

This Thinksheet is to make available for your use something precious I've used for many years--precious to me both because of its spiritual and literary loftiness and because written by one with whom I have long felt deep kinship and intimacy, my friend Rabbi Chaim Stern. It's from pp.4f of his GATES OF PRAYER (KTAV/70), "Services for the High Holy Days," crafted to be "meaningful to young people....with a directness of language and freshness of expression.".... Except for the first two strophes ("All Reading" quatrains), which are from Christina Rossetti (as noted on p.104), the composition--including the responsory form--is by Rabbi Stern....The God/wind analogy is biblical, in Hebrew & Greek (& Latin).

READER

...may we often remember our God....God is like the wind:

ALL READING

Who has seen the wind?
Neither I nor you;
But when the leaves hang trembling,
The wind is passing through.

READER

We do not see Him; He is like the wind;

ALL READING

Who has seen the wind?
Neither you nor I:
But when the trees bow down their heads
The wind is passing by.

READER

Passing through, passing by; yes, very like the wind:

ALL READING

Who has seen our God?
Neither you nor I;
But when our souls are singing,
Our God is passing by.
Who has seen our God?
Neither I nor you:
But when we hold each others' hearts,
Our God is passing through.