



ASHREINews

Sukkot Edition



Menahel's Message

"Chanoch La'naar"

On the surface, the two major *mitzvos* of Sukkos do not appear to be related. What possible connection can there be between the obligation to sit in a sukkah on one hand and the Arba Minim on the other? In truth, however, the two *mitzvos* together serve as paradigms of *Avodas Hashem* and education.

Sometimes, explains Rav Meir Simcha of Dvinsk in his classic *Meshech Chochma*, being observant entails going against one's innate nature and subjugating one's self to God. When a person leaves a comfortable home to eat or sleep in a less comfortable sukkah, often in less than ideal weather conditions, he or she is demonstrating a willingness to satisfy the Torah's requirements even when doing so runs counter to natural inclinations.

Often, however, serving Hashem does not entail radically altering one's comportment or lifestyle but rather positively channeling perfectly natural behavior towards His service.

In ancient times, farmers instinctively celebrated the fall harvest by proudly displaying the season's bounty and festively parading the finest specimens. By commanding the *mitzvah* of Arba Minim, Hashem instructs us to take four species widely available in the Middle East and to channel the celebration towards Him. Continue doing exactly what you would have been doing anyway, just do it for the sake of Hashem.

"Chanoch la'naar al pi darko." Sometimes, like the *mitzvah* of Sukkah, children have to be given very clear parameters, whether or not those boundaries are consistent with the child's individual personality and inclinations. More often, however, like the Arba Minim, we strive to educate towards the unique traits and personality of the individual, positively channeling individual strengths towards a productive end.

Gut Yom Tov!

-Rabbi Ari Jacobson
Menahel/Dean

Important Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2-11
Sukkot No School

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
Columbus Day Sessions Resume,
No Busing

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
8th Grade Parent & Student Meeting
8:00PM on Zoom

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18
4B-8B Sunday Program Begins
8:30AM Shacharit

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
2B Chumash Mesiba 9:30AM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
2G Chumash Mesiba 9:30AM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Picture Day, 8B/G, N-1, T class

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Picture Day Grades 2-7

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
Parent Teacher Conferences 1:00PM
12:00PM Dismissal



Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen

Principal of Early Childhood and First Grade

I hope you and your families are all well. I'm so grateful we had a **live** start to the school year. It was great to see the children each



day, and for them to get to know their Morahs and classmates in person! For everyone's safety, we needed to switch to Zoom, which hopefully will only be for a few days.

As with any change, we need time to adjust to the new situation. This includes teachers, parents and children. As your children are still so young, initially they are unable to navigate Virtual School on their own. We truly appreciate all the time you are putting into partnering with us - it does not go unnoticed.

We look forward to welcoming your children back to school shortly. This week on Zoom we learned all about Sukkos and Simchas Torah, made sukkah decorations, projects, our own Sukkahs and more. We learned ABC and Aleph Bet letters, and played games together. We even celebrated several children's birthdays. Please enjoy the following pictures from our short week.

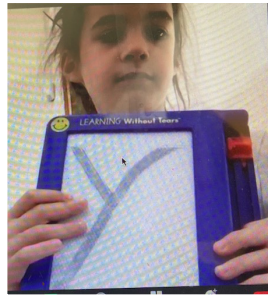
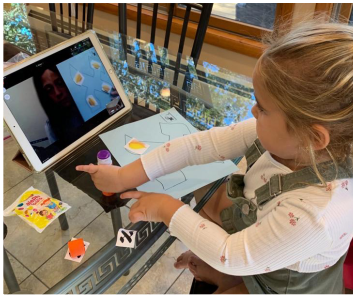
Thank you again for all of your support, patience and feedback. Please feel free to contact me with specific concerns.

Shabbat Shalom and Chag Sameach!

Stay well,

Mrs. Jacqueline Borgen

Aleph Bet and ABC's



Sukkot



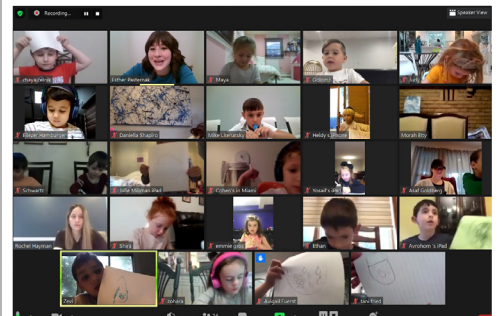
Math Sorting

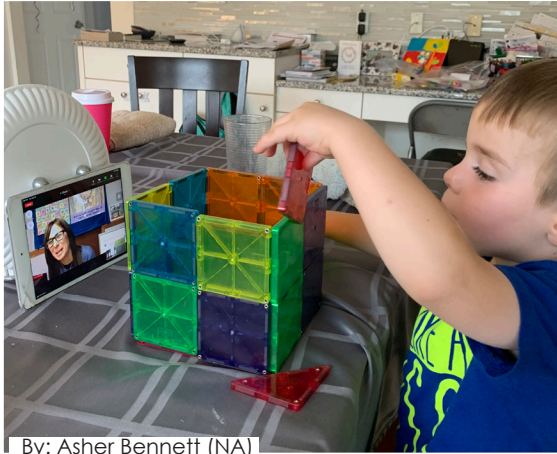


Fall Writing in First Grade



Zoom Fun





By: Asher Bennett (NA)



By: Avishai Schneid (NA)

*"I built
myself a
sukkah
with four
walls*



By: Ariel Neuwirth (NC)



By: Noey Marinelli (NA)

*and a door
it doesn't have a
ceiling*



*it doesn't have a floor
the schach will be the ceiling
the ground will be the floor
we'll hang some decorations
it's ready now for sure"*



By: Eitan Schwartz (KB)



Check out more product reviews on our student publication page at ashar.org

Sukkah

 Atara Friedman (8G)

How catastrophic can putting up a small rectangle hut be?

Apparently very. The color of the hut, mud mixed with grass, displeased me from the start. The materials that make up the Sukkah are scratchy and very irritating to the skin. The morning after we put up the walls, everyone woke up to itchy, irritating, and red skin. Definitely not how we wanted to spend our time! This product took two weeks to assemble, which was a massive waste of time and money. The metal beams started rusting after a light rain shower, collapsed with the slightest wind, and eventually blew away when someone huffed in disappointment. In conclusion, the whole two weeks that we spent putting it together was a major halabaloo.

Lulav and Etrog

 Shira Raff (7G)

The Lulav and Etrog are part of what you use on Sukkot. In the morning of Sukkot, people use them and make brachot for the holiday. The Lulav is really bad because it hurts some people and gives them cuts from the leaves, and the Etrog is really good because it smells so good. You use the Lulav to shake around and that's basically all. It is really annoying because it falls apart a lot, and you have to put it back together. I don't think it's the best product for people. The Etrog is really amazing because it smells so nice. You can hold it and it feels great. People love it and buy it all the time. I would for sure suggest that. As you can see, you really should think about buying them because you get them as a set. So if you're willing to have the Lulav, then you get the amazing etrog. But if you decide that you can't handle the Lulav then you can't get the great and amazing Etrog.

If you're willing to buy it you can find it on Amazon for just \$9.99.



Worst tent ever

 Chanan Seltzer (5B)

I rented this tent for a two week vacation for my family. At first it looked like it was the perfect size. I got it because the school year was about to start and I wanted one more relaxed family vacation before it started. At first, when I rented it, the Jewish people selling it acted like it was really weird that I rented it before something called Succot. Then I learned that I could only keep it for one week, but that was after I already rented it. On the trip I realized it had no roof or floor and it rained almost every day. In the middle of the trip I had to drive all the way back to return it.

**We
love to
hear your
feedback!**

“ Dear Morah,
Rose Cohen (1G) told us the
story of Yonah, including
a lot of interesting details
that we didn't know about!
We were so impressed
that she remembered
everything Morah taught
her in school!
Rose also davened on Yom
Kippur and learnt Mishnah with
her Abba! ”

Schach

 Shalva Laster (8G)

I bought this schach last year in my local hardware store thinking it would last me throughout the whole Succos holiday. I was not prepared for the weather so it was a big disappointment when I realized the schach would not be useful on these rainy days. If you thought about buying a four-walled structure with a roof that doesn't leak, think again. This roof does not protect nor keep you safe; it's just a piece of junk made out of bamboo.

These dead branches are a poor replacement for a roof. After the last heavy downpour, the dirty water from the schach dripped into my hot soup. The moldy-smelling bamboo continued to drip long after the rain stopped. Truth be told, the sellers guaranteed that this product would only provide shade. I didn't anticipate the bad weather, but my experience should not discourage you from purchasing this product. It accomplishes the stated goal. I would definitely recommend this product for a shady Sukkah experience.



By: Raizy Blachman (5G)



By Avigail Fuerst (1G)



By: Yonah Weitzman (2B)

By: Chavie Kestenbaum (4G)

Mazal tov Yona Weitzman (2B) and Bracha Pomeranz (7G) on the most creative entries!



By: Bracha Pomeranz (7G)

CREATE A SET OF ארבע מינים!

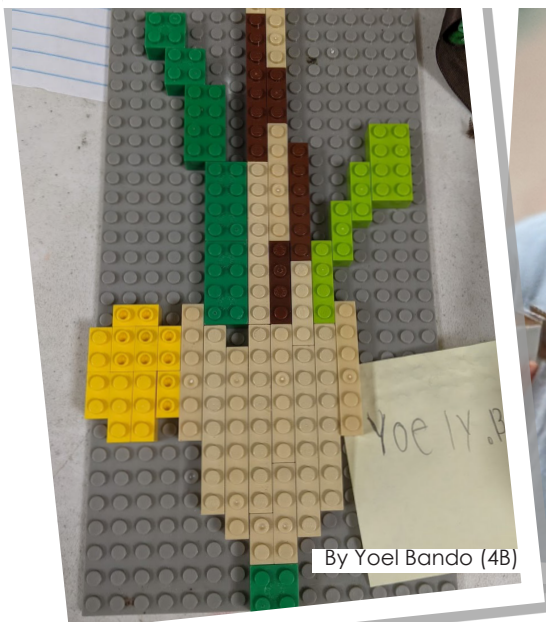


Sukkot



By: Noey Marinelli (NA)

Thank you to all those that participated in our Arba Minim contest. Every participant will receive a special prize when we return to school!

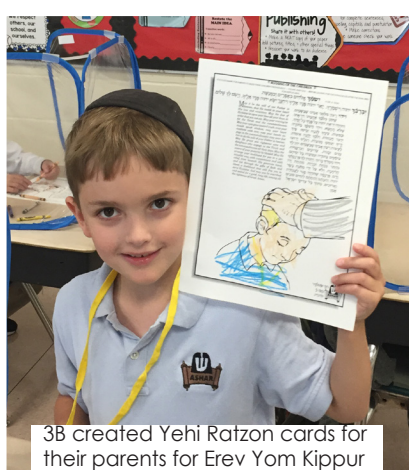


By Yoel Bando (4B)

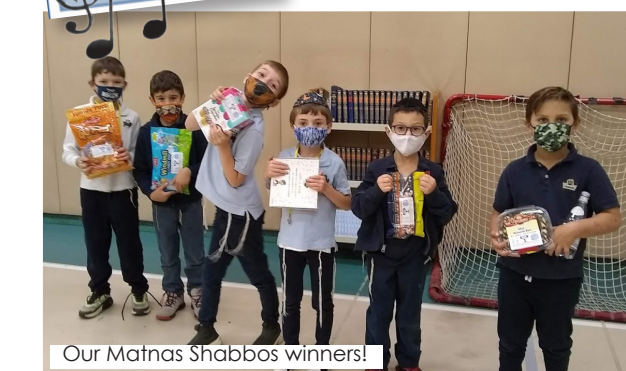


By (L to R): Gabe Solomon (3B), Akiva Benovitz (3B), Coby Goldman (3B)

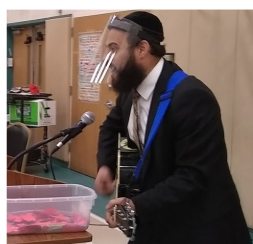
Be ready to shep lots of nachas when your sons share their Yom Tov knowledge with you! We've learned so much: halachos, stories, machzor, niggunim and much more!



3B created Yehi Ratzon cards for their parents for Erev Yom Kippur



Our Matnas Shabbos winners!



Rabbi Auslander rocking out with Shabbos niggunim



Middle School Boys had an assembly where they watched a Torah Live video about Sukkot. They learned that a sukkah is symbolic of the Ananei Hakavod that protected us in the desert. Then they had fun bringing out their creativity and building working clocks to hang in their sukkahs.

Mrs. Debby Jacobson

Principal of Girls Division



As we approach Sukkos, I wanted to share with you an interesting phenomenon about bamboo. It takes bamboo five years to grow. During the first four years, you plant the seeds and water the soil but nothing happens. Finally, in the fifth year you see a bud and then amazingly, the bamboo tree shoots up to the sky; within six weeks the bamboo grows over ninety feet!

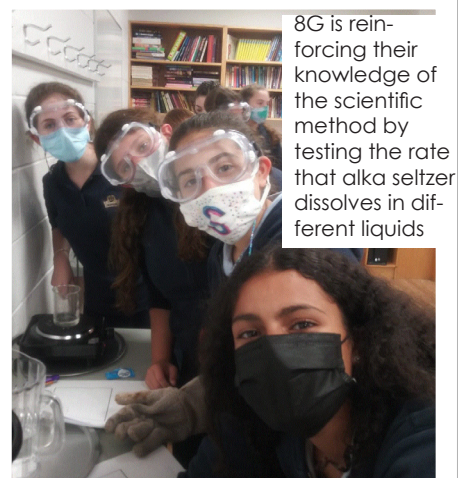
As teachers and parents we often wonder if our children are gaining anything from the many lessons we attempt to impart upon them. Are they listening to a word we say?? Growth takes time and patience. Every encouraging word and positive gesture we make towards our kids helps their roots become a little bit stronger. You may not see the change right away. Continue to "water" your children with love and affection, and eventually they will begin to grow.

As you sit in your Sukkah, take a moment to look up at the bamboo, and remember, a little patience and a lot of love is what our children truly need to grow.

Chag Sameach!



4G pre-Yom tov baking



8G is reinforcing their knowledge of the scientific method by testing the rate that alka seltzer dissolves in different liquids



ASHAR's Girls Division is gearing up for Sukkot!



Mazel Tov Meital Schwartz on winning the raffle!

Mrs. Jennah Schuh

Assistant Principal

Always Learning

Learning does not occur in a vacuum. As functioning human beings, we are constantly in a state of learning. Visiting a new place, a wrong turn, an unknown word or meeting a new person provides us with new learning. We are always trying to take information from the world around us and integrate it into our already existing knowledge base, ultimately creating new knowledge and understanding.

The same concept applies to mastery of skills; skill mastery does not occur in a vacuum. In order to master something or even just find improvement, you need to be able to practice it in a variety of settings. This is true for any skill, from basketball to baking, from interior designing to public speaking. In the school setting, varied practice is fundamental to guiding students to reach mastery. One of ASHAR's unique qualities is the school's goal of maximizing skill instruction time, practice, and application. Our teachers and administration plan regularly for cross-curriculum implementation of skills.



Mrs. Mindy Reifer

Director of Curriculum



Scientific notation is practiced in both math and science. Dissecting prefixes, suffixes and root words is exercised in English decoding, vocabulary practice, Gemara understanding and Hebrew language comprehension. In fact, every skill repeats itself throughout the school day, multiple times a day, and every time a student is able to recognize that she/he has the capability to perform that skill, her/his abilities are strengthened.

"by allowing students to apply skills in different situations and scenarios, they can learn to be more comfortable with the unknown"

For cognitive purposes, this process of interleaving practice (the official term for mixed skill practice) and learning is important as it allows for better discrimination and retrieval. But almost as important is that by allowing students to apply skills in different situations and scenarios, they can learn to be more comfortable with the unknown and unplanned. This is especially useful in helping students (and adults) who struggle with anxiety.

Throughout the year, ASHAR will continue to look for as many opportunities as possible to grow our children by helping them find mastery in a variety of ways.



ParentLocker Connect App

Please continue to submit your children's daily health screening even when not in school. Doing so allows us to keep track of any potential cases as we assess dates for resuming live instruction and may also be helpful for tracing purposes, should doing so prove necessary. Please contact an administrator directly in case of a positive test, or any concern for COVID exposure.



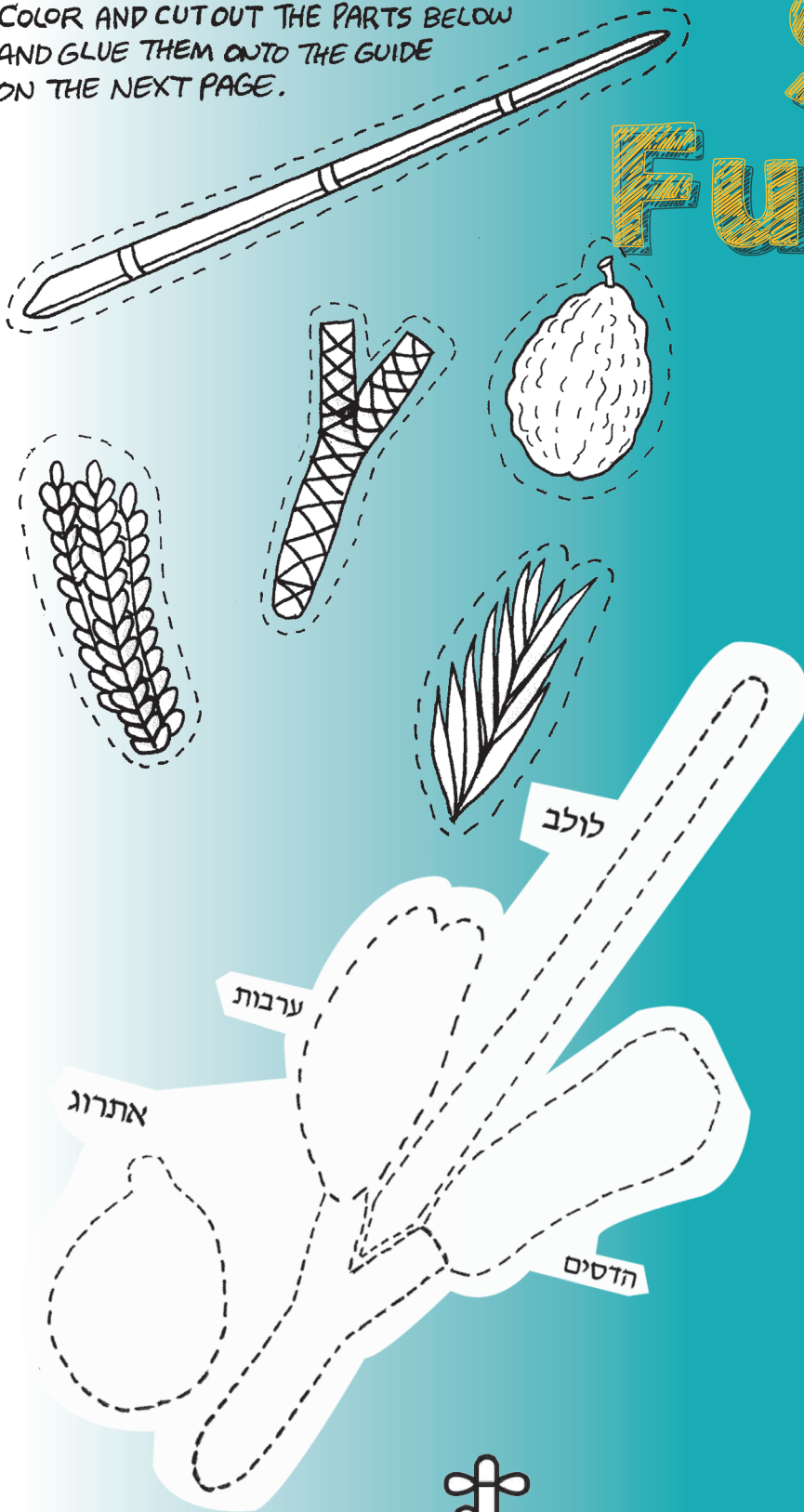
Mazel Tov!

Karyn Kurtz (2G)

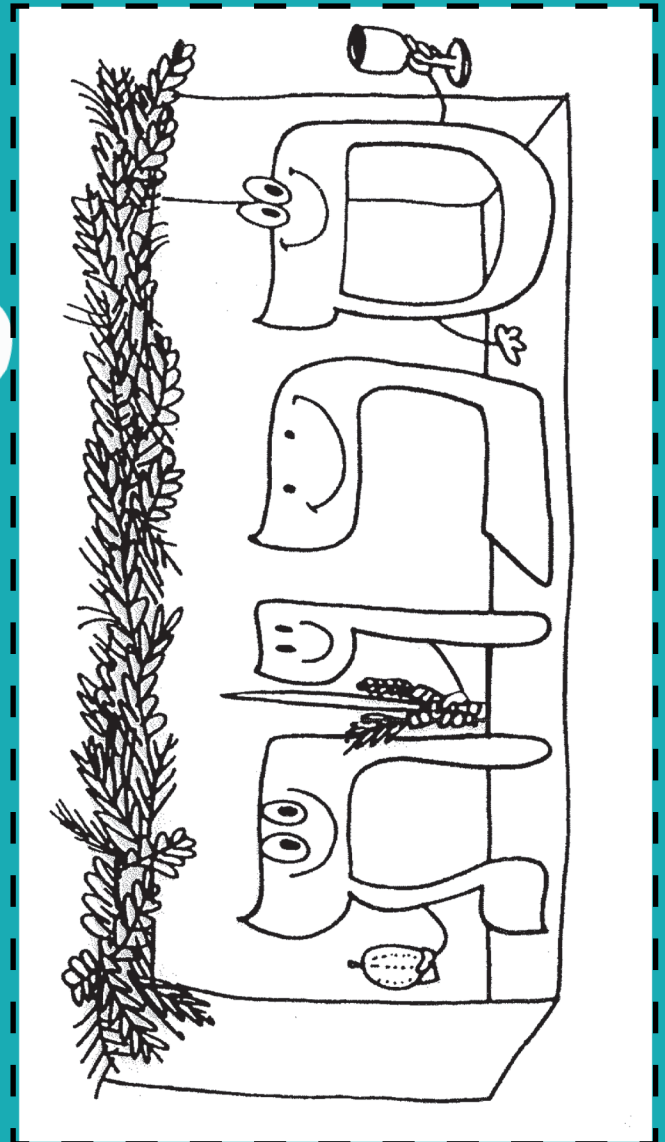
on her twins', Jessy and Tyler's Bar Mitzvah

PUT TOGETHER YOUR OWN ארבע מינים !
 COLOR AND CUT OUT THE PARTS BELOW
 AND GLUE THEM ONTO THE GUIDE
 ON THE NEXT PAGE.

Sukkot Fun Page



**Remember your sukkot
 learning and davening sheets!**



*A mini-poster
 to color in and
 hang in your
 sukkah!*



C J S D S K W X C G V H E K M O C
G C Z G B R Z A Y K T X K U A H U
W V F L I L D X S K R A Z W D C Z
S U V A L U L L E L L A H U A A C
N A O N M R U U X G O L P E M H T
U C D B C T S H M K L K W U G C G
O U F A O O Y D A D F C L E L S L
M A E B H D C A E K P I N A E K W
U T E U A Z L O S N K B Q B T U T
C O I E S G M W H I X U H Q R E B
S Z X G A A L G U A P X S O O C M
L R K I H E O K Y R V Q X K G G P
V I V L L L B X W D G A T T K F V
Q B O U O C M R W B V B R N I K Q
F H K F H X H M I N I M H A B R A
C L G A Y P K D E D B P E X Z O O
N J G H O E T T X A Q M W T D B D

Chag Arbah minim Schach Hallel Chol Hamoed Aravah
Hadas Etrog Lulav Sukkah

WORD CMRLESAB

(scramble)

ERPSAI

ISGNRI

EYNDE



SUTD

HMEROT

HNICDRLE

Hint: Hallel - Psalm 113

GEMATRIA

Hint: The Sukkah reminds us of the Clouds



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