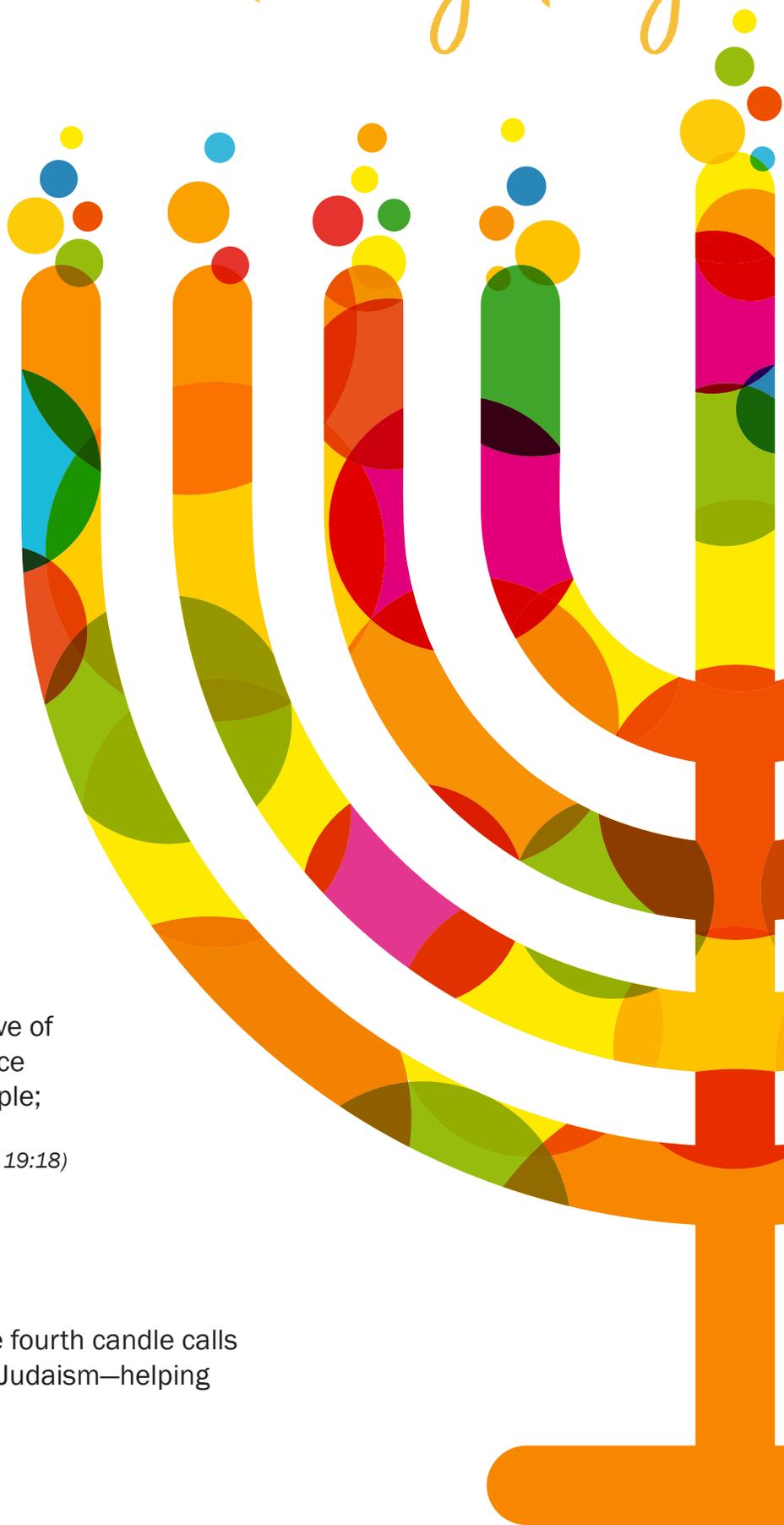
### 3rd Candle

*Ahava* (love). The third candle represents love of others. The Torah says: “Don’t take vengeance on, or bear a grudge against any of your people; rather, love your neighbor as yourself.”

*(Leviticus 19:18)*

### 4th Candle

*Tzedakah* (justice, fairness, and charity). The fourth candle calls to mind one of the most important duties in Judaism—helping the poor and needy.



# Blessing for Lighting the Hanukkiah (Hanukkah Menorah)

Radiant is the light in the world  
Radiant is the light within each person  
Radiant is the light of Hanukkah

BARUKH HAOR BAOLAM  
BARUKH HAOR BAADAM  
BARUKH HAOR BAHANUKKA

בְּרוּךְ הָאֹר בְּעוֹלָם  
בְּרוּךְ הָאֹר בְּאָדָם  
בְּרוּךְ הָאֹר בְּהַנּוּכָה



## 5th Candle

*Hokhma* (wisdom and knowledge). We light the fifth candle to remind us of Jewish dedication to learning in all its various forms. Proverbs says that “Wisdom is a tree of life to those who grasp her; whoever holds fast to her will be made happy.”  
*(Proverbs 3:18)*

## 6th Candle

*Yisrael* (Israel). We light the sixth candle to honor the culture, history, and values of the Jewish people.

## 7th Candle

*Hayyim* (life). We light the seventh candle in thanks for the precious gift of life. The Talmud says: “Whoever saves one life, saves the entire world.”  
*(Mishna Sanhedrin 4.5)*

## 8th Candle

*Shalom* (peace). We light the last Hanukkah candle to express our hope for peace and understanding in the world. The scriptures say: “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim shalom.”  
*(Isaiah 52:7)*

*Rabbi Frank Tamburello adapted from Rabbi Sherwin Wine*