

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM, AN AMERICAN JEWISH UNIVERSITY MAVEN PARTNER, IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING EVENTS AND CLASSES. PLEASE VISIT THE AJU WEBSITE, [OPEN.AJU.EDU](https://www.openaju.edu), TO SEE ADDITIONAL OFFERINGS, AND AJU'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwaHud357txzi5taK2wdhNg/videos> FOR A SELECTION OF ON-DEMAND VIDEOS.

Psalms: From Joy to Sorrow, Singing Hallelujah

Draw new meaning from the ancient words of Psalms with Rabbi Elie Spitz.

Psalms serve as the playlist of the Jewish people, offering deeply personal and honest poem-songs that resonate universally and spiritually. Join us in studying a curated selection of Psalms to explore their artistry and discover phrases and compositions that hold enduring meaning for you.

This class meets the following Wednesdays from 3:00 - 4:00 pm EDT:

March 27, Introduction and Happiness: Psalm 1

April 3, Life as a Journey: Psalm 23

April 10, When Life is Hard: Psalm 44 and 121

April 17, Hallelujah: Psalm 145-150

AJU is delighted to offer this class for free. To ensure the university can keep making Jewish education accessible at no charge, will you make the suggested donation of \$36 (or more, if you are so moved)? Thank you for your generosity!

The Song of Songs: Biblical Eroticism and Romance

Join Rabbi Pinchas Giller in a nuanced and engaging reading of the biblical book of erotica known as the Song of Songs.

The Song of Songs, which falls between the books of Job and Ruth in the Hebrew Bible, has long been interpreted in Judaism and Christianity as representing the relationship of God and the religious authority. However, through a clear and unburdened reading, the outlines of a romantic story emerge. The simple meaning, or “pshat,” leads to the emergence of a plot. Additionally, the erotic nature of the text leads us to ask: What were the sexual ethics of the biblical period? Did they abstain from premarital sex, and if they fooled around, did they “go all the way”? Explore these questions and more in this 4-week course with Rabbi Pinchas Giller.

This class meets the following Thursdays from 3:00 – 4:00 pm EDT:

March 28

April 4

April 11

April 18

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