

| Friday, August 17 6 Elul | | | | Parashat Shoftim Saturday, August 18 7 Elul | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Kabbalat Shabbat with Leora Singer 7:00PM Candle Lighting 7:33PM | | | | Shacharit 10:00AM Kishkush Acharei Kiddush 1:00PM Shabbat Shmooze 1:30PM | | |
| Sunday August 19 8 Elul | Monday August 20 9 Elul | Tuesday August 21 10 Elul | Wednesday August 22 11 Elul | Thursday August 23 12 Elul | Friday August 24 13 Elul | Saturday August 25 14 Elul |
| | Last day to RENEW your membership to receive HHD tickets via mail | | Morning Minyan 7:15AM | | Kabbalat Shabbat with David Rosen 7:00PM Candle Lighting 7:23PM | <i>Parashat Ki Tetze</i> Shacharit 10:00AM Advanced Talmud 1:30PM |
| Park Slope Jewish Center 1320 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215 (718) 768-1453 Office hours: M-Th 9AM-5PM, F 9AM-2PM www.psjc.org email: office@psjc.org | | | | Rabbi Carie Carter, Rabbi (rabbicarie@psjc.org) Ellen Brickman, President (president@psjc.org) Elana Ayalon, Director of Administration (office@psjc.org) Aileen Heiman, Director of Youth Education (aileen.heiman@psjc.org) For questions about Accessibility (inclusion@psjc.org) | | |

HaMakom Yenachem

Our condolences go to:

Stan Hopard and family on the death of Stan's brother, **David Hopard**, z"l.

Amy Lowenthal and **Dale Rosenberg** on the death of Amy's mother, **Ellen Louise Lowenthal**, z"l.

Yahrzeits observed 7-13 Elul:

Beatrice Daffner, great aunt of Stuart Baron; **Beulah Brodie**, grandmother of Jenna Mandel-Ricci; **Burt Ribnick**, father of Judy Ribnick; **David Daffner**, great uncle of Stuart Baron; **Deborah Sher**, sister of Mike Shapiro; **Dorothea Sasson**, mother of Nathaniel Sasson; **Esther Rothberger**, mother of Harriet Baron; **Ethel Levine Moch**, mother of Yehudit Moch; **Herbert Orzeck**, father of Jan Orzeck; **John Speaks Jr.**, father of John Speaks; **Margaret Holmes Potts**, sister of Tori Rosen; **Max Phillips**, grandfather of Rabbi Regina Sandler-Phillips; **Miryam Kessler**, grandmother of Marla Kessler; **Stella Simon Moch**, grandmother of Yehudit Moch.

May their memories be for a blessing.

Download The PSJC App Today After Shabbat! 🤗



When logged in members can see...

PSJC runs on community participation. If you are interested in: **leading Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Services**, email freddie.brooks@psjc.org; **leading Shabbat Morning Services**, email Elizabeth Schnur at davening@psjc.org; **chanting Haftarah**, email Alan Palmer at haftarah@psjc.org, reading Torah, email Rabbi Sue Oren at leyning@psjc.org. **To request an Aliyah or other honor**, email Rabbi Carter a week in advance (rabbicarie@psjc.org), or notify the usher if you arrive before the Torah Service begins; we honor requests whenever possible. **To usher services**, email Ira Drucker at ira.drucker@psjc.org.



August 17-25, 2018 | 6-14 Elul 5778
Parashat Shoftim

Hebrew School Registration is Live!

Registration for 2018-2019 Hebrew School is OPEN!
Join us for another year of Jewish learning!

https://www.psjc.org/hebrew_school_registration

Annual Membership Renewal 2018-2019

Renew your membership today! It's easy and can all be done online.

Visit www.psjc.org and log in to your account.

That means we have already begun planning for 5779!
We hope you will join us for another great year at PSJC!

We would love to get to 100% participation. No amount is too big or too small.
Please contact Peter by email treasurer@psjc.org if you have to arrange payments or limited income.

High Holy Days Tickets will only be mailed if your membership is renewed by Monday, August 20.

Kishkush Acharei Kiddush

Saturday, August 18 | 1:00PM

Are you comfortable speaking Hebrew? Do you want a place to speak with other fluent Hebrew speakers? Join us after services and kiddush where we have a Shulchan Ivrit - a table to sit around, drink coffee and talk with one another in Hebrew. Those who aren't sure if they are "fluent" or not are all welcome! Contact Michal: Kishkush.at.PSJC@gmail.com for more details.

Shabbat Shmooze

Saturday, August 18 | 1:30PM | Prospect Park

Shabbat Shmooze is a get-together at Prospect Park during the summer months. We will walk together over to the Shabbat Shmooze Potluck Lunch after the Kiddush. Bring a parve potluck dish to share. If anyone would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze in the coming year, please email shabbatshmooze@psjc.org, with the date they would like to host a Shabbat Shmooze (3rd Shabbat of the month).

Advanced Talmud

Saturday, August 25 | 1:30PM

This class is an on-going self-study group appropriate for people who are proficient in Hebrew and have some prior experience in Gemara study. New students are welcome! Email aronrhalf@gmail.com.

Selichot Service

Saturday, September 1 | 9:00PM

9:30PM | Havdallah

10:00PM | Liturgy

11:30PM | Communal Singing

12:30AM | Conclusion

This poetic and reflective service prepares one's heart, mind, and spirit for the Days of Awe and Repentance. A beautiful beginning to the High Holy Days, the service will begin with Havdalah, followed by prayer, song, and study led by local Rabbis and Cantors. This event is co-sponsored with other neighborhood synagogues and minyanim.

Have announcements? Email by Monday 5:00PM (office@psjc.org)

Lulav & Etrog Sale

Each set is already assembled together in a holder with the Lulav, Hadassim and Arovot as one.

Along with each set you will receive a basic guide as a complimentary gift to express our appreciation to you. It will contain a list of all the Brachot (blessings) and Halakha (laws) of the four species.

Order yours now: www.psjc.org/lulav-and-etrog-sale.html

Last day to order Wednesday, August 29



Rosh Hashanah

Erev Rosh Hashanah | Sunday, September 9

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 | Monday, September 10

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 | Tuesday, September 11

Opening Hebrew School Assembly & Picnic All Families

Sunday, September 16

Join us for the opening of the Hebrew School year!

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidrei | Tuesday, September 18

Yom Kippur Day | Wednesday, September 19

PAI Book Club

Wednesday, September 26 | 7:30PM

This month we are reading *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee. Sign up: <https://www.psjc.org/event/pai-book-club.html>. There is no charge for this group.

For a Sweet New Year - Support PSJC with Honey From the Heart!

Order honey for your friends and family and support PSJC while doing it!

Your cost is **\$12.00 per jar** and \$5.00 per jar shipping and handling.
We will gladly mail orders outside the United States for an additional fee.
For more information and to order at: <http://orthoney.com/psj>





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Parashat Shoftim

Triennial: Deuteronomy 18:6-19:13 | Etz Hayim p.1094; Hertz p.825

Haftarah: Isaiah 51:12-52:12 | Etz Hayim p.1107; Hertz p.835

D'var Torah: Restoration of Judges

In this week's parashah, the People Israel stand in the desert outside the Land of Israel. Moses instructs them about the Israelite State they will establish when they cross the river. They've been nomads for decades in a vast wilderness, in the semi-magical state of being fed, clothed and watered directly by God. But now things get tough: they will become a nation in the Land, and in history; governing themselves without Moses their leader and prophet. The time has come that they must understand God's expectations on their own.

God lays down the basic principle in our parashah (Deut. 16:18-20): "You shall appoint judges and officials for your tribes...and they shall govern the people with due justice...Justice, justice shall you pursue, that you may live and inherit the land..." These words make a clear connection between inheriting the land and doing justice. If you want to inherit the land, God says, then you'll have to pursue justice. Justice is the condition for the existence of a Jewish state in the Holy Land.

As the holy story unfolds in the subsequent books of the Bible, we learn that the challenges of self-government were immense. We warred with local peoples and scurried under the feet of great empires, trying not to get crushed. It was hard to get just government right. Things got so bad that God pronounced the destruction of the Jewish state and the exile of her inhabitants. But God also promised that we would return (Isaiah 1:24-27): "Therefore said the LORD, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel...I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counsellors as at the beginning: afterward you shall be called, The City of Righteousness, the Faithful City. Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and those that return to her with righteousness." It was the lack of justice which drove us out and it will be the return of justice that will bring us back again.

The Rabbis, through their art of midrash, weave together the beginning and the end: Our parashah states "You shall appoint judges...that you may **live** and **inherit** the land..." and the sages comment: "this teaches us that appointing judges is able to resurrect the People Israel, establish them in the land and protect them from the sword." (Sifri, 144). In their simple meaning, the words from our parashah speak not about our return after exile but rather teach us how to prevent exile. But the Rabbis lived after the destruction, and taking their cue from the words of the prophets, they learned that justice is not only the key to preventing exile but also to our return afterwards. And thus, they teach that appointing judges, symbolizing the establishment of just government, is the key to the resurrection of the Jewish body politic in Eretz Yisrael.

We are again a small state facing immense challenges. We are at war with locals and dodging the feet of superpowers, just as before. In these harsh circumstances it is indeed difficult to get government right. But this week's parashah reminds us that we must never forget that the heart of Judaism is justice and that the condition for living in Eretz Yisrael is just government for all who live in it. The only alternative is exile and destruction. However, should we remain faithful to our mission, God has promised that we will not only survive in the Land, we will flourish in it.

May it be God's will that the history of our era bears witness that we remained faithful to our task.

This weekly commentary on the Torah portion is by **Dr. Shaiya Rothberg**, Conservative Yeshiva Faculty "Torah Sparks" series produced by the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A Haftarah commentary by Rabbi Mordechai Silverstein found at <http://www.conservativeyeshiva.org/torahsparks>.

All congregants and visitors (of all genders) are requested to wear a head covering in the Sanctuary. Cell phones and photography are not permitted in the synagogue during Shabbat. Please also refrain from applause during services.