



Artwork by [Lena Hunsicker](#)

## Magid, Second Cup of Wine: Sanctifying Solidarity & Resistance

*A Haggadah supplement from Jews For Racial & Economic Justice (JFREJ)*

This Pesach, we can no longer say that fascism is rising. It is 5785, and it is here. Elected and appointed leaders alike are using the familiar tactics of fear & division, and repression & violence to consolidate power. They are silencing speech, punishing dissent, and appealing to our worst fears and biases in the hopes that Jews in particular will help them turn on our neighbors.

In New York City and across the U.S., Mahmoud Khalil and a growing number of immigrant activists are being abducted and threatened with deportation for opposing the United States' support of Israel's ongoing genocide of Palestinians. This is not the first time the U.S. government has targeted immigrant activists for their political speech. Once, it was [Emma Goldman](#) and [Claudia Jones](#) – both deported because of their organizing and political activity. Today, it is Mahmoud Khalil and Rumeysa Ozturk.

We are also bearing witness to a mass deportation agenda and rise in immigrant detention, often justified by the spectre of threat to public safety. **It is authoritarianism, not immigrants, that threatens the safety of our communities.**

In March of 2025, the Trump Administration began deporting Venezuelan men to [CECOT prison in El Salvador](#), a facility notorious for torture, forced labor, and indefinite detention. The U.S. government's allegations against them are flimsy and reveal a [common practice](#) in the immigration system: labeling individuals "gang members" to justify dehumanizing them and stripping them of their rights, often based on unsubstantiated and racist accusations.

It is impossible to separate the current immigration system from the dangerous scapegoating that Jews throughout history have known all too well. This Pesach, as we celebrate the story of liberation, we must recommit to rejecting the fear, division, and dehumanization we see increasing all around us.

**For our second cup of wine, we say kiddush to sanctify and strengthen our commitment to resistance and solidarity. Whenever we are asked to harm others in the name of Jewish safety, we will not comply. We will identify the path of solidarity, where everyone's safety is prized and fought for. We will not retreat from others out of fear. We will reach out to our neighbors and be caring and courageous.**

*The Cup is raised.*

Blessed are You, God, Who redeemed us and our ancestors from tyranny of Pharaoh and brought us to this moment to partake in the seder, eating *matzah*—the bread of affliction—and *maror*—the bitter herbs, symbols of oppression and resistance that remind us of our obligation to pursue liberation for all. May we one day offer praise in a redeemed world!

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי גּוֹאֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל.

Baruch atah Adonai, goeil yisrael

Blessed are You, God, Source of Redemption

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, borei p'ri hagafen*

Blessed are You, God, Ruler of the Universe,

who creates the fruit of the vine

*Drink while reclining to the left*

Written by JFREJ Members: Rosa C. Cruz, Laynie Soloman, R'Rachel Goldenberg,  
R'Margo Hughes-Robinson, R'Miriam Grossman, Kelly Viselman, and Sophie Ellman-Golan

## TAKE ACTION WITH US:

- **JFREJ SOLIDARITY FUNDRAISER: [Envision Freedom Fund](#)** works in collaboration with impacted communities to dismantle the intertwined criminal legal and immigration systems that feed off each other to target and incarcerate people from low-income communities of color. With freedom as our guiding principle, we **pay bonds to free people from immigration detention**, support individuals as they land on their feet, and build the organizing power needed to end immigration detention and pretrial incarceration in New York State. Donate at [bit.ly/give2envfree](https://bit.ly/give2envfree)
- The **New York for All Act** is a bill that would prevent New York State and local agency actors from sharing information with ICE and from using State and local resources for the purposes of collusion with ICE. **New Yorkers will be lobbying in Albany on April 29th** to demand that the legislature pass, and the Governor sign The New York for All Act. Register at [bit.ly/NY4All429](https://bit.ly/NY4All429)



---

[Jews For Racial & Economic Justice](#) (JFREJ) is a 6,000-member grassroots organization and the home of New York's Jewish Left. For over 30 years, JFREJ members have organized alongside our neighbors to transform New York from a playground for the wealthy few into a real democracy, free from all forms of racist violence.