Time We Gotta Get Ready for Shabbat
Sung to the tune of “She’ll Be Coming ‘Round the Mountain”
New lyrics by Lisa Litman

[Sing as many of these verses as you like – or write your own!]

Time we gotta get ready for Shabbat, (oh goody!)
First we clean the house until it shines, (scrub, scrub.)
Finish all the cooking for the meal, (stir it up.)
Drop tzedakah coins into a box, (clink, clink.)
At sundown light the candles with a prayer, (lehadlik ner.)
Honoring our mother* or the host**, (you’re the best!)
Blessing of the children [family] we all love, (kiss, kiss.)
Welcoming the angels of Shabbat, (shalom alechem.)
Next we make a Kiddush over wine, (lechayim!)
Use a cup for washing our hands, (yadayim.)
There’s a bracha over challah and the meal, (hamotzi.)
Add some festive singing for some fun, (zmirot.)
End the meal with birkat hamazon, (a-men!)

Glossary:
Tzedakah – righteous giving
Lehadlik ner – light candles. This comes at the end of the candle lighting blessing.
* Many families sing “Eishet Chayil, A Woman of Valor”. This poem praises the mother for all of the things she does for the family’s well-being.
** Some families recite Psalm 112, praising the father for all he contributes to the family.
Shalom Alechem – “Peace to You” is a poem about visiting angels
Kiddush – the prayer over wine which sanctifies the holiday
Lechayim – a toast meaning “to life!”
Yadayim – the Hebrew word for hands; the last word of the blessing reciting when washing before the meal
Zmirot – hymns and songs for Shabbat
Birkat hamazon – the blessings after the meal