Day 1: Drawing From the Text

Driving Question: “How might we improve the SAR Mincha experience through creating an art-filled Mincha siddur?”

Study:

כי שם ה' אקרא הבו גודל לאלוהינו

אֲדנָי שפָתַי תִּפְתָּח וּפִי יַגִּיד תְּהִלָּתֶךָ



Consider: How are these lines a useful introduction to Mincha? Write a free translation of the two lines.

Read:

**R. Dov Ber of Mezeritch, *Maggid Devarav L’Ya’akov*, 14a**

As a person begins to pray, reciting the words:

 “O Lord, open my lips

 and let my mouth declare Your praise,”

 the Presence of God comes into him.

Then it is the Presence herself

 who commands his voice;

 it is she who speaks the words *through* him.

One who knows in faith

 that all this happens within him

 will be overcome with trembling

 and with awe.

**R. Yisrael Ba’al Shem, *Tza’va’at RiVaSH* 4b**

There are times when the love of God

 burns so powerfully within your heart

 that the words of prayer seem to rush forth,

 quickly and without deliberation.

At such times it is not you yourself who speak;

 rather it is *through* you

 that the words are spoken.