Fatteh

1 cup plain whole-milk yogurt

1/4 cup tahini

2 medium garlic cloves, finely grated

1 teaspoon grated lemon zest, plus 1 tablespoon lemon iuice

Kosher salt and ground black pepper

2 8-inch pita breads, each split into 2 rounds

2 1/2 teaspoons ground cumin, divided

5 tablespoons salted butter, melted, divided

1/4 cup pine nuts

1/8 - 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)

2 15½-ounce cans chickpeas, rinsed and drained

1 1/2 teaspoons za'atar, plus more to serve (optional)

1 1/2 cups lightly packed fresh mint, torn if large

Heat the oven to 400°F with a rack in the middle position. In a small bowl, whisk together the yogurt, tahini, garlic, lemon zest and juice, ½ teaspoon salt and ¼ teaspoon black pepper. Set aside.

Arrange the pita on a rimmed baking sheet. Use 2 tablespoons of the butter to brush both sides of each round, then sprinkle evenly with 2 teaspoons of the cumin.

Bake for 5 minutes, then flip each round and continue to bake until browned and crisp, 5 to 6 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack and let cool; reserve the baking sheet.

While the pita cools, distribute the pine nuts on the reserved baking sheet and toast until golden brown, 3 to 5 minutes, stirring once about halfway through. Immediately transfer to a small bowl and toss with the remaining 3 tablespoons butter, the remaining $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cumin, cayenne (if using) and $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon each salt and black pepper. Set aside.

In a medium microwave-safe bowl, toss the chickpeas with the za'atar (if using), 1 teaspoon salt and 3 tablespoons water. Cover and microwave on high until hot, 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ minutes, stirring once halfway through. Meanwhile, break the pita into bite-size pieces and place in a wide, shallow serving bowl or divide among 4 individual bowls.

Using a slotted spoon, arrange the warmed chickpeas over the pita. Spoon on the yogurt mixture, top with mint and spoon on the pine nut-butter mixture. Sprinkle with with additional za'atar (if using).

Tip: Don't cut back on the butter that's tossed with the toasted pine nuts. It may seem like a lot, but the butter adds a sweetness that balances the tang of the yogurt and makes the dish taste full and deep.

