

**Beth Sholom Temple
Interfaith Vigil
Remembering Tree of Life Victims in Pittsburgh, PA
With Hope for our Future
November 3, 2018 Cheshvan 25, 5779**

Welcome from: Rabbi Jennifer Weiner
Robert Jobrack, President of Beth Sholom Temple

Havdallah

Blessings over the wine, spices, candle and between the separation of holy and commonplace. The *Havdalah* service marks the separation between the end of Shabbat and the week.

Lift the cup of wine of grape juice, and recite the blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגֶּפֶן.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam, borei p'ri hagafen.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Hold up the spice box, and recite the blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מִיְּנֵי בְשָׁמִים.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam borei minei v'samim.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of all spices.

Lift the Havdalah candle, and recite the blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאֹרֵי הָאֵשׁ.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam, borei m'orei ha-eish.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe, Creator of fire.

Hold the Havdalah candle, and recite the blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל,
בֵּין אֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ, בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים, בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי לְשֵׁשֶׁת
יְמֵי הַמַּעֲשֶׂה. בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הַמְבַדִּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחֹל.

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam, hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol, bein or l'choshech, bein Yisrael laamim,
bein yom hash-vi-i l'sheishet y'mei hamaaseh. Baruch atah Adonai, hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol.*

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe: You distinguish the commonplace from the holy; You create light and darkness, Israel and the nations, the seventh day of rest and the six days of labor. We praise You, O God: You call us to distinguish the commonplace from the holy.

Rabbi Jennifer Weiner:

We have separated between holy time and not yet holy time. Last Shabbat, our holy time was shattered with the sounds of gunshots fired in Tree of Life's sanctuary. Eleven people lost their lives and others were injured including First Responders answering the call of crisis.

Tonight, we gather together as a community of many faiths to stand up to the hate and to support those still enduring the aftermath of the tragedy in Pittsburgh's Jewish community.

We invite to the bimah eleven members of our community to light eleven memorial candles, one for each victim killed at of Tree of Life.

Candles Lit in Memory of:

- Joyce Fienberg
- Richard Gottfried
- Rose Mallinger
- Jerry Rabinowitz
- brothers Cecil Rosenthal and David Rosenthal
- married couple Bernice Simon and Sylvan Simon, 86
- Daniel Stein
- Melvin Wax
- Irving Younger

Ozi v'zimrat Yah vay'hi li lishuah.

עֲזִי וְזִמְרַת יְהוָה לִי לִישׁוּעָה

My Strength (balanced) with the Song of God will be my salvation.
(Psalm 118:14, Exodus 15:2)

Taharot in Pittsburgh²

As the Jewish world mourns the murders at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, a group of private individuals are preparing themselves to perform taharot. Taharah (taharot, *pl*) is the ritual preparation of a body for burial. It's a sacred task that takes a special individual. These will be particularly difficult taharot, given the brutality of the deaths. It's my hope that in praying for those who are conducting this holy act, we find a bit of solace for ourselves.

Taharot in Pittsburgh

Rock of Comfort,
Redeemer of Israel,
Grant Your protection and care
To those who are preparing the dead for burial,
Gently washing wounded bodies
With love and water,
Praying for the souls of the innocent
To find peace on the journey
To heavenly spheres.

So much loss.
So much blood.
So many wounds.

These unnamed servants of our people
Come in quiet devotion,
With gentle prayers,
Serving the dead with the work of their hands,

¹Music by Rabbi Shefa Gold
Words from Shirat Hayam, Exodus 15:2. Composer unknown.

² By Alden, October 28, 2018 © 2018 Alden Solovy and tobendlight.com.

So that the living can grieve
And that souls can find rest.
Grant them an extra share of steadfast strength
As they bless the lost with the gift given in reverence
For generations.

White is the clothing of the dead.
Sorrow is the clothing of the living.
Let the taharat in Pittsburgh become a beacon of love,
A radiance of healing,
And a source of comfort for all.

Prayer for the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh³

Tree of Life,
Revive our souls,
Enrich our days,
Entreating Your blessings.
Oh, God of Peace,
Fill our hearts with comfort, a
Letting Your Torah shine,
In the fullness of our love.
Faith in You, our God,
Eternal Source of blessings.

Praying for healing
In the depths of despair,
Thanking God for the survivors,
Thanking God for the first responders,
Sorrow crushing our hearts,
Bereaved beyond belief,
United in our love,
Returning to You in faith,
God of Israel,
Healer of generations.

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Tree of Life,
Redeemer of Israel,
Enliven this moment with healing,
Enliven this moment with hope.
Oh, Rock of Israel,
Forget not the Jews of Pittsburgh.
Let Your love flow
In the days ahead
For justice and peace
Everlasting

First They Came⁴

First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Trade Unionist.
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

Mi Sheberakh⁵

מִי שְׁבֵרַךְ אֲבוֹתֵנוּ מְקוֹר הַבְּרָכָה לְאַמּוֹתֵנוּ

Mi sheberakh avoteinu

M'kor habrakhah l'imoteinu

May the source of strength who blessed the ones before us,
Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing
And let us say: Amen.

מִי שְׁבֵרַךְ אֲמוֹתֵנוּ מְקוֹר הַבְּרָכָה לְאַבּוֹתֵנוּ

Mi sheberakh imoteinu

M'kor habrakhah l'avoteinu

Bless those in need of healing with *refuah sh'leimah*
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit
And let us say: Amen.

Those who sow, who sow in tears, shall reap in joy!
*Hazorim, b'dimah, b'rinah yiktzoru!*⁶
(Psalm 126)

⁴ Martin Niemöller, <https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2017/01/first-they-came-poem-history/514895/>

⁵ <https://www.ritualwell.org/ritual/mi-sheberakh>, Copyright 1988 Deborah Lynn Friedman and Drorah Setel (ASCAP), Sounds Write Productions, Inc. (ASCAP). Used with the permission of Sounds Write Productions, Inc.

⁶ Debbie Friedman's "Sow in Tears" perfectly expresses this transformation from tragedy to joy.

Each of Us Has a Name⁷

Everyone has a name
that God gives
and one's father and mother give.

Everyone has a name
that stature and the curve of one's smile give
and the weave of one's clothing gives.

Everyone has a name
that the mountains give
and the walls of one's city give.

Everyone has a name
that the stars give
and one's neighbors give.

Everyone has a name
that one's offenses give
and one's longing gives.

Everyone has a name
that enemies give
and love for others gives.

Everyone has a name
birthday celebrations give
and one's work gives.

Everyone has a name
that the seasons of the year give
and our blindness gives.

Everyone has a name
that the sea gives
and one's death gives.

⁷ https://ancienthebrewpoetry.typepad.com/ancient_hebrew_poetry/2009/04/a-poem-by-zelda-schneersohn-mishkowsky.html

Mourner's Kaddish⁸

Version of the *Kaddish*, praising God, that mourners recite during the bereavement period and to mark the anniversary of a death of a loved one.

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעָלְמָא דִּי בְּרָא כְרַעוּתֵיהּ,
וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵיהּ בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית
יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעָגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.
יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמָיָא.
יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר
וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקַדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא, לְעָלְמָא מִן כָּל
בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא וְנַחֲמָתָא, דְּאָמִירוֹן בְּעָלְמָא,
וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.
יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא, וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל,
וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.
עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוֵמֵי, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

*Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'mei raba. B'alma di v'ra chirutei, v'yamlich malchutei, b'chayeichon
uv'yomeichon uv'chayei d'chol beit Yisrael,
baagala uviz'man kariv. V'im'ru: Amen.*

Y'hei sh'mei raba m'varach l'alam ul'almei almaya.

*Yitbarach v'yishtabach v'yitpaar v'yitromam v'yitnasei, v'yit'hadar v'yitaleh v'yit'halal sh'mei
d'Kud'sha B'rich Hu, l'eila min kol birchata v'shirata, tushb'chata v'nechemata, daamiran b'alma.
V'imru: Amen.*

Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya, v'chayim aleinu v'al kol Yisrael. V'imru: Amen.

Oseh shalom bimromav, Hu yaaseh shalom aleinu, v'al kol Yisrael. V'imru: Amen.

⁸ <https://reformjudaism.org/practice/prayers-blessings/mourners-kaddish>

Exalted and hallowed be God's great name in the world which God created, according to plan. May God's majesty be revealed in the days of our lifetime and the life of all Israel — speedily, imminently, to which we say: **Amen.**

Blessed be God's great name to all eternity.

Blessed, praised, honored, exalted, extolled, glorified, adored, and lauded be the name of the Holy Blessed One, beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise, and comfort. To which we say: **Amen.**

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and all Israel. To which we say: **Amen.**

May the One who creates harmony on high, bring peace us and to all Israel. To which we say: **Amen.**

Olam Chesed Yibaneh⁹

יְבִנֶּה הַסֵּד עוֹלָם

Olam chesed yibaneh

I will build this world from love... yai dai dai
And you must build this world from love... yai dai dai
And if we build this world from love... yai dai dai
Then God will build this world from love... yai dai dai

⁹ Menachem Creditor - Olam Chesed Yibaneh from [There is Hope](#) by [Rabbi David Paskin and Rabbi Menachem Creditor](#), from [There is Hope](#), released November 18, 2016 , Written by Rabbi Menachem Creditor , Performed by Shirav (Rabbi Menachem Creditor and Rabbi David Paskin) on their album "Deeper and Deeper." Produced by Josh Nelson, all rights reserved.