

KOL JESHURUN קול ישרון

The Voice of BJ This Week

B'nai Jeshurun  
בני ישרון



October 6-13, 2017 • 16-23 Tishrei, 5778

**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**
- 🌾 **Sukkot through Simḥat Torah**

**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  
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# OUR COMMUNITY

## HA-MAKOM YENAH<sup>EM</sup> / CONDOLENCES

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to the following members and their families:

- Ellen Perecman on the death of her father, Gershon Perecman.
- Gail Dubov on the death of her mother, Selma Dubov.
- Helen and Robert Stark on the death of Helen's mother, Bertha Klein.
- Jacob Buksbaum and Lisa Honig Buksbaum, and their children, Jonathan and Joshua Buksbaum, on the death of Jacob's mother, Sarah Buksbaum.

## MAZAL TOV / CONGRATULATIONS

To the following members and their families:

- Jennifer Schiffman Hines and Randall Hines on the naming of their daughter, Camilla "Millie" Hines.

## TODAH RABBAH / THANK YOU

Thank you to Helena Diamant Glass for generously sponsoring this year's Yom Kippur Community Break Fast in cherished memory of her beloved parents, Regina Landwirth Diamant and Karl Diamant.

## B'RUKHIM HABA'IM / WELCOME

- Rabbi Susan Shankman and Confirmation Class, Washington Hebrew Congregation, Washington, D.C.
- **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.

## Shabbat Evening Services: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME!

Beginning **Friday, October 6**, Friday evening services will start at 6:30PM.



### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

#### ● Tzedek Minyanim: Registration Open!

We are offering over 20 different Tzedek Minyanim—small groups focusing on advocacy, service, or study—exploring the themes of Faith & Public Life. Each group will be led by a BJ member. Visit [www.bj.org/faith](http://www.bj.org/faith) to see the exciting minyanim your fellow community members have created, and to register.

**SAVE THE DATES!** Visit [www.bj.org/retreats](http://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, OCTOBER 6 | 2nd DAY SUKKOT

Sukkot is a time for welcoming guests and eating with great company, and we'd love to welcome you! Bring your own dairy/vegetarian meal and have your friends join you to eat in our sukkah. Mi Casa, **Sukkah**-sa!

See below for times when the BJ Community House Sukkah is open to the community.






### BJ Office Closed

-  **BJ Sukkah Open to the Community** 12:00-3:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah
-  **Kabbalat Shabbat Service** **6:30 PM** – BJ Sanctuary
-  **Community Shabbat Potluck in the Sukkah** Following Service – BJ Community House Sukkah  
Celebrate Sukkot at the first potluck of the year! Bring something delicious to share, grab your favorite kosher vino, and get ready to bring in Shabbat BJ style: with singing, words of Torah, and community. More info and registration at [www.bj.org/potluck](http://www.bj.org/potluck).
-  **BJ Sukkah Open to the Community** 7:00-10:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 | HOL HAMO'ED SUKKOT

-  **Soulful Start: Hakhanah laTefillah — Preparing for Prayer** 8:45 AM – BJ Chapel  
Please join Rabbi Roly Matalon to prepare the soul and open the heart for Shabbat morning prayers through the singing of piyutim and reflections on kavannah. Every other Saturday (upcoming sessions: 10/21; 11/4, 18; 12/2, 16).
-  **Shabbat Morning Services** 9:30 AM – BJ Sanctuary
- Naming** **Camilla "Millie" Hines**
-  **Children's Services** 10:45 AM – BJ Reception & Middle Rooms
-  **Kulanu** 10:45 AM – BJ Chapel
-  **Community Kiddush** Following Services – BJ Community House Sukkah
-  **Youth Groups** 2:00 PM – BJ Community House
-  **BJ Sukkah Open to the Community** 12:00-2:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah
-  **K-2 Sukkah Celebration** 2:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah
-  **Haleli Nafshi: Communal Singing and Havdalah** 6:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah  
Join us for this new, monthly gathering, where we'll spend the final moments of Shabbat singing beautiful niggunim and zemirot as havdalah approaches. We'll lift up our voices and souls and experience the beauty of spontaneous harmony.
-  **Sukkah Sleepover** 8:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 | HOL HAMO'ED SUKKOT

-  **Morning Minyan** 9:30 AM – BJ Chapel
-  **Bim Bam Sukkah Breakfast** 9:30 AM – BJ Community House Sukkah  
Families with children ages 6 and under are invited to the BJ Sukkah for breakfast! Register at [www.bj.org/bimbam](http://www.bj.org/bimbam).
-  **BJ Sukkah Open to the Community** 12:00-3:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah
-  **Moving Traditions** 4:00 PM – BJ Community House
-  **Other Israel in the Sukkah** 7:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah  
We bring the Other Israel Film Festival into our Community Sukkah for a special screening and discussion. Details and registration info at [www.bj.org/otherisrael](http://www.bj.org/otherisrael).

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 9 | HOL HAMO'ED SUKKOT | Columbus Day

### Kadima @BJ Hebrew School Closed

-  **Morning Minyan** 7:30 AM – BJ Chapel
-  **BJ Sukkah Open to the Community** 12:00-3:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah
-  **20s/30s in the Sukkah** 7:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 | H<sup>OL</sup> HAMO'ED SUKKOT

● Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – BJ Chapel
🌿 ● BJ Sukkah Open to the Community	4:00–6:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah
🌿 ● Social Action Volunteer Potluck in the Sukkah	7:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 | HOSHANAH RABBAH

*BJ Office Closes at 1:00PM*

🌿 ● Morning Minyan	7:30 AM – BJ Sanctuary
🌿 ● Community Brunch	Following Services – BJ Community House Sukkah
● ● Teen Learning	6:00 PM – BJ Community House
🌿 ● Shemini Atzeret Evening Service	6:30 PM – BJ Sanctuary
🌿 ● Kiddush & Challah	Following Service – BJ Community House Sukkah
🌿 ● BJ Sukkah Open to the Community	7:00–10:00 PM – BJ Community House Sukkah

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 | SHEMINI ATZERET (YIZKOR)

*BJ Office Closed • Kadima@BJ Hebrew School Closed*

🌿 ● Morning Services	9:30 AM – BJ Sanctuary
🌿 ● Children's Services	10:45 PM – BJ Reception & Middle Rooms

## EREV SIM<sup>HAT</sup> TORAH

🌿 ● Family Sim <sup>hat</sup> Torah Celebration	5:45 PM – BJ Sanctuary
🌿 ● Adult Evening Service	7:15 PM – BJ Sanctuary

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 | SIM<sup>HAT</sup> TORAH

*BJ Office Closed*

🌿 ● Morning Services	9:30 AM – BJ Sanctuary
🌿 ● Community Lunch	Following Services – Frankel Hall

## WHAT'S NEXT

- **Tefillat haDerekh with Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein**  
*Tuesdays, October 17, November 7, December 5, February 13, March 6, 7:00–9:00PM, BJ Middle Room: Life is a journey. Our souls yearn to go home, but where is home? Join us for an exploration of Tefillat haDerekh (the Traveler's Prayer). Together, we will dwell in the stations our souls have stopped in. Register at [www.bj.org/tefilathaderekh](http://www.bj.org/tefilathaderekh).*
- **Heartbreak and Hope: Living With Early Stage Alzheimer's**  
*Wednesday, October 18, 6:30PM, BJ Sanctuary: When Geri Taylor learned she had Alzheimer's, she and her husband decided to share the diagnosis, risking isolation. Join Bikkur Holim for their inspiring presentation, as well as information and resources about living with Alzheimer's. R.S.V.P. at [www.bj.org/heartbreakhope](http://www.bj.org/heartbreakhope).*
- **Introduction to Judaism**  
*Wednesdays, October 18, 2017–May 2, 2018, 7:30PM, BJ Community House: This course offers an overview of the core beliefs, practices, and history of Judaism and the Jewish people. No prior knowledge or experience necessary. Registration required at [www.bj.org/introjudaism](http://www.bj.org/introjudaism): individuals \$435/\$660; couples \$645/\$975.*

- **Faith & Public Life Lecture Series: Dr. Moshe Halbertal**  
*Thursday, October 19, 7:00PM, BJ Sanctuary: "A Jew in the World: Private Citizen/Public Advocate" with Dr. Moshe Halbertal, Professor of Jewish Thought and Philosophy at Hebrew University, and Visiting Professor at NYU School of Law. Visit [www.bj.org/faith](http://www.bj.org/faith) to find out more.*



## WHAT'S NEXT *continued from panel 3*

### ● **Mindfulness Kabbalat Shabbat**

**Friday, October 20**, 6:30PM, BJ Community House 3rd Floor: Led by Rabbi Marcelo Bronstein, Rabbi Rachel Cowan, Rabbi Shuli Passow, and Hazzan Ari Priven, this service involves meditation, reflection, deep listening, and personal engagement with the parashah. Please contact Kristen at [kkersey@bj.org](mailto:kkersey@bj.org) with any questions.

### ● **Middle East Security: Fresh Takes on Long-Standing Challenges**

**Sunday, October 22**, 2:00-6:00 PM, Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center, 1 E. 65th Street: Join Israel Policy Forum's conference focused on shared US-Israel national security challenges in the region. Featuring plenary and break-out sessions by high-level policy experts. For more information, visit: [www.bj.org/ipf](http://www.bj.org/ipf).

### ● **The Book of Genesis with Rabbi Hillel Friedman**

**Tuesdays, beginning October 24**, 9:30AM, BJ Middle Room: Join Rabbi Hillel Friedman for a perusal of the Book of Genesis and to learn how our ancestors carved out a spiritual worldview while dealing with the culture surrounding them and their own family lives. More info at [www.bj.org/genesis](http://www.bj.org/genesis).

### ● **"Soul Food" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Felicia Sol**

**Tuesdays, October 24-December 12**, 12:00 noon-2:00PM, BJ Middle Room: Bring a bag lunch and open up your soul to the nourishment and challenge of Hassidic rabbis. Join Rabbi Felicia Sol as we imagine old world wisdom for everyday life. Register at [www.bj.org/soulfood](http://www.bj.org/soulfood).

### ● **BJ Community Fair and Sanctuary Tour**

**Wednesday, October 25**, 6:30PM, BJ Sanctuary: Come learn about ways to get involved at BJ! Committee leaders and volunteers from all areas of synagogue life will be available to talk about their work, answer any questions, and help you connect. Tours of the Sanctuary will also take place. Info and registration at [www.bj.org/communityfair](http://www.bj.org/communityfair).

### ● **BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Committee Meeting and Research Action Training**

**Thursday, October 26**, 7:00PM, BJ Reception Room: Join the new BJ/SPSA Racial Justice Committee as we begin to research potential partners and action steps. At this training, we will define our values and our goals, learn how to setup a strategic meeting, and determine how to move from problem to action. R.S.V.P. at [www.bj.org/justicemeeting](http://www.bj.org/justicemeeting).

### ● **The Other Peace Process: Interreligious Dialogue, a View from Jerusalem**

**Thursday, October 26**, 8:30-10:00PM, location given upon registration: Join Rabbi Dr. Ron Kronish as he talks about the issues addressed in his book, *The Other Peace Process*, including the message and methods of interreligious dialogue and action with regard to the peace process in Israel. For details visit [www.bj.org/israelsalon](http://www.bj.org/israelsalon).

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## WHAT'S LATER

### ● **Bo-i Kallah**

**Friday, October 27**, 6:30PM, BJ Community House Chapel: Join Rabbi Roly Matalon and Music Director Dan Nadel for an alternative Kabbalat Shabbat. With soulful melodies, verses of Shir haShirim (Song of Songs), liturgical poems, and Psalms, we will transition gently and with full kavannah, leaving workweek anxieties behind, welcoming Shabbat.

### ● **How The Light Gets In: A Tribute Concert to Leonard Cohen**

**Sunday, October 29**, 7:00-9:00PM, BJ Sanctuary: Join BJ Music Director Dan Nadel, Hazzan George Mordecai, Shira Averbuch and others for a tribute celebrating Leonard Cohen's life and music. Rabbi Aubrey Glazer will speak about the Jewish influences found in Cohen's body of work. Register at [www.bj.org/leonardcohen](http://www.bj.org/leonardcohen).

### ● **"In the Mirror" Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Roly Matalon**

**Thursdays, November 30, December 7, 14, 21; January 11, 18, 25; February 2, 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 12**, 12:30-1:30PM, location provided upon registration: Reading stories about the lives of the Talmudic rabbis, we uncover layers of ourselves and become better equipped to wrestle with our human nature. Please bring your lunch. Location provided upon registration. For BJ members only. Free of charge. More information at [www.bj.org/inthemirror](http://www.bj.org/inthemirror).

# A TASTE OF TORAH: HOL HAMO'ED SUKKOT

וְעַתָּה אִם-נָא מָצְאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ, הוֹדַעְנִי נָא אֶת-דַּרְכֶּךָ, וְאִדְעָה, לְמַעַן אֲמַצְא-חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ; וְרָאָה, כִּי עִמָּךְ הַגּוֹי הַזֶּה.

Now, if I have truly gained Your favor, pray let me know Your ways, that I may know You and continue in Your favor. Consider, too, that this nation is Your people. —Exodus 33:13

While our Torah readings for much of Sukkot detail the biblical origins of the holiday, on the Shabbat of Hol Hamo'ed Sukkot, we read from an entirely different section of the Torah. This reading, taken from Parashat Ki Tisa, picks up in our narrative shortly after the Golden Calf, in a section of the Torah that might seem to have little connection to Sukkot at all.

Here, we see Moshe just prior to carving the second set of tablets, turning to God in a moment of uncertainty: "If I have truly gained your favor, let me know know your ways." Moshe is a figure who knew more closeness with God than anyone of his generation and yet here, aware of the long and difficult journey ahead, he seeks assurance that he will continue to feel God's presence. It's a meaningful moment to which many may relate, but its relationship to Sukkot is not readily apparent.

I'm taken by a teaching of Rabbi Shai Held, who observes the place that Sukkot holds among the three festivals of our tradition. While Pesah and Shavuot center around the two defining events in our narrative (Exodus from Egypt and Revelation at Sinai), it is Sukkot (zeman simhateinu) that Judaism connects most strongly with joy. "The most joyous days of the year," Rabbi Held teaches, "do not commemorate earth-shattering, world-transforming events but rather the arduous and protracted journey from Exodus to destination." This is what he calls, covenantal joy: "the delight of living with God... and of trying to build God's world in the midst of a stubborn, often recalcitrant reality."

Indeed, it might be easy to feel God's imminence when the sea is splitting and when the mountain is trembling. However, it can be much more difficult to feel the Divine Presence during those moments in-between when we're wandering through the wilderness, trudging through the mundane, tedious and routine moments of our daily lives. Through the rituals of Sukkot, may we break that routine, enter the sukka, immerse ourselves in the natural world and its elements, and work to cultivate a deeper sense of spiritual awareness and mindfulness. And then, may we all experience the simha of Sukkot.

— Cantor David Mintz

## TORAH PORTION

### SHABBAT HOL HAMO'ED SUKKOT

<b>Torah</b>	Exodus 33:12 - 34:26
1:	33:12 - 33:16
2:	33:17 - 33:19
3:	33:20 - 33:23
4:	34:1 - 34:3
5:	34:4 - 34:10
6:	34:11 - 34:17
7:	34:18 - 34:26
<b>Maftir:</b>	Numbers 29:26 - 29:31
<b>Haftarah</b>	Ezekiel 38:18 - 39:1

### NEXT WEEK: BERESHIT

<b>Torah: Annual</b>	Genesis 1:1 - 6:8
<b>Triennial</b>	Genesis 2:4 - 4:26
<b>Haftarah</b>	Isaiah 42:5 - 42:21

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](http://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 BJ Sanctuary is powered by the energy of the sun.



Visit us at [www.bj.org](http://www.bj.org)

