Y'did Ne·fesh

The first letters of each verse of this song form an acrostic, spelling out the four-letter name of God.

Y'did ne·fesh, av ha-ra·cha·man, m'shoch av·dach el r'tzo·nach.
Ya·rutz av·dach k'mo a·yal, yish·ta·cha·veh mul ha·da·rach.
Ki ye'e·rav lo y'di·du·tach mi·no·fet tzuf v'chol ta·am.

Soul-mate, Merciful Parent, draw Your servant to do Your will.
Your servant will run like a ram, will bow down before Your splendor.
For Your love is tastier than nectar or any imaginable delight.

Ha·dur, Na·eh, Ziv ha·O·lam, naf·shi cho·lat a·ha·va·tach.
A·na, Eil na, r'a na la B'har·ot lah no·am ziv·ach.
Az tit·cha·zeik v'titra·pei v'hay'tah lach shif·chat o·lam.

Pleasing in Splendor, Light of the World, my soul is love-sick for You.
Please, God, heal her with the pleasure of Your light.
Then she will be strengthened and healed and will be Your hand-maiden forever.

Vatik, ye·he·mu ra·cha·me·cha.
v'chus na al bein o·ha·vach.
Ki zeh ka·mah nich·sof nich·saf
lir·ot b'tif·e·ret u·zach
A·na, Ei·li, mach·mad li·bi,
Chushah na, v'al tit·a·lam.

Ancient One, let Your mercies be aroused.
Pity Your beloved child, who has so longed to see the beauty of Your power.
Pray, my God, my heart's desire, hurry, please, and do not hide.

Hi·ga·leh na u·f'ros cha·viv a·lai et suk·kat sh'lo·mach.
Ta·ir eretz mik'·vo·dach
na·gi·lah v'nis·m'chah bach.
Ma·heir, a·huv, ki va mo·e·id.
V'cho·nei·ni ki·mei o·lam.

Reveal Yourself, Beloved, spread over me Your canopy of peace.
Let the land be lit up with Your glory, let us rejoice and revel in You.
Come quickly, my Love, the time has come.
Show me Your grace as of old.

This text is adapted from Siddur Chaveirim Kol Yisraeil (Ktav, 2000) and used with permission.