Page 290/292

HAVE COMPASSION חָמֵוֹל The three paragraphs that follow are a pastiche of stanzas taken from a variety of different piyyutim. All traditional mahzorim arrange them as here.

we Believe וכל מאמינים. This piyyut is 1500 years old, having been composed by one of the earliest liturgical poets, Yannai, who lived in the Land of Israel some time between the 5th and 7th century. The poem is a double alphabetical acrostic: the first line states an attribute of God, and the second uses the same letter to describe the human perspective. As much as he can, the poet alliterates an entire line, thus emphasizing the particular quality.