## BLESSED is the ONE Ma'ariv Aravim / Yotzeir Or <u>מִע</u>ְרִיב עֲרָבִים \ יוֹצֵר אוֹר who brings on Evening & forms Light

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BLESSED is the ONE who makes the evening fall, who makes the sun stand tall, BLESSED is the SPIRIT who guides us all.

שָּׁרוּדָּ אַתָּה יהוה, Ba-ruch ah-tah Ah-do-nai יוֹצֵר הַמְאוֹרוֹת. הַמַּעֲרִיב עֲרָבִים. ha-ma-ah-riv ah-rah-veem yo-tzeir ha-m'oh-roht אַכִינָה! Sh'-chee-nah

The term *Sh'chinah* symbolizes the feminine aspect of the Divine. The term comes from the Hebrew root for "to dwell" – God's presence dwells among us. The Kabbalistic interpretation of Shabbat is of a marriage ceremony between the masculine essence of God representing transcendence, with the feminine essence of God representing immanence. Judaism in its totality is a balance between the male and female aspects of the universe. Shabbat is a special time when the people *'Yisrael'* seek to unite these two facets of God.