

Our God and God of compassion

This afternoon we stand – not merely in prayer – but in remembrance.

Today we remember to mind the people who were driven through this community 76 years ago – many of them did not survive.

They were deprived of their identity. Their dignity was taken away.

They lived in fear and horror. They were forced to exist under circumstances which were unknown in Europe for centuries.

Lord, we are stunned in the face of this harm and we beg for pardon.

We ask that you help us to forever remember the stories we hear.

As tales of the atrocities are shared, as we re-encounter the unthinkable,we ask that these memories be strengthened and never fade,

in the hope that those who remember the mistakes of the past will not repeat them.

Please, oh Holy One, amplify our ability to remember.

Amen