



TEMPLE  
SINAI

Finding Strength in Community

Hello,

## Service Schedule

Friday, December 18

7:30 PM

Erev Shabbat Service

(via [Facebook Live](#))



Temple Sinai of Sharon



Rabbi Joseph Meszler

Saturday, December 19

8:30 AM

Torah Study

(via [Zoom Classroom](#))

9:45 AM

Shabbat Morning Service

(via [Facebook Live](#))

## Hanukkah Candle Lighting

Join us TONIGHT at **5:30 PM on Facebook Live** to light the candles with your Temple Sinai community.

Friday, December 25

7:30 PM

Erev Shabbat Service

(via [Facebook Live](#))

Stream Friday evening and Saturday morning services through [Facebook Live](#).  
[Visit our Facebook page](#)

Saturday, December 26

8:30 AM

Torah Study

(via [Zoom Classroom](#))



Cantor Becky Khitrik



Rabbi Joseph Meszler

9:45 AM

Shabbat Morning Service

(via [Facebook Live](#))

View last week's services:  
[Erev Shabbat Service, 12/11/20](#)  
[Shabbat Morning Service, 12/12/20](#)

## From Rabbi Meszler: A Point of Light in the Darkness



Celebrating light, or rededicating ourselves to it as the name of Hanukkah suggests, means not only lighting the menorah and seeing points of light and goodness on the outside but also reaffirming our light within. Our holiday teaches we can and should affirm our own inherent self-worth as being made in God's image.

*Chag orim sameach* - may you have a festival filled with light, both inside and out - and Shabbat Shalom - may you have a day of peace. Amen.

## From Cantor Khitrik: A Hanukkah Musical Moment



*Enjoy this video of Daniella, Noa, Taylor, and Lilly singing with Cantor Becky Khitrik and the world-class Klezwoods!*

## What's Happening "at" the Temple



***Ner Shel Tzedakah***, giving a charitable donation in honor of a friend or family member, is a modern tradition on the 6th night of Hanukkah.

**Please help us to keep this lovely tradition going by Lighting One Candle.**

Temple Sinai compiles and shares a list of all the organizations who benefited from our community's participation each year.

Email [Diane Rosen](#) with **your name** and the **charity/charities to which you have donated** (please don't include amounts).



### Religious School Calendar Raffle Fundraiser

Support our school and **buy your February 2021 Raffle Calendar online today here.** It's a win - win! You will have 28 chances to win prizes and all **proceeds will benefit the religious school.**

*Give as a gift or as a thank you to a service provider...*

**Calendars are \$10 each | 6 for \$50**

**Questions?** E-mail [Beth Nelson](#) or visit our [fundraiser webpage](#)

### ***Light Beyond the Shadows*** *by Sheila Pallay and Julius Muller*

Inspired by the miraculous survival of 1,564 Czech Torah scrolls, *Light Beyond the Shadows*, featuring the photography of Sheila Pallay, explores some of the towns where Jews lived and



### Light Beyond the Shadows

The Legacy of the Czech Torah Scrolls and the Renewal of Jewish Life in Czechia

by Sheila Pallay and Julius Müller

also describes the resilience of Czechs and highlights the resurgence of a new generation of Czech Jews who are beginning to learn about their Jewish identity.

Our friend and Temple member Sheila Pallay has generously donated 100 copies of this book. For a **minimum donation of \$25**, you will receive this book with our thanks. \$10 will benefit Temple Sinai and \$15 will be donated to The Memorial Scrolls Trust.

**Your copy of Light Beyond the Shadows supports Temple Sinai and The Memorial Scrolls Trust.**

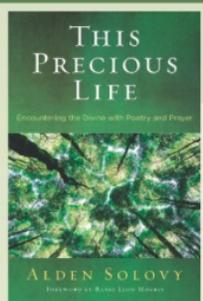
**[Purchase Light Beyond the Shadows on PayPal](#) | [Purchase on Chaverweb](#)**

Or mail your check to **Temple Sinai, 25 Canton Street, Sharon, MA 02067, Attn: Light Beyond the Shadows.**

*We can help arrange delivery if you cannot pick up your book(s) in person.*

## In the Community

### Book Launch: *This Precious Life*



Sunday, January 10, 2021  
10 AM PT / 1 PM ET / 8 PM IST  
Live on Zoom



Join CCAR Press on **Sunday, January 10th at 1 PM** in celebration of Alden Solovy's new book *This Precious Life: Encountering the Divine with Poetry and Prayer*. **[Learn more and register here.](#)**

**[The Dr. Fritz Bamberger Memorial Lecture Series: Final Program is Thinking Jewish in a Changing America on 12/22 at 1:00 PM](#)**

**[Keshet: Upcoming Programming for LGBTQ Families - Monday Hangouts with LGBTQ Jewish Teens on Monday, 12/21 at 8 PM](#)**

**[JArts Hanukkah Festival of Lights 2020: Free Hanukkah festivities through 12/18](#)**

**[Learn more about all of these community programs here.](#)**

## Resources for Challenging Times

**[RJ on the GO](#)** is your virtual home for interactive, meaningful, and joyous Jewish experiences.

**[Sign Up for Free Today](#)** and explore the many programs they have to offer!



**[Jewish Life in Your Family Life](#)**: Provides structured activities for children **grades K-3** and their grown-ups

**[From the URJ](#)**: resources and programs from the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), including **[RJ on the Go](#)**

**[From CJP and their community partners](#)**: helping you through this time with Emergency Fund Childcare Subsidies, Employment Resources and a Warmline to help access assistance

**[Coping with COVID-19](#)**: Temple Sinai's summer Q&A webinar series

to join together.

**Taste of Camp**



Students in **grades 3-8** can participate in daily activities exploring the arts, science, technology, design, and more led by trusted staff of URJ summer camps!



**NFTY**

As URJ Youth's signature year-round program, **6th-12th graders** participate in NFTY programs that teach compassion, fight injustice, engage with Israel, and build community.

**The Religious Action Center (RAC)**



For more than six decades, the RAC has worked to educate, inspire, and mobilize the Reform Jewish Movement to advocate for social justice.

**Parenting in a Pandemic:** insights & practical advice to help parents support their teens

**Environmental & Racial Justice**

**Webinar:** Co-presented by our Social Justice Committee, Sustainable Sharon Coalition & Sharon Racial Equity Alliance

**Resources from Institute for Jewish**

**Spirituality:** designed to relieve stress as we increase awareness and navigate this time of uncertainty and isolation

**"When We Turned Within, Volume 2":**

Rabbi Meszler is included in this collection of writings in response to Covid-19

**The Moving Traditions Teen Groups:**

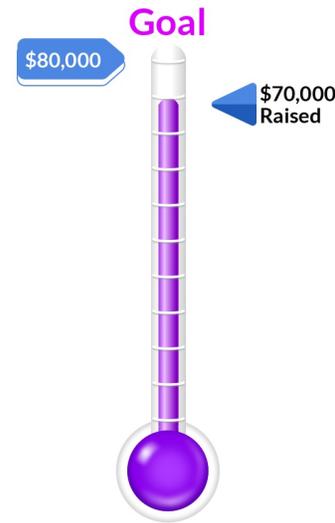
**Helping Jewish Teens Grow:** New programs added for LGBTQ+ teens

**Annual Appeal 5781: Help Secure our Future**



**DONATE >**

*Our **Annual Appeal** is critical to securing our future and is more important than ever during these uncertain times.*



We have already raised over **\$70,000.**

**Help us reach our goal of \$80,000.**

*L'shalom*  
**Amy**

Rabbi Amy E. Goodman, Executive Director  
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**Did you know? Provisions within the CARES Act may be beneficial to those who make charitable contributions to organizations such as Temple Sinai of Sharon.**

### **New Charitable Deduction Available for Non-Itemizers:**

A new above-the-line charitable deduction of up to \$300 is available to taxpayers who do not itemize deductions.

This deduction applies only to qualified cash contributions and does not apply to cash contributions made to donor-advised funds or supporting organizations. It also does not apply to carryover contributions. Currently, it's unclear whether this deduction will be allowed beyond 2020.

See also: [\*Ann Carrns, "It's Easier to Get a Tax Deduction for Donations This Year"\*](#), *New York Times*, 20 November 2020, <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/20/your-money/charity-deductions-taxes-coronavirus.html>, accessed November 30, 2020.

[Click here to learn more about how CARES Act may affect your year-end gift planning.](#)

#### **Your gift may also be made by:**

- Designating part of a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from a retirement account, which may not be considered taxable income, or;
- Using appreciated investment securities (you may be able to get the value of gifted securities as a donation on your tax return, without paying any capital gains tax).

***Before deciding to use one of these to pay for your gift we strongly recommend you consult with a professional tax, legal, or financial advisor(s). Temple Sinai of Sharon does not provide advice on the tax implications of these or any other methods of payment.***

Don't hesitate to contact Rabbi Amy Goodman, Executive Director, with questions (781-784-6081 or [agoodman@temple-sinai.com](mailto:agoodman@temple-sinai.com)).



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Shop from the special Amazon Smile website at  
<https://smile.amazon.com/>