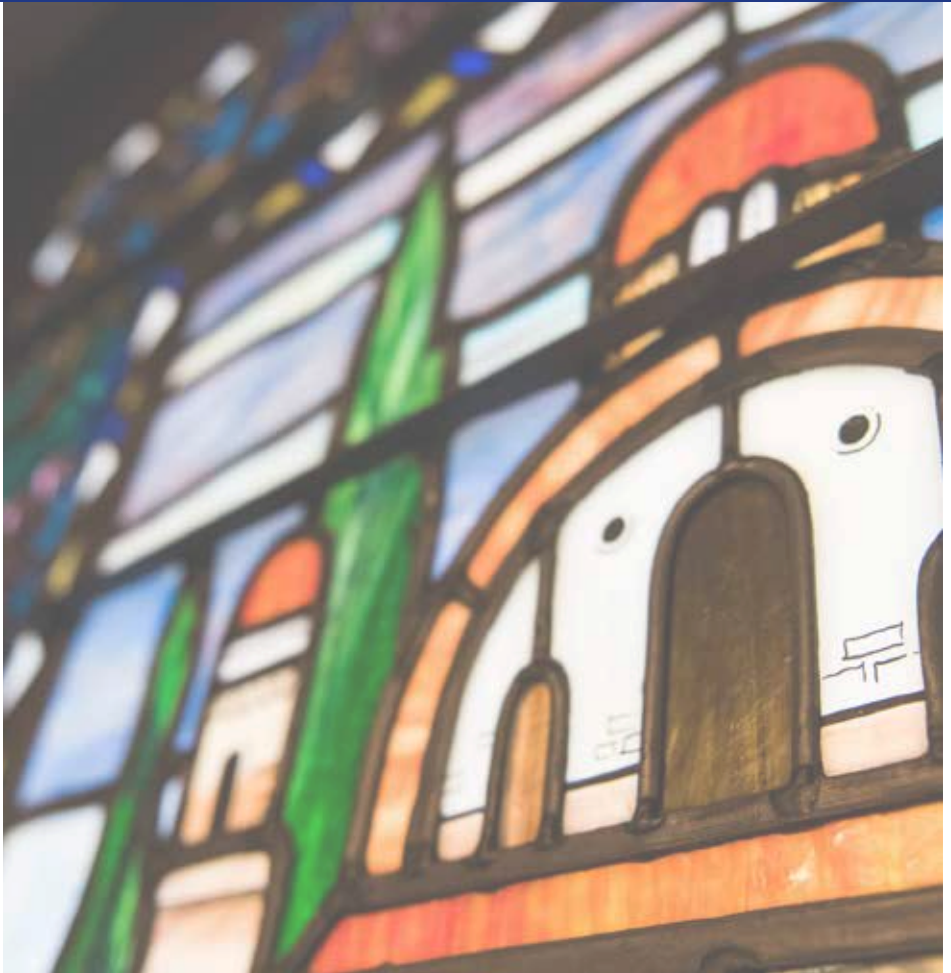


KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון
The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun
בני ישרון



August 25-September 1, 2017 • 3 Elul-10, 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**
- **High Holy Days 5778**

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

HAZZAN: Ari Priven

BJ RABBINIC FELLOWS: Sarah Krinsky • Tobias Divack 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 Fern and Bryan Daves in honor of their 28th 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

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.

THIS WEEK AT BJ

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

- **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, AUGUST 27

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

- **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – 89th St. Gym
- **Judith Bernstein Lunch Program** 12:00 Noon – 89th St. Gym

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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

WHAT'S NEXT

- ● **Connect with Community Members: Volunteer as a Yamim Nora'im Usher and Pledge Collector**
Got a great smile? Like making people feel good? Want to be part of the effort that sustains this community? Volunteer to usher, greet, or collect Kol Nidre pledge cards. We need all hands on deck to make High Holy Days services warm, welcoming, and wonderful! Sign up at www.bj.org/hhd-volunteer.
- ● **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 Kristen at kkersey@bj.org or x255 for information.
- ● **A Night of Remembrance: A High Holy Days Support Group for the Bereaved**
Thursday, September 7 or Wednesday, September 13, 6:30-8:00PM, 89th Street Chapel: Draw strength, support, and comfort from one another and the resources of our shared tradition. R.S.V.P. to Rabbi Michael Boino, BJ's Coordinator of Pastoral Care and Support, at mboino@bj.org or x238.
- ● **Bim Bam and Bim Bam Hebrew Immersion**
Fridays, September 8-December 15, 9:15-10:00AM, 10:15-11:00AM, 11:15AM-12:00PM, 89th Street Chapel: Children ages 3 and under explore Shabbat through song and story while learning traditions such as lighting candles, saying Kiddush, and giving tzedakah. Registration is available for both standard and Hebrew immersion classes at www.bj.org/bimbam.

WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 2*

● ● Tot Shabbat

Friday, September 8, 5:15-7:00PM, 88th Street Sanctuary: Families enjoy a kid-friendly Kabbalat Shabbat service, followed by dinner with Shabbat blessings and songs at 5:45PM in Frankel Hall. Register at www.bj.org/totshabbat.

● Family Open House at Rabbi Felicia Sol's

Sunday, September 10, 10:30AM-12:30PM, location given upon registration: BJ members with children in 2nd grade and younger are invited to reconnect with BJ friends and meet new people at Rabbi Felicia's home. Enjoy snacks and schmoozing while children are engaged in games and play. Details at www.bj.org/openhouse.

● Conversational Hebrew Group

Sunday, September 10, 5:30-7:00PM, location given upon R.S.V.P.: Meet other Hebrew speakers in our community and share your thoughts on current events and trends. Proficiency in Hebrew is required to fully participate in this salon. This month we host Eliezra Kasuto, granddaughter of Eliezer Ben-Yehuda. Please contact ngitig@gmail.com for details.

● ● Selihot: Tuning the Soul for the Yamim Nora'im

Mondays, September 11, September 18 and September 25, 7:00PM, 89th Street Chapel: Led by Rabbi Roly Matalon and Music Director Dan Nadel, we will prepare for the upcoming sublime days of soul-searching and prayer through haunting melodies of ancient Jewish communities and modern Israeli poetry and song. Free of charge.

● Economic Justice Hevra Meeting

Wednesday, September 13, 6:30-8:30PM, offsite: Help BJ support the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign so that laborers who produce the food on which we depend can have the dignity and equality they deserve. For questions and to R.S.V.P., contact Lisa at lisagzucker@gmail.com.

● ● Pre-High Holy Days Program for Multi-Faith/Multi-Heritage Couples and Families

Wednesday, September 13, 7:15-9:15 PM, 88th Street Frankel Hall: Presented by the Jewish Home Project: an evening devoted to a discussion of the questions, concerns, and possibilities that the High Holy Days raise for multi-faith/multi-heritage couples and families. Led by Rabbi Adina Lewittes with Rabbi Michael Boino, BJ's Coordinator of Pastoral Care. Register at www.bj.org/prehhd.

WHAT'S LATER

● ● Join us for Selihot

Saturday, September 16, 9:00PM, 89th Street Community House and 88th Street Sanctuary: Enter Yamim Nora'im through the Gate of Selihot beginning with Havdalah, followed by breakout sessions for learning and exploration with Rabbis Shuli Passow, Michael Boino, and Adina Lewittes, and Cantor David Mintz. Following a coffee break, the Selihot service will begin at 11:00PM.

● Hebrew Ulpan – אולפן עברית

Mondays or Tuesdays, beginning September 18, 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 acquire the necessary vocabulary for everyday conversations, reading, and writing. Register at www.bj.org/ulpan.

● ● Volunteer Opportunity: The Mitzvah of the Shofar

Sunday, September 24-Thursday September 2, various times and locations: Do you know how to blow shofar? Volunteer to visit home-bound BJ members during the High Holy Days and help them participate in the mitzvah of the shofar. Contact Galit Bordereau (galit.lb@gmail.com) or Paula Weiss (pskw50@gmail.com) for information.

● Economic Justice Hevra Day Trip

Sunday, October 15, 6:00AM-9:30PM, Riverhead Worker Center on Long Island: Join us for a day trip to the Riverhead Worker Center on Long Island to meet with farmworkers, tour local farms, and enjoy a delicious lunch in support of those who harvest the food we eat. Please register your interest by September 12 at www.bj.org/econtrip.

In our newly renovated, revitalized and expansive space, we will experience the full breadth of Shabbat with our 88th and 89th Street buildings joined together as one. Be sure to join us for this special moment in the life of our community!

MIPI EL / מפי אל

Mipi El mipi El yitbarakh Israel

מפי אל מפי אל יתברך ישראל

ein adir k-Adonai ve'ein barukh keven 'amram
ein gedolah katorah ve'ein doreshah k-Israel

אין אדיר כה' ואין ברוך כבן עמרם
אין גדולה בתורה ואין דורשה כישׂראל

ein hadur k-Adonai ve'ein vatic keven 'amram
ein zakka'ah katorah ve'ein homedah k-Israel

אין הדור כה' ואין ותיק כבן עמרם
אין זכאה בתורה ואין חומדה כישׂראל

ein tahor k-Adonai ve'ein yashar keven 'amram
ein kevudah katorah ve'ein lomedah k-Israel

אין טהור כה' ואין ישׂר כבן עמרם
אין כבודה בתורה ואין לומדה כישׂראל

ein melekh k-Adonai ve'ein navi keven 'amram
ein semukhah katorah ve'ein ozerah k-Israel

אין מלך כה' ואין נביא כבן עמרם
אין סמוכה בתורה ואין עוזרה כישׂראל

ein podah k-Adonai ve'ein tzaddik keven 'amram
ein kedoshah katorah ve'ein rohasha k-Israel

אין פודה כה' ואין צדיק כבן עמרם
אין קדושה בתורה ואין רוחשה כישׂראל

ein shomer k-Adonai ve'ein shalem keven 'amram
ein temimah katorah ve'ein tomekhah k-Israel

אין שומר כה' ואין שלם כבן עמרם
אין תמימה בתורה ואין תומכה כישׂראל

From the mouth of God, Israel is blessed

There is none as powerful as Adonai and none as blessed as the son of Amram
there is none as great as the Torah and none unfold it as Israel do

There is none as decorated as Adonai and none as experienced as the son of Amram
there is none as untainted as the Torah and none desire it as Israel do

There is none as pure as Adonai and none as honest as the son of Amram
there is none as respected as the Torah and none study it as Israel do

There is no king as Adonai and no prophet as the son of Amram
there is none as near as the Torah and none support it as Israel do

There is no redeemer as Adonai and none as righteous as the son of Amram
there is none as holy as the Torah and none learn it as Israel do

There is no protector as Adonai and none as whole as the son of Amram
there is none as complete as the Torah and none stand by it as Israel do

—Unknown composer

A TASTE OF TORAH: SHOFTIM

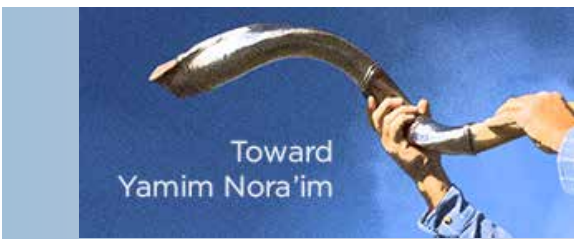
This week's commentary first ran in the *Kol Jeshurun* on September 9, 2016.

נְבִיא אֲקִים לָהֶם מִקֶּרֶב אֲחֵיהֶם כְּמוֹךָ וְנִתְּנִי דְבָרֵי בְּפִיו וְדַבֵּר אֲלֵיהֶם אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר אֶצְוֶנּוּ: וְהָיָה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר לֹא-יִשְׁמַע אֶל-דְּבָרֵי אֲשֶׁר יְדַבֵּר בְּשֵׁמִי אֲנֹכִי אֲדַרֵּשׁ מֵעַמּוֹ

I will raise up a prophet for them from among their own people, like yourself, and I will put My words into their mouth, and they will speak to the people all that I command them. And it will be that whoever does not hearken to My words that they speak in My name, I will call them to account.— *Deuteronomy 18:18-19*

One who suppresses their prophecy, and they do not announce it, or one who transgresses the words of a prophet, or a prophet who transgresses his own words of prophecy, their death is by the hands of Heaven, as it says, "I will call them to account." — *Rashi*

Parashat Shoftim outlines many ways we can understand false prophecy, some seeming more or less relevant to us today. Rashi outlines one of the greatest sins of a prophet as not one limited to individuals uniquely connected to the Divine, but a sin of which we are all sometimes guilty. This is the transgression of transgressing our own words of prophecy—not practicing what we preach. How often have we found ourselves not living up to our own expectations of ourselves and others? This is the sin of not "walking the walk." We each have messages that we carry out to the world, the values that we think are crucial to embody. Yet we all fall short of those messages. As we make our way through Elul, let's think about how we can live with as much honesty and integrity as possible. As we do this personal work of teshuvah, how might it enable our relationship with others and with God to be stronger? — *Rabbi Sarit Horwitz*



Toward Yamim Nora'im

Read BJ members' kavannot for the month of Elul at www.bj.org/elul.

TORAH PORTION

SHOFTIM

Torah: Annual	Deuteronomy 16:18 - 21:9
Triennial	Deuteronomy 16:18 - 18:5
1:	16:18 - 16:20
2:	16:21 - 17:07
3:	17:8 - 17:10
4:	17:11 - 17:13
5:	17:14 - 17:17
6:	17:18 - 17:20
7:	18:1 - 18:5
Maftir:	18:3 - 18:5
Haftarah	Isaiah 51:12 - 52:12

NEXT WEEK: KI TETZE

Torah: Annual	Deuteronomy 21:10 - 25:19
Triennial	Deuteronomy 21:10 - 23:7
Haftarah	Isaiah 54:1 - 54:10

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. **Please join us to hear the shofar each morning during the month of Elul. Visit www.bj.org/minyan.**

Printed on Recycled Paper

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.

