A Prayer For Entering the Mikvah

These waters flow from a river in the Garden.
   They flow from the wholeness of beginning.

These waters held reflections of the Presence
   that hovered over the world’s first moment.
   They hold that image still.

These waters flowed from deep in the Earth for Noah’s new beginning.
   They flowed deep in the wells from which our ancestors nourished
      their lives, their dreams, their love.

These waters parted for our people as we journeyed from bondage to freedom.
   They nourished our people in the wilderness, as we drank from the well of
      Miriam’s righteousness.

These waters flowed in a land that was good
   They flowed with a promise that was holy.

These waters carried us to earth’s four corners
   They brought us home again and turned the desert green.

These waters flow with the tears of all our centuries.
   They flow with all our suffering, all our joy.

And still, these waters flow from a river in the Garden.
   And still, they flow from the wholeness of beginning.

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Gior/Gioret: As I immerse myself, I begin a new cycle in my life. May my entry into the
   waters of the mikvah strengthen me for the journey that lies ahead.

     Water is God’s gift to living souls,
       to cleanse us, to purify us,
       to sustain us and renew us.

Witnesses: May the God whom we call Mikveh Yisrael, God who is the source of living
   waters, be with you now and always.