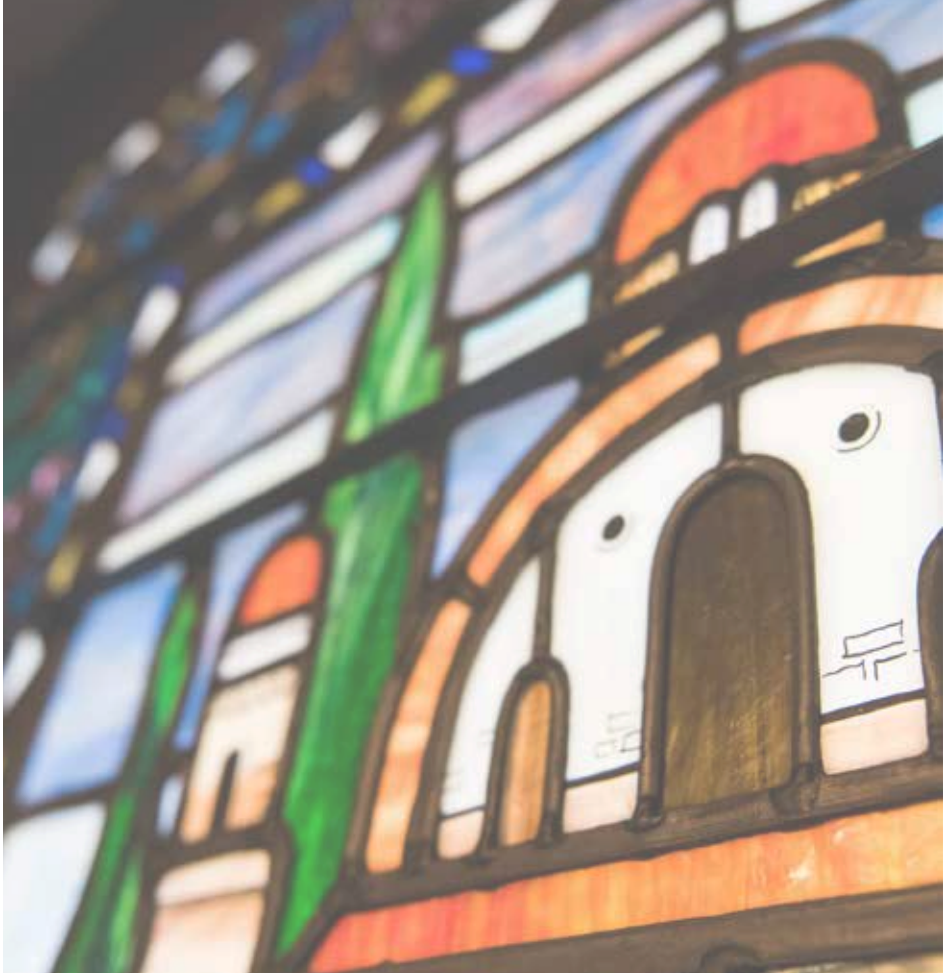


KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון
The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



July 28-August 4, 2017 • 5-12 Av, 5777

WELCOME TO BJ! We build our kehillah kedoshah—sacred community—with creativity and intention to present a compelling, energizing, and transformational vision of Judaism in the 21st century.

PLEASE JOIN US:

- **Prayer & Spirituality**
- **Limud / Learning**
- **Family Life & Learning**
- **Community Events**
- **Tzedek & Hesed / Justice & Acts of Loving-Kindness**
- **Israel Programming**

RABBIS: J. Rolando Matalon • Felicia L. Sol • Marcelo R. Bronstein

HAZZAN: Ari Priven

BJ RABBINIC FELLOWS: Sarah Krinsky • Tobias Moss

SANCTUARY: 257 West 88th Street • **OFFICE:** 270 West 89th Street, New York, NY 10024-1705
TEL: 212-787-7600 • **FAX:** 212-496-7600 • **www.bj.org** • **facebook.com/bjnyc** • **Twitter:** @bjnyc

OUR COMMUNITY

TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

This week's Community Kiddush is sponsored by Ruth Jarmul and Irv Rosenthal in honor of their 42nd wedding anniversary.

B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- **Welcome to all who are visiting us for the first time!** If we haven't approached you already, come say hi to one of the rabbis, a staff member, or an usher, and we'll introduce you to the people who make BJ the warm, transformative, open place that it is.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

● **Become a Summer Food Donor for the Shelter**

Donating food is easy! All you need to do is prepare a dairy/vegetarian meal at home for our 10 guests and deliver it to the Community House or SPSA. Your home-cooked meal will help our guests feel warm and welcome in our space. To find out more and sign up, contact Larissa at lwohl@bj.org.

WHAT YOU CAN BRING:

● **Community Composting Initiative at BJ**

Join us in our first community compost drop-off program. Collect your food scraps at home and bring them to 89th Street whenever the building is open. For more information, visit www.bj.org/compost.

SAVE THE DATES! Visit www.bj.org/retreats for more information:

FALL TEEN RETREAT, Oct. 20-22, 2017

"ISRAEL CELEBRATES 70" COMMUNITY TRIP TO ISRAEL, Dec. 25, 2017-Jan. 3, 2018

TEEN DOMESTIC TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 11-15, 2018

MINDFULNESS RETREAT IN COSTA RICA, Jan. 14-21, 2018

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, JULY 28

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** 7:00 PM – 89th St. Gym

SATURDAY, JULY 29

- **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

- ● **Family Breakfast** 10:00 AM – 89th St. 3rd Floor

- ● **Children's Services** 10:45 AM – 89th St. 3rd Floor

- ● **Light Kiddush** Following Services – 89th St. Gym

SUNDAY, JULY 30

- **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

MONDAY, JULY 31 | EREV TISHA BE'AV

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

- **Tisha Be'Av Evening Service** 8:30 PM – 89th St. Gym

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 | TISHA BE'AV

- **Tisha Be'Av Morning Service** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

- ● **Study** 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM – 89th St. Gym

- **Tisha Be'Av Minḥa Service** 6:45 PM – 89th St. Gym

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

- **Judith Bernstein Lunch Program** 12:00 Noon – 89th St. Gym

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Gym

- **Bim Bam** 9:15 and 10:15 AM – 89th St. 3rd Floor

- **Bim Bam: Hebrew Immersion** 11:15 AM – 89th St. Gym

WHAT'S NEXT

● ● **BJ Mindfulness Retreat in Nature**

January 14-21, 2018, Costa Rica: Join Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein for a week in the Costa Rica rain forest, exploring Jewish mindfulness practice as a way to connect more deeply with our soul, our truest values, and with God's creation. Contact Billie at bdistefano@bj.org or x264 for information.

● **The Israeli Book Club Discusses *A Horse Walks Into a Bar* by David Grossman**

Thursday, August 10, 6:30-8:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: The Israeli Book Club is more than just a typical reading group—it is an intimate encounter with Israeli culture, society and politics. Join us for a nuanced conversation that will help you gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of contemporary issues in Israel. Our next book is *A Horse Walks Into a Bar* by David Grossman. Register now at www.bj.org/bookclub.

● **The Freedom to Love: LGBT Activism and a Journey from Ukraine to America**

Tuesday, August 15, 7:00PM, private residence: Celebrate Tu Be'Av with BJ's 20s and 30s community. Mark the Jewish Valentine's Day by honoring three young men who courageously fought for their right to love, and join us for an intimate evening of story sharing. RSVP at www.bj.org/love.

● **Save the Date: Hebrew Ulpan – אולפן עברית**

Mondays or Tuesdays, September 18, 2017 through May 29, 2018, 7:00-9:00PM, 89th Street: This Hebrew course is designed to enable students to recognize the fundamental structure of Modern Hebrew and its basic forms, as well as to acquire the necessary vocabulary for everyday conversations, reading, and writing. Register at www.bj.org/ulpan.

BECOME A MEMBER / RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

We're going paperless! This year, membership renewal is faster, easier, and greener than ever.

Current BJ members: You should have received a personalized email with a link to renew your membership online. If you can't find your email or would prefer to renew by phone or in person, please contact us at membership@bj.org or 212-787-7600 x302.

Joining BJ for the first time? Welcome! Rejoining after some time away? Welcome back! Email membership@bj.org or call 212-787-7600 x302 to find out everything you need to know about (re)becoming part of the BJ community.

A Note About Dues

To create a kehillah kedoshah—a holy community—we each must assume the responsibility of meeting the financial requirements of our synagogue. Dues are calculated on a sliding scale based on household income. For details, visit www.bj.org/dues.

Find out more at www.bj.org/membership.



Kadima@BJ

Kadima@BJ, our new elective-based Hebrew School model, incorporates Hebrew, Tefillah, and a focus on our students' desire for deep learning. Registration this year is part of your BJ membership renewal. If you need help with registration, please contact Jacey at jgluska@bj.org or x260.

IM ESHKAHEKH

Im eshkahekh yerushalayim
tishkah yemini.
Im lo a'ale et yerushalayim
al rosh simḥati.

אִם-אֶשְׁכַּחַךְ יְרוּשָׁלַיִם
תִּשְׁכַּח יְמִינִי.
אִם-לֹא אֶעֱלֶה אֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַיִם
עַל רֹאשׁ שִׂמְחָתִי.

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.

If I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

—Ps. 137:5 & 6

HASHIVENU

Hashivenu Adonai elekha venashuva,
hadesh yameinu kekedem.

הַשִּׁיבֵנו ה' אֵלֶיךָ וְנָשׁוּבָה,
חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם.

Help us turn to You, and we shall return. Renew our lives as in days of old.

—Eikha 5:21

MIMA'AMAKIM

Mima'amakim keratikha Yah,
Adonai shim'a bekoli.

מִמַּעַמְקִים קְרָאתִיךָ ה',
אֲדַנִּי שְׁמָעָה בְּקוֹלִי.

Out of the depths I call to You, Adonai, hear my cry, heed my plea.

—Ps. 130:1 & 2

TISHA BE'AV / FAST OF THE NINTH OF AV

On Tisha Be'Av (9th day of Av), we commemorate the destruction of both the First and Second Temples, and numerous other Jewish tragedies, and we mark brokenness and spiritual exile with a day of mourning and fasting.

Our mourning this year is compounded by all the recent loss, violence and heart-break in our country and our world. Join us for a day of reflection, a commemoration of sorrow, and a start of the journey from despair to joy.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Monday, July 31

Erev Tisha Be'Av

Join us for Ma'ariv and the reading of Eikhah. Please bring a flashlight, as the service will take place in dimmed lights.

Fast begins at 8:12 PM

Ma'ariv Service, 89th Street Gym 8:30 PM

Tuesday, August 1

Tisha Be'Av

Morning Service, 89th Street Gym 7:30 AM

Study, 89th Street Gym 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM

Minḥa Service, 89th Street Gym 6:45 PM

Fast ends at 8:49 PM

A TASTE OF TORAH: DEVARIM

This week's commentary first ran in the *Kol Jeshurun* on August 12, 2016.

ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ דָּבַר אֵלֵינוּ בְּחָרֵב לֵאמֹר רַב-לְכֶם שְׁבֵת בְּהַר הַזֶּה

Adonai our God said to us in Horev, "You have dwelt long enough at this mountain."

—Numbers 1:6

Most of the book of Devarim functions as one long speech from Moshe to the Israelite people. These first words that Moshe speaks, also conveying words from God, are paraphrasing a command from Exodus. There, just after they received the Torah and built the golden calf, God instructed them to move on. This was a moment of pain, likely a moment where God knew that they just needed to leave, in order to move past this moment of conflict.

These words might express God's impatience—"Being stalled here has led you to bad things, so just go." Rashi offers a meaning that tells a different version: You have dwelt long enough: The interpretive explanation is God saying, "I have given you much greatness and reward for your having dwelt at this mountain: you made the Mishkan, the Menorah, etc; you received the Torah; you appointed a Sanhedrin..."

This version tells a different story of departure. It recognizes the greatness they've acquired while being in that place, before they move on towards Israel. In the other version, they leave because they've overstayed their welcome and turned rebellious. Departures are often the hinges of our stories, when we leave one thing before we've reached another. Certainly, for the Israelites, the next stage in their journey was a multi-decade wandering through the desert.

Departures can be challenging and painful, even if they bring us to new places where we can grow. They ask us to begin to write new chapters of our stories. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, marked by Tisha be'Av this week, is one of the most significant times in our history where our story changed. In the face of communal disaster, we long for goodness as we depart from one chapter and begin anew, unsure of what it will bring. We hope that turning away is also a moment of turning towards, a pivot towards something new.

In Lekha Dodi, each week we read a line that is strikingly similar to these words from Devarim: rav lakh shevet b'emek habakha—too long have you dwelled in the valley of tears. These words feel relevant for this weekend of Tisha be'Av, and for our current reality. Too long we dwelt at Sinai; we needed to move on. Too long we've been in the valley of tears; we must move on. Our Jewish calendar situates us in the lowest of the lows, the valley of tears where we mourn, cry, and are pained by the calamities of the world. Lekha Dodi reminds us that hope is crucial to our faith and what it means to be in those lows—dwelling in the valley of tears won't last. This Shabbat, Shabbat Hazon, we note the vision of Isaiah when he rebukes and warns us of punishment. Next week, Shabbat Nahamu, we will begin to feel comfort. But in the meantime, we are stuck in the valley of tears. It won't always be this way. — Rabbi Sarit Horwitz

TORAH PORTION

DEVARIM

SHABBAT HAZON

Torah: Annual Deuteronomy 1:1 - 3:22

Triennial Deuteronomy 1:1 - 2:1

- 1: 1:1 - 1:3
- 2: 1:4 - 1:7
- 3: 1:8 - 1:10
- 4: 1:11 - 1:21
- 5: 1:22 - 1:28
- 6: 1:29 - 1:38
- 7: 1:39 - 2:1
- Maftir: 1:39 - 2:1

Haftarah Isaiah 1:1 - 1:27

NEXT WEEK: **VA'ETHANAN**

SHABBAT NAHAMU

Torah: Annual Deuteronomy 3:23 - 7:11

Triennial Deuteronomy 3:23 - 5:18

Haftarah Isaiah 40:1 - 40:26

Coffee not delivering its usual zing? **Come to morning minyan** and get a spiritual jolt to start your day. Develop a daily Jewish practice, meet new people in an intimate setting, and help us make a minyan so our members can say kaddish for their loved ones. **Visit www.bj.org/minyan.**

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BJ RECYCLES AND COMPOSTS. Please look for bins throughout our spaces.

BJ's Ner Tamid at the 88th Street Sanctuary is powered by the energy of the sun.



Visit us at www.bj.org

