MOSES, MIRIAM, AND THE PEOPLE ISRAEL meshu mekarev biyi shir, Israel. The Torah is emphatic that Moses led the men and Miriam led the women, so that all the people Israel sang the Song at the Sea. (See pages 143–144.)

WHO IS LIKE YOU. The Sh'ma was preceded by the song of the angels, “Holy, holy, holy . . .” and now is followed by our singing a praise of God from the Song at the Sea. Through the recitation of the Sh'ma, our song and the angels' song become a common chorus.

ADONAI WILL REIGN. Exodus 15:18.

ISAAC בֹּרְקָה. The name “Israel” is repeated four times before the conclusion of the brakhah, emphasizing the plea for the redemption of the people Israel.

OUR REDEEMER. Isaiah 47:4.

LIBERATED THE PEOPLE. GALY EYRAIL. This brakhah, in contrast to most, concludes with a verb in the past tense. We can properly bless God for the redemptive acts that have already occurred—not those we still hope and pray for (Babylonian Talmud, Pesahim 17b).

SH'MA AND THE AMIDAH. The Babylonian Talmud links this last brakhah of the Recitation of the Sh'ma, mentioning God's redeeming the people Israel from Egypt, to the personal prayers that now follow in the Amidah, and recommends that there be no verbal interruption at this point (Berakhot 9b). It is as if to say that the possibility of prayer flows out of our experience of God’s love as exhibited in freeing us from slavery.

The Amidah for Festivals is found on page 306.