



SHOFAR

April 2020

Nisan-Iyar 5780

Torah Portions April 2020

April 4—10 Nisan

Tzav (Command)

Leviticus 6:1 - 8:36

G-d continues to describe the different laws of sacrifices. A distinction is made between sin offerings, burnt offerings, and homage offerings, with each following its own process. God then commands the priests to make another offering that ordains themselves in their positions.

April 11—17 Nisan

Chol HaMoed Pesach

Exodus 33:12-34:26

This portion begins after the incident with the golden calf and the destruction of the first set of commandments. Moses, back on Mount Sinai, appears to have a moment of spiritual crisis and asks to see G-d. Told that he cannot see G-d and live, Moses is then instructed to take shelter in the cleft of a rock, protected by G-d's "hand." G-d then passes before Moses.

April 18—24 Nisan

Shmini (Eighth)

Leviticus 9:1 - 11:47, Numbers 19:1 - 22

G-d commands Aaron and his sons to make the burnt and sin offerings at the Tabernacle. When G-d accepts the offerings, the people shout with joy. G-d describes to Moses the laws of kashrut.

April 25—1 Iyar

Tazria - M'tzora

(She bears seed) - (Infected one)

Leviticus 12:1-15:33

G-d instructs Moses about the purification rituals for mothers following childbirth. God then describes to Moses and Aaron the procedures for identifying and responding to those infected with leprosy. G-d describes the purification ritual for people and homes afflicted with skin diseases. God also instructs Moses and Aaron regarding the laws of the emission of bodily fluids.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

April 3 5:30 PM

April 10 5:30 PM

April 17 5:30 PM

April 24 5:30 PM

To watch the Shabbat services live, go to templesinaipd.org, scroll down, and click on the TV icon on the right side of the page.

SATURDAY MORNINGS

To participate in the Shabbat morning service, send an email to Arava Talve at principal@templesinaipd.org to request an invitation to participate. If you are using a mobile device, you may have to go to your app store and download Zoom. Arava will send you an invitation on Friday to participate on Saturday—just click on the link.

Services will begin at 10:00 AM

April 4

April 11

April 18

April 25

Temple Leadership

Bob Glast	President
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Sanford Friedman	VP
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Nancy Singer

President's Message

Thanks to our members, staff and lay leaders for their leadership in keeping Temple Sinai moving forward by providing virtual services Friday night, Shabbat Services, Tuesday and Sunday religious school.



Bob Glast, President

Special thanks to Arava Talve, principal of the Avi Levine Religious School. Arava is the leader who has made sure we meet our service and school responsibilities. Please join me in making a contribution to the Avi Levine Religious School Fund in Arava's honor.

Wayne Abravanel has provided week after week ever more amazing piano and song to make our service more meaningful. Please join me in making a contribution to the Temple Sinai music fund in Wayne's honor.

Social distancing is vital in reducing exposure to the Coronavirus. I ask that each of you give a phone call or send an e-mail to friends and acquaintances you know. People need to know our Jewish community cares. We all need to do our part to keep the light of hope shining for everyone.

Please remember to go to templesinaipd.org each Friday at 5:30, scroll down to the right side of the page and click on the TV/monitor icon, and you can watch our beautiful services live. If you want to be part of the Saturday minyan please send your email to principal@templesinaipd.org with a request to receive an invitation to virtually participate.

Temple Sinai is doing everything we can to keep our members served through our virtual services.

I'shalom

Bob Glast, President



Temple Manager Toni Robinson

FROM THE TEMPLE MANAGER

The live streaming schedule is on the website along with instructions about how to access it. The maintenance staff is using this time to do some deep cleaning of carpets and upholstered chairs. They have also scheduled the restriping of the parking lot. The administrative staff is using a combination of working from home and time at the office to stay on top of their duties. We are researching new ways of staying connected as well as relying on phone contact to reach out to those congregants that may be in need, not so much a need for things as need to connect with their temple community.

We know that we will all emerge from this time more strongly bound together. The staff is making every effort to keep things as close to normal and familiar as possible. Most of the groups that normally meet here are meeting online for now, but look forward to the time when we can all gather in person. I will be sending out a message via constant contact regarding "virtual" services, and inviting those from other communities to "tune in".

How to Hold a Passover Seder in the Year of Coronavirus

By Jan Zauamer

From ReformJudaism.org

While I pray that the coronavirus pandemic will pass over quickly, that turnaround is unlikely to happen by Passover. With the holiday just weeks away – so soon that Manischewitz and Streit's products are already in markets – now is the time to make backup plans for our seders.

The seder that I am privileged to attend, one of the highlights of the year, is no ordinary in-home event.

Started by seven sisters and brothers in 1950s Los Angeles, the Figoten family seder has since expanded like a boiling matzah ball. In recent years, relatives have traveled for hours on the SoCal freeways, flown in from the East Coast, and occasionally dropped in from New Zealand.

The guest list has grown to include friends who are grafted to the family tree by whichever Figoten descendant initially invited them. Of the 30 to 40 attendees, no one has the last name Figoten anymore, and a sizable number are not related at all. Yet we are a Passover family.

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Every Passover, Jews recite that this night is different from all other nights – but no Passover in recent memory threatens to be as different as this one.

Though some small seders may proceed more or less normally, a large seder with elderly relatives, out-of-towners, or others in vulnerable groups will surely require considerable adjustments. I have always believed in the maxim that there's no substitute for being there in person, but this season, prudence demands some creative alternatives.

So let's set the table:

1. As this modern-day plague reaches biblical proportions, a virtual seder has its virtues.

Just as congregations, schools, and offices assemble online, we can celebrate via videoconference.

Skype, Zoom, Google Hangouts, and other apps can enable people to share the holiday safely and meaningfully – and many of these wondrous tools are free, like manna from heaven.

2. Keeping the hardcopies in storage, we can send out online Haggadot in advance.

This year, as we take turns reading around the high-tech table, seder leaders will most assuredly direct participants to briefly step away from their screens to perform *urchatz*, the handwashing ritual that is presently having its 15 seconds of fame.

3. So many seder tables are beautified by sentimental crafts, and we need not leave those behind.

For the Figoten family seder, for example, we will email the guests photos of their special place cards, exquisitely handcrafted so long ago by our beloved matriarch Aunt Dorothy and replicated by later generations.

4. We can of course still sing “Dayenu” and other favorite tunes together.

While there are many Passover songs to consider, at our seder no song is more venerated than cousin Amy's “Ballad of the Figoten Clan.”

5. To conclude the seder, we can hide the afikomen digitally.

Whether that takes the form of an internet wordsearch or a *Where's Waldo?*-style picture or a Wikipedia hunt, it will be a snap to Venmo the prize to the finder.

6. After the prescribed order, we will leave folks to enjoy their meals.

For anyone not used to preparing this elaborate dinner, we can send a helpful grocery list with matzah, maror, macaroons, and more the week prior. And we can toss in some of our favorite Pesadik recipes for those who want to try their hands during quarantine at homemade gefilte fish and horseradish from scratch.

7. No seder is complete without honoring the holiday's essential command: “Let all who are hungry come and eat.”

We will encourage everyone to donate to organizations that are doing this vital and lifesaving work amid crisis – only a dipped fingertip away. Consider your local food bank and Mazon, A Jewish Response to Hunger.

When Moses bid Pharaoh to “let my people go,” it was with “a strong hand and an outstretched arm” that the Lord led the Hebrews out of bondage – the foundational miracle of our faith, the Exodus with a capital *E*.

We have a miracle in our own time too: the miracle of technology. So this year, if need be, we can spatially distance and socially undistance our treasured annual gathering.

May it be God's will that science leads us to the promised land posthaste and that contingency plans like this one become unnecessary. But if we cannot chat in the same room this year, may this chatroom Passover not be so different from all other Passovers.

Chag not-quite-the-same-ach. Next year in Jerusalem...or at least in person.

Planning your own virtual seder this year? Check out
<https://reformjudaism.org/how-make-your-virtual-seder-lively-engaging-and-meaningful>



Arava Talve, Principal

Navigating the different platforms for learning over these past few weeks has been a challenge. The Covid-19 virus has impacted all of us in ways we are still processing. Our families are doing a wonderful job staying positive with their children in the face of the non-stop news cycle trying to separate fact from fiction. I think it is very important to answer children's questions honestly while telling them that things will get better and, eventually, they will go back to school.

I am very proud of our congregation and staff for pushing the learning curve in connecting with one another online. Here are some of the things (at this writing) we have been able to accomplish in the face of our school and shul being closed:

Shabbat morning Minyan/text study on Zoom 10:00 A.M. We have had a few gatherings and more are planned; If you would like to be invited, please send your email address to principal@templesinaipd.org.

Erev Shabbat services will (at this writing) be streamed from the Sinai sanctuary at 5:30 PM every Friday evening.

Confirmation class hasn't missed a gathering. We meet on Sundays at noon using the Zoom platform. We have had some amazing discussions about continuing to seek the blessing as we prepare for the Confirmation service.

Kitah Zayin B'nai Mitzvah class is also meeting on Zoom. The students continue to share their feelings and concerns about the new online classrooms. They are doing a wonderful job adapting.

Nesa has been guiding our Midrashah students in Jewish ethics on freeconferencing.com.

4th through 6th grade students have packets that were either picked up or mailed. Ruthi and Marjorie meet individually with the students about their studies on several platforms.

Tutoring program: Gary Levin remains a valued member of our team as he provides support in Hebrew studies for several of our students. Gary is using Facetime and Google formats to continue his tutoring sessions.

For K through 3rd grades, both Amy and Judy have sent resources to families concerning Holiday activities that may be done at home.

In addition, Holocaust survivor and Sinai member Jerry Moses loaned me a small red book that was given to Jewish soldiers during WW2. I found some amazing pearls of wisdom contained within its fragile pages. Here is one:

"The Torah is a fountain of life. In it are protections greater than a fortress."

If soldiers during a war can take solace and find blessings even in the seemingly hardest of circumstances, so too can our youth. I asked our students about the blessings they have been able to find this past week. Here are a few responses:

"My mom has been asking me to clean my closet forever. This week I did it and found several things I thought were gone forever. I felt pretty grateful."

"I realized that social media doesn't take the place of being with people, especially my friends."

"I think I have learned how to be with myself. I learned that I am pretty good company."

"I was able to complete my drivers education course. Before the order to stay at home, I just couldn't find the time."

"I thought watching Netflix all day would be great but after a week I want to go back to school."

"We have had a lot more family time. Playing games and talking."

Thanks for your patience and support during these trying times. May God bless you and your families and keep you safe.

Arava

The Crossing

By Alice Damashek

Quick! Grab what you can! Let's go!
Quick! Follow the others, do not waste time!
Quick! After they mourn, they will follow!

Follow! He will lead us.
Follow! What if we don't make it?
Follow! We can't go back, we must move forward.

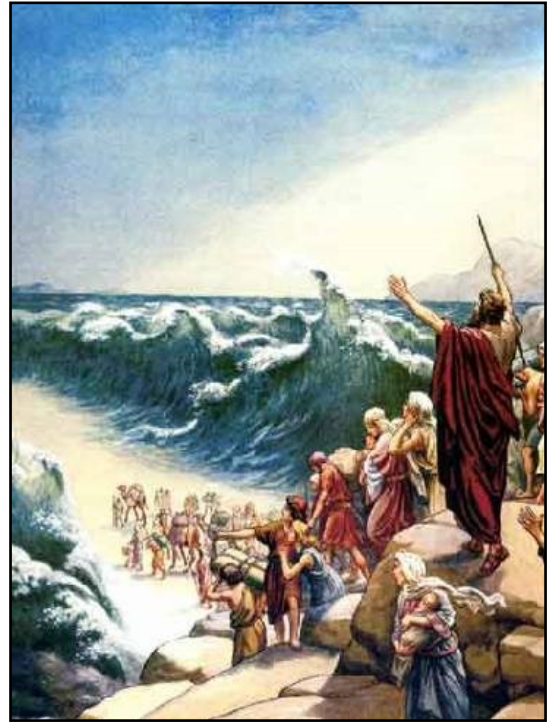
At the shore, we must go.
Sand in between our toes.
The smell of salt water.

No boat
No raft
How will we get to the other side?

Some believe the other side is near
They step in
Cold to their knees, waist, shoulders, nose and then
The sea parts.

Some rush across without looking up.
Some take their time, absorbing the experience.
Some complain
Some look back at their pursuers, chariot wheels locked while waters rush back.

Feelings? Empathy for our captors?
Fear of the unknown?
Freedom of body and mind!
Joy! We have been redeemed!



Alice is in the 6th grade in the Rabbi Avi Levine Religious School

GENEROUS DONATIONS

Yahrzeit

By: Nancy Singer in memory of Rose Singer

By: Nancy Singer in memory of Martin Singer

By: Carole & Jerry Corngold in memory of
Byrdie Weinstein

By: Blossom Greenberg in memory of Kathy
Greenberg

By: Jackie Drucker in memory of Henry
Smolinsky

By: Linda and Robert Carpenter in memory of
Lottie Carpenter Frank

By: Gloria and Ed Rudetsky in memory of
Harry Kirzner

By: Gloria and Ed Rudetsky in memory of Sam
Rudetsky

By: Gloria and Ed Rudetsky in memory of Sam
Schrager

Tzedakah

By: Doris and Bill Gould

By: Deborah and Philip Gould

By: Marvin M. Siegel

By: Lisa and Brian Gottlieb

By: Elaine and Nathan Goldberg

In Memoriam

By: Nancy Singer in memory of Sylvia Lambert

By: Nancy Singer in memory of Adele Lambert

By: Dr. Paul and Stephanie Ross in memory of
Dr. Jonathon Lubens

By: Mitzie and Jack Olshansky in memory of Lillian
Fox

By: Mitzie and Jack Olshansky in memory of
Dr. Jonathon Lubens

By: Mitzie and Jack Olshansky in memory of Sylvia
Lambert

By: Mitzie and Jack Olshansky in memory of Adele
Lambert

By: Mitzie and Jack Olshansky in memory of
Donald Pierce

By: Eve and Gordon Kramer in memory of Donald
Pierce

By: Marvin Paul and Estee Gottesman in memory
of Lillian Fox

By: Fred Fabricant in memory of Dr. Jonathan
Lubens

By: Linda and Howard Vogel in memory of Sylvia
Lambert

***"Tzedakah and acts of kindness are the equivalent of all
the mitzvot of the Torah" – Jerusalem Talmud, Pe'ah 1:1.***



Anniversaries

4/1

Bill & Ellen Sachs

4/8

Daniel & Nancy Levine

4/11

Kit & Sally Narodick

4/15

Glynne & Ann Miller

4/16

Curt & Kim Hough

4/22

Eric & Mallory Freedman

Birthdays

4/1

Carrie Stone

4/4

Geraldine Bass

Bea Katz

4/6

Mindy Rose

Alan Krubiner

4/10

Annette Novack

Susan Boyer

4/11

Eric Sontz

Sari Miller

4/12

Carole Adelstein

Stephanie Ross

4/13

Howard Levy

4/14

Ardith Marguleas

4/22

Jean Carrus

Gloria Rudetsky

Jason Novack

4/24

Rodney Hill

4/25

Jack Olshansky

Sherry Fern

Jacob Freedman

4/30

Linda Jacobs

Don't forget! Here are two quick and effortless ways to donate to Temple Sinai!



Head over to [Ralphs.com](https://www.ralphs.com) and click on Ralphs Community Contribution Program at the bottom of the page. Ralphs will donate at least 1% of your monthly purchases to Temple Sinai.



Visit Smile.Amazon.com to set up an account. Choose Temple Sinai as your charitable organization of choice, and .5% of the cost of eligible purchases will be donated to Temple Sinai.

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Erev Shabbat Streaming 5:30 PM	4 Zoom Torah Service 10:00 AM
5	6	7	8 Erev Pesach	9 Passover Day 1	10 Erev Shabbat Streaming 5:30 PM Passover Day 2	5 Zoom Torah Service 10:00 AM
12 Passover Day 4	13 Passover Day 5	14 Passover Day 6	15 Passover Day 7	16 Passover Day 8	17 Erev Shabbat Streaming 5:30 PM	18 Zoom Torah Service 10:00 AM
19	20	21 Yom Hazikaron Holocaust Remembrance Day	22	23	24 Erev Shabbat Streaming 5:30 PM	25 Zoom Torah Service 10:00 AM
26	27	28	29 Yom Ha'atzmaut Israel Independence Day	30		



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