



woodlands community temple

# GRADUATION SERVICE



**MAY 20, 2022 • 20 IYYAR 5782**  
**35TH DAY OF THE OMER • SHABBAT BEHAR**

# Our Graduation Class 2022/5782

## HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY PROGRAM

### Woodlands Community Temple

#### **JOHN ALDOUS**

*child of Kathryn Kitt and Ken Aldous*

John Aldous will be graduating from Byram Hills High School in June of this year. He will be attending SUNY Binghamton in the fall. He doesn't entirely know what he wants to do with his life, but that's what college is for, isn't it?

#### **KARENNA BEST**

*child of Robert and Carolyn Best*

Karenna Best is graduating from Briarcliff High School. She used to go to Ardsley but switched schools at the beginning of Junior year. She is excited to attend the University of Hartford in the fall! She is majoring in early childhood education/special education and hopes to work with kids in the future!

#### **GABRIEL FUSCHILLO**

*child of Michael Fuschillo and Olga Tenenbaum*

Gabriel Fuschillo is graduating from Ardsley High School. He is majoring in health sciences at Ithaca College and is planning on being a veterinarian in the future.

#### **JOSEPH KLEINMAN**

*child of Jonathan and Kirsten Kleinman*

Joseph Kleinman is graduating from Dobbs Ferry High School. He is going to the University of Maryland College Park, where he plans on studying Astronomy and possibly minoring in Paleobiology or PolySci. In the future, he plans on getting a doctorate in Astronomy and helping research planets outside of our solar system, as well as continue in political activism.

#### **CHARLIE LINDER**

*child of Barry and Toby Linder*

Charlie Linder is graduating from Hastings High School. He will be attending Duke University in the fall, studying mechanical engineering. He loves competing in quiz bowl and is an avid Formula 1 fan. This summer, Charlie will be working as a counselor at Crane Lake Camp. He is excited to see what the future holds!

## **ELIANA MIRO**

*child of Paul and Alyssa Miro*

Eliana Miro will be graduating from Ardsley High School and attending SUNY Binghamton University. She plans to stay involved in Jewish life as well as begin her studies to pursue a career as a Nurse Practitioner.

## **JACK OREN**

*child of Richard and Nancy Oren*

Jack Oren will be graduating from Ardsley High School. After graduation, he plans to attend a college and become an English major. Although it's no easy feat, he would love to become a published fiction author in the future.

## **NATHANIEL RECHTSCHAFFEN**

*child of Tom Rechtschaffen and Amanda North*

## **SARAH SAGNER**

*child of Steve Sagner and Jennifer Tower*

Sarah Sagner will be graduating from White Plains High School this June. This summer, she is excited to return to URJ Crane Lake Camp for her 11th summer. Sarah will be working as a programming specialist and lower camp counselor! Sarah will be attending McGill University and plan on double majoring in Statistics/Computer Science and Sociology. Her hope is to use her math skills to work in the field of educational policy research!

## **SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR POST-CONFIRMATION FACULTY!**

Jon Hirsch, 11th/12th grade facilitator  
Avital Abraham, Director of Youth and Community Engagement  
Abby Reiken, Director of Congregational Learning  
Lara Tessler, Rabbinic Intern  
Rabbi Mara Young  
Cantor Lance Rhodes

# Graduation Service

May 20, 2022 • 20 Iyyar 5782  
35th Day of the Omer • Shabbat Behar

## HINEI MAH TOV (ARIAN)

## הנה מה טוב

הנה מה טוב ומה נעים שבת אחים גם יחד

*Hinei mah tov u-mah na-im she-vet a-chim gam ya-chad*

How good it is (How good it is)  
How sweet it is (How sweet it is)  
To be together on this day.

*Shalom aleichem, Salaam aleykum.*

## SHABBAT CANDLES

## הדלקת הנרות

The sun has set.  
We light our candles,  
creating a separation between day and night,  
between light and dark,  
between the busyness of our week,  
and the peacefulness of Shabbat.  
Our family is thankful that we can welcome this time together.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו  
במצותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של שבת.

*Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, E-lo-hey-nu me-lekh ha-o-lahm, a-sheyr kid-sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzee-va-nu l'had-leek neyr shel Sha-bat.*

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe: You hallow us with Your mitzvot, and command us to kindle the lights of Shabbat.

## COUNTING OF THE OMER

## ספירת העומר

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו  
במצותיו, וצונו על ספירת העומר.

*Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, E-lo-hey-nu me-lekh ha-o-lahm, a-sheyr kid-sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzee-va-nu al s'fee-rat ha-o-meyr.*

Blessed are You, O God, Creator of the Universe, Who brings holiness into our lives by commanding us to perform the mitzvah of counting the omer.

הַיּוֹם הַחֲמִשָּׁה וְשְׁלוֹשִׁים יוֹם בְּעוֹמֵר.

*Ha-yom sh'moh-neh v'ess-rim yom ba-o-meyr.*

*Today is the 35th day of the Omer.*

### **GRADUATION STATEMENT: JOHN ALDOUS**

Judaism has always been an important part of my life. My mom always likes to throw around the idea that she forced me and my siblings into religious school until we got bar or bat mitzvah'd, after which we would be allowed to choose whether to continue with religion or not. I never really considered before that she was offering us a more educated decision than a lot of parents do. We got to live and learn with the people who practiced faith, even if more mildly than the extremely religious, until we were old enough to feel for ourselves what is right.

I wouldn't be speaking here today if I didn't choose what I thought was, and is, right.

Throughout my experiences at WCT I have made many friends and memories which I will cherish forever. From catching glimpses of certain people who shall not be named shoving glass down a toilet at Kutz and realizing this will go south quickly, to hour-long discussions in the Youth Lounge, to whatever that covid confirmation was.

And through it all, I learned. The painstaking lessons on prayers and the Hebrew abjad opened my eyes to different cultural expressions. The history of our people, the people of Israel, which so early sparked my love of history and flamed my excitement for seeing history made here and now. And through it all, my values and ideas shifted as I accrued more knowledge and experience.

I won't pretend I was never more conservative in my political beliefs, and that I never held such values to my heart. Yet, I also won't say those values at the time were born from some hatred of an "other," an outcast. I saw myself as logical and reasonable. "Reform Judaism is clearly not the correct choice because it offers too many choices." I think to myself now that Reform Judaism's abundance of choices is what keeps me to it. It can change from person to person without spawning some inquisition of purity.

I, at first, stayed here more out of a desire to see my friends, eat their pizza, and maybe have some fun conversations. It was as I kept coming back in addition to my own learning and experience that I realized maybe this Reformism thing is worth a shot.

I don't know if I'll keep going to a religious institution when I'm in college or even past that. Surely there's no place like Woodlands. But I do know that whatever my choice, as long as I keep learning, keep experiencing, and keep changing, I will have succeeded.

### **LEKHA DODI**

לכה דודי

לְכָה דוּדִי לְקִרְאֵת כַּלָּה. פְּנֵי שַׁבַּת נְקַבְּלָהּ.

*Le-kha do-di lik-rat ka-lah, p'ney sha-bat n'kab-lah.*

שָׁמֹר וְזָכוֹר בְּדָבוֹר אֶחָד, הַשְּׁמִיעֵנוּ אֶל הַמִּיְחָד.

יְיָ אֶחָד וְשִׁמוֹ אֶחָד. לְשֵׁם וְלִתְפָאֵרֶת וְלִתְהִלָּהּ.

*Sha-mor v'za-khor v'dee-bur e-khad, hish-mee-a-nu eyl hahm-yu-khad. Adonai e-khad*

*oosh-mo e-khad. L'shem ool-tif-e-ret v'lit-hee-lah.*

לְקִרְאָת שַׁבָּת לְכוּ וְנִלְכָהּ. כִּי הִיא מְקוֹר הַבְּרָכָה.  
מֵרֵאשׁ מְקוֹדֵם נְסוּכָהּ. סוּף מֵעֵשָׂה בְּמַחְשָׁבָה תִּחְלָהּ.

*Lik-rat sha-bat l'khu v'nel-kha. Kee hee m'kor ha-bra-kha.*

*Mey-rosh mee-ke-dem n'su-kha. Sof ma-a-seh b'makh-sha-vah t'hee-lah.*

הַתְּעוֹרְרִי הַתְּעוֹרְרִי. כִּי בָּא אֲוֶרֶךְ קוּמִי אֲוֶרִי.  
עֲוֶרִי עֲוֶרִי שִׁיר דְּבָרִי. כְּבוֹד יְיָ עָלֶיךָ נִגְלָהּ.

*Hit-o-r'ree hit-o-r'ree. Kee va o-rekh ku-mee o-ree.*

*Oo-ree oo-ree sheer da-bey-ree. K'vod Adonai a-la-yikh nig-lah.*

To welcome the Sabbath Bride ...  
we rise, turn, and face our synagogue entrance.  
On the words "Bo-ee kha-lah, bo-ee kha-lah," we bow to honor her.  
Upon returning to the words "Le-kha do-di," we turn back toward the front.

בּוֹאִי בְּשָׁלוֹם עֲטֹרַת בְּעִלָּהּ. גַּם בְּשִׂמְחָה וּבְצִהְלָהּ.  
תּוֹךְ אֲמוּנֵי עַם סִגְלָהּ. בּוֹאִי כְּלָהּ, בּוֹאִי כְּלָהּ.

*Bo-ee v'sha-lom a-te-ret ba-lah. Gahm b'sim-kha oov-tzo-ho-lah.*

*Tokh e-mu-ney ahm s'gu-lah. Bo-ee kha-lah, bo-ee kha-lah.*

Beloved, come to meet the bride; beloved, come to greet Shabbat. "Keep" and "Remember" in a single word, the Unique God caused us to hear. The Eternal is One, God's name is One, for fame and glory and praise. Come with me to greet Shabbat, for she is a fountain of blessing! She flows from the first to the last — last to be created, the first in intention. Arouse yourself! Rise and shine, for your light has come! Awake, awake, break out in song! God's glory has dawned upon you! Enter in peace, O crown of your husband, in joy and gladness enter the midst of your treasured people! Come, O bride! Come, O bride!

### **GRADUATION STATEMENT: CHARLIE LINDER**

As a member of Woodlands Community Temple, I have gained a perspective of openness and acceptance that I am excited to bring with me in my post-high school life.

At Woodlands, I have participated in religious school for nine years and our youth organization, WoodSY, for five. I have spent the last two as an officer. But more importantly, at Woodlands I have participated in many discussions, especially in Confirmation, about religion and have learned so much about Judaism and my relationship with it. Woodlands has shown me a unique perspective towards Judaism, one that has greatly helped me form my own Jewish identity. From the conversations about Torah to conversations about our daily lives, Woodlands has kept me coming back every week to Academy because of the value of a Jewish community it has instilled into me.

Another thing that Woodlands has shown me is the fundamental interconnection between Judaism and social action. One stand-out experience is Christmas Eve Midnight Run, where we distribute food and clothing to the homeless. I also enjoyed running the drive-thru Purim CARnival during COVID through WoodSY, and making a Thanksgiving meal for a shelter with my Confirmation class. Judaism is important to me because of the connections I have built. It is those activities that helped my class build a sense of community and connection and in turn made me feel more deeply connected to Judaism.

I have also attended Crane Lake Camp for 6 years and will be a counselor there this summer. The values and community that I have at Woodlands also exists at Crane Lake, and I've loved building my Jewish community there throughout my time growing up. Both Crane Lake and Woodlands have contributed greatly to forming my overall Jewish identity, and have shown me the importance to continuing my relationship with Judaism and being a part of a strong Jewish community.

Woodlands and Crane Lake have led me through my early journey as a Jew, though it really is only the beginning. I am beyond excited to continue being active in a Jewish community on my college campus next year, especially through Hillel. Wherever I end up, I know that Judaism will remain an important part of my life, and I couldn't imagine it any other way.

## שְׁמַע וּבְרָכוּתֶיהָ The Shema and Its Blessings

### BAREKHU

ברכו

בְּרָכוּ אֶת יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ.

*Bar-khu et Adonai hahm-vo-rakh.*

בְּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

*Ba-ruk h Adonai hahm-vo-rakh l'o-lahm va-ed.*

Praise Adonai to whom our praise is due!

Praise Adonai to whom our praise is due, now and forever!

### GRADUATION STATEMENT: JOSEPH KLEINMAN

I believe in us. As a people, we have survived through thousands of years of all the world could throw at us. And by all means, we're still going through it. And after all these thousands of years, we yet continue. That responsibility, to keep that flame that has burned on for so many generations now falls to me.

Growing up Jewish gave me a certain level of connection with my family that I'm really not sure would have developed as it did without it. Both sides - grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, and almost everyone else I am related to - share a common background. We would always reunite for holidays, which made us grow even closer. WCT also encouraged me to continue my life in Judaism. To be honest, I may have stopped after my Bar Mitzvah if I was at any other temple. But the feeling of community, brotherhood, and connection that WCT provided was really extraordinary.

The values I have learned from my years of WCT have really changed my life for the better. Some examples:

- Fight against injustice anywhere even if it doesn't directly affect you, because we know the pain.
- To always look at an argument constructively, and understand why people feel a certain way.

- To always stand in the face of tyrants, regardless of their positions or beliefs.
- No people are undeserving of help. No group less than the others.

These are the core values that I learned. These are also what make Judaism such an important part of my life, It isn't just prayers and ceremonies and titles. What it is, is a call to action. A call to do for those less fortunate than us what was done for us in the land of Egypt. To fight for what is right, to help those that need to be helped. Even if they refuse, even if they are disgusted by our mere presence there for no other reason than where we stand, we are all children of God, and we all are one people in the eyes.

In the future, I intend on continuing the traditions of Judaism, to remember the thousands of years we went through and came out on the other side. I also intend on honoring the values of brotherhood, justice, and love by engaging in political activism throughout my life. In an age where fear seems to rule indisputably, and where our existence is once again under threat, we will once more go out into the fray to fight for what is right.

**SHEMA**

**שמע**



**שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.**

*Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai E-lo-hey-nu, Adonai E-khad.*

**בְּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְבוֹד מְלָכוּתוֹ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.**

*Ba-rukh shem k'vod mal-khu-to l'o-lahm va-ed.*

Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One! Blessed is God's glorious name forever and ever!

**V'AHAVTA**

**ואהבת**

**וְאָהַבְתָּ אֶת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל לְבָבְךָ וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ  
 וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ: וְהָיָו הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוְּךָ  
 הַיּוֹם עַל לְבָבְךָ: וּשְׁנַנְתָּם לְבִנְיָךָ וּדְבַרְתָּ בָּם  
 בְּשַׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבְלַכְתְּךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ וּבְשַׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ:  
 וְקִשְׁרַתָּם לְאוֹת עַל יָדְךָ וְהָיָו לְטֹטְפֹת בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ:  
 וְכַתְּבָתָם עַל מְזוֹזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ:**

*V'a-hav-ta et Adonai eh-lo-he-kha b'khol l'vav-kha oov-khol nahf-sh'kha oov-khol m'o-deh-kha. V'ha-yu ha-d'va-reem ha-ey-leh a-shey'r a-no-khee m'tzav-kha ha-yom al l'va-ve-kha. V'shee-nahn-tahm l'va-ne-kha v'dee-bar-ta bahm b'sheev-t'kha b'vay-teh-kha oov-lekh-t'kha va-deh-rekh oov-shokh-b'kha oov-ku-meh-kha. Ook-shar-tahm l'ot al ya-deh-kha v'ha-yu l'to-ta-fot beyn ay-neh-kha. Ookh-tahv-tahm al m'zu-zot bey-teh-kha oo-vish-a-re-kha. Ookh-tahv-tahm al m'zu-zot bey-teh-kha oo-vish-a-re-kha.*

לְמַעַן תִּזְכְּרוּ וַעֲשִׂיתֶם אֶת כָּל מִצְוֹתַי וְהֵייתֶם  
קְדוֹשִׁים לֵאלֹהֵיכֶם: אֲנִי יי אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִי  
אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְהֵיּוֹת לְכֶם לֵאלֹהִים אֲנִי יי  
אֱלֹהֵיכֶם:

*L'ma-an teez-k'ru va-a-see-tem et kol mitz-vo-tai vee-h'yee-tem k'do-sheem  
ley-lo-hey-khem. A-nee Adonai eh-lo-hey-khem a-sheyr ho-tzay-tee et-khem mey-eh-retz  
mitz-ra-yeem l'hee-yot la-khem ley-lo-heem. A-nee Adonai eh-lo-hey-khem.*

You shall love Adonai your God with all your heart, with all your strength, and with all your being. Set these words which I command you this day upon your heart. Teach them faithfully to your children; speak of them in your home and on your way, when you lie down and when you rise up. Bind them as a sign upon your hand; let them be a symbol before your eyes; inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. Be mindful of all My mitzvot and do them, so shall you consecrate yourselves to your God. I am Adonai your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God. I, Adonai, am your God.

### **GRADUATION STATEMENT: GABRIEL FUSCHILLO**

I'm proud of being Jewish. I feel connected to my ancestors because I know my family history and I am learning about my heritage, I feel that knowledge shapes me as a person. I grew up hearing everyday how lucky I was to be able to attend religious school and practice religion. My mother's side of the family originated from Ukraine. They were prohibited from following Jewish customs and traditions due to state-wide atheism and antisemitism. This means that they were not allowed to openly celebrate Jewish holidays and go to temple. I grew up hearing the stories of my ancestors' bravery in trying to hold on to the most important practices in our religion. My great grandfather secretly chose to comply with the most important covenant of circumcision. He circumcised his son and as a result lost his job and had to move to a different part of the country to escape religious persecution.

I'm inspired by stories of my ancestors who when faced with hardships of living in antisemitic totalitarian state were able to perform small acts of courage opposing the regime, by observing Shabbat by lighting candles with closed doors and windows, lighting electrical lamps in lieu of candles, and fasting on Yom Kipur. The knowledge I have about how my family struggled inspired me to practice tikkun olam. I participated in social action by volunteering to work with developmentally disabled children at Challenger League, working for Habitat For Humanity, and by helping Ukrainian students learn English with the eNGin program. These are my contributions to tikkun olam.

I am happy to be a part of the temple because I feel loved and appreciated at Woodlands. I really enjoyed attending Woodlands Academy every Monday night. Going to Academy gave me the chance to hang out with my friends at temple and feel a sense of belonging. I always look forward to our weekly group conversation. Not only did I have fun with Academy, I also really enjoyed being a 5th grade aide. I liked the feeling of having a responsibility and role at the temple. Although a lot of the kids misbehaved, I had fun being an aide and helping out.

Looking forward to the future, I see myself continuing down the path of Judaism, celebrating holidays and raising my children Jewish. I also really hope I can get the chance to visit Israel because I feel that every Jew should visit at least once in their life. I love Israeli food because it reminds me of Israel. I feel as if Israeli food connects me to Israel. It's a good feeling, knowing that there is a country where all Jews are welcome. I'm happy that there is such a place where tradition will never die and live on.

מִי כְּמֹכָה בְּאֵלִים יְיָ? מִי כְּמֹכָה נֹאדָר בְּקֹדֶשׁ,  
נֹרָא תְהִילֹת, עֲשֵׂה פְּלֶא?

*Mee kha-mo-kha ba-ey-leem, Adonai? Mee ka-mo-kha, ne-dar ba-ko-desh, no-ra  
t'hee-lot, o-seh feh-leh?*

מְלֻכּוּתְךָ רָאוּ בְנֵיךָ בּוֹקֵעֵי יָם לְפָנַי מֹשֶׁה וּמִרְיָם,  
זֶה אֵלֵי עָנוּ וְאָמְרוּ: יְיָ יִמְלֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

*Mal-khoot-kha ra-u va-ne-kha, bo-key-a yam lif-ney Mo-sheh oo-Mir-yam.  
“Zeh ey-lee!” a-nu v’ahm-ru, “Adonai yim-lokh l’o-lahm va-ed!”*

וְנֶאֱמַר: כִּי פָדָה יְיָ אֶת יַעֲקֹב, וַגָּאֵלוּ מִיַּד חֲזָק  
מִמֶּנּוּ. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, גֹאֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל.

*V’ne-e-mar: “Kee fa-dah Adonai et Ya-a-kov, oo-g’a-lo mee-yad kha-zahk mee-meh-nu.”  
Ba-rukh a-ta Adonai, ga-al Yisrael.*

Who is like You, O God, among the gods people worship? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders? Your children witnessed Your sovereign power, the sea splitting before Moses and Miriam. “This is my God!” they sang. “Adonai will reign forever and ever!” As You redeemed Israel and saved us from arms stronger than our own, so may You redeem all the oppressed and persecuted. Praised are You, Adonai, Redeemer of Israel.

**GRADUATION STATEMENT: SARAH SAGNER**

I realized that I was different because I was Jewish at a young age. To be honest, I liked that I was different. I liked that I attended religious school early on Saturday mornings where we sang songs in a language that my school friends didn’t know. And I liked that when my friends came over on Friday nights they asked if we had any challah they could eat. I liked running around temple babysitting and listening to the shofar during the high holidays. I often felt like as a Jew I was a part of a small club that a lot of my friends didn’t fully understand.

In 2012 I began my first summer at URJ Crane Lake Camp. At camp I made some of my first close Jewish friendships. While the non-religious parts of camp, like Color War and Fight Song, were so exciting, I really appreciated that Jewish values made up the background of my camp experience. Every Sunday we were introduced to the new Jewish value of the week and given bracelets when we practiced the principle. The values that were emphasized at camp were mirrored in the lessons that I was taught at Woodlands and at home.

My identity as a person cannot be separated from the values that Judaism has instilled in me. Tikkun olam, tzedakah, and chesed inform my political views and conflict resolution skills. I believe that my drive to be an advocate for others, whether it be by helping someone who is struggling in math class or defending reproductive rights in the United States, comes from my childhood immersed in Jewish culture.

Beginning in preschool classes, I was encouraged to bring a few extra dollars to class to donate to tzedakah. The importance of grabbing money from my parents before I ran upstairs for religious school was ingrained in my mind by the time I finished my kindergarten year at religious school. The adults with the responsibility of teaching me emphasized that as Jews it is

our responsibility to care for others through money and service. When Yom Kippur came around in early fall, I eagerly left services in the tent to help on the food truck. I have had the privilege of watching my parents donate their time to Woodlands by participating on committees and organizing events such as the Book Fair and the Blood Drive. I am so grateful that I was raised in a place that so clearly connected my Judaism to the way I treat others, advocate for those in need, and assist in any way possible to improve the lives of people around me.

I plan to continue living Jewishly by remaining an active member in the Crane Lake Camp community and seeking out resources at the McGill University Hillel. But most importantly, I hope to continue to live Jewishly everyday by practicing the Jewish values that have been a staple of my childhood here at Woodlands.

### YISMEKHU

### קדושת היום - ישמחו

יְשִׂמְחוּ בַמַּלְכוּתְךָ שׁוֹמְרֵי שַׁבָּת וְקוֹרְאֵי עֲנֵג. עִם מְקַדְשֵׁי  
שְׁבִיעֵי, כָּלֵם יִשְׁבְּעוּ וְיִתְעַנְּגוּ מִטּוֹבְךָ, וְהַשְׁבִּיעֵי רְצִיתָ בּוֹ  
וְקַדְשֵׁתוֹ, חֲמִדַּת יָמִים אוֹתוֹ קָרַאתָ, זְכֹר לְמַעֲשֵׂה בְרֵאשִׁית.

*Yis-m'khu v'mahl-khoot-kha shom-rey sha-bat v'kor-ey o-neg, ahm m'kad-shey sh'vee-ee, koo-lam yis-b'oo v'yit-an-goo m'too-ve-kha. V'hahsh-vee-ee ra-tzee-ta bo v'kee-dahsh-to. Khem-daht ya-meem o-to ka-ra-ta zeh-kheyr l'ma-a-sey v'rey-sheet.*

Those who keep the Sabbath and call it a delight shall rejoice in Your Creation. Those who cherish the seventh day shall be gladdened by Your goodness. This day is Israel's festival of the spirit, sanctified and blessed by You; it is the most precious of days, a reminder of the joy of Creation.

### GRADUATION STATEMENT: ELIANA MIRO

I've had many experiences both in and out of Woodlands that have helped shape my Jewish identity. I've always loved attending services and celebrating Jewish holidays with my family. Rosh Hashanah under the tent, tashlich, Sukkot BBQ, lighting the menorah at Hanukkah, reciting the motzi, and the Passover Seder are just a few.

Growing up attending Woodlands, I was so intrigued by the community and drawn in by the wonderful music. Services were always entertaining and informative. I felt very moved by the words shared before and after each prayer. Becoming a bat mitzvah and reading from the Torah, attending religious school, and even tutoring young children in Hebrew as a madricha are special memories that shaped me too! Getting to be a part of the WoodSY Board and making close friends there has expanded my Jewish community even further. These experiences and opportunities have reinforced essential values such as the importance of being a part of a community, keeping traditions, acceptance, welcoming the stranger, reaching out to others and empathy. I know that I play a role in tikkun olam, repairing the world.

Judaism is important to me because of the connectedness I feel to a larger Jewish community. Whether it's participating in services, coordinating programs, or spending time with friends and family, I am reminded that I have a Jewish network I can rely on and share beliefs and traditions *l'dor v'dor* - from generation to generation.

As I look to the future, I want to stay involved in Jewish organizations on college campuses and beyond, connecting with other Jews. I'd like to expand my Jewish community and

raise children that follow in my Jewish footsteps. Hopefully I will get to travel to Israel. Most importantly, I want to be a role model and find ways to give back to my community through tzedakah. *Ken yehi ratzon*, May these words be worthy of coming true.

## תְּפִלָּה Tefillah

### AVOT V'IMAHOT

### אבות ואמהות

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ וְאִמּוֹתֵינוּ, אֱלֹהֵי  
אֲבֹרָהֶם, אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק, וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב. אֱלֹהֵי שָׂרָה, אֱלֹהֵי  
רִבְקָה, אֱלֹהֵי רָחֵל וְאֱלֹהֵי לֵאָה. הָאֵל הַגָּדוֹל הַגִּבּוֹר  
וְהַנּוֹרָא, אֵל עֲלִיּוֹן, גּוֹמֵל חֲסָדִים טוֹבִים, וְקוֹנֵה הַכֹּל,  
זוֹכֵר חֲסֵדֵי אֲבוֹת וְאִמּוֹת, וְיַמְבִּיא גְּאֻלָּה לְבָנֵי בְּנֵיהֶם  
לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה. מְלֶךְ עוֹזֵר וּמוֹשִׁיעַ וּמַגֵּן. בְּרוּךְ  
אַתָּה יְיָ, מֶגֶן אֲבֹרָהֶם וְעֹזֵר שָׂרָה.

*Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, eh-lo-hey-nu vey-lo-hey a-vo-tey-nu v'ee-mo-tey-nu: eh-lo-hey  
Av-ra-ham, eh-lo-hey Yitz-khak, vey-lo-hey Ya-a-kov. Eh-lo-hey Sa-rah, eh-lo-hey  
Riv-kah, eh-lo-hey Ra-khel vey-lo-hey Ley-ah. Ha-eyl ha-ga-dol ha-gee-bor v'ha-no-rah,  
eyl el-yon, go-meyl kha-sa-deem to-veem v'ko-ney ha-kol, v'zo-kher khas-dey ah-vot  
v'ee-ma-hot, u'mey-vee g'u-lah liv-ney v'ney-hem, l'ma-an sh'mo b'a-ha-vah. Me-lekh  
o-zeyr u-mo-shee-a u-ma-geyn. Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, ma-geyn Av-ra-ham v'ez-rat  
Sa-rah.*

Praised be our God, the God of our fathers and our mothers: God of Abraham, God of Isaac, and God of Jacob; God of Sarah, God of Rebekah, God of Leah and God of Rachel; great, mighty, and awesome God, God supreme. Ruler of all the living, Your ways are ways of love. You remember the faithfulness of our ancestors, and in love bring redemption to their children's children for the sake of Your name. You are our Sovereign and our Help, our Redeemer and our Shield. We praise You, Eternal One, Shield of Abraham, Protector of Sarah.

### GEVUROT

### גבורות

אַתָּה גִּבּוֹר לְעוֹלָם אֲדֹנָי,  
מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל אַתָּה, רַב לְהוֹשִׁיעַ.

*A-tah gee-bor l'o-lam, Adonai, m'kha-yey ha-kol a-tah, rav l'ho-shee-ah.*

מוֹרִיד הַטַּל.

*Mo-reed ha-tahl.*

מְכַלְכֵּל חַיִּים בְּחֶסֶד, מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל בְּרַחֲמִים רַבִּים, סוּמֵךְ

נוֹפְלִים, וְרוֹפֵא חוֹלִים, וּמַתִּיר אֲסוּרִים, וּמְקַיֵּם אֲמוּנָתוֹ  
 לִישְׁנֵי עֶפְרַיִם. מִי כְמוֹךָ בְּעַל גְּבוּרוֹת וּמִי דוֹמֶה לָךְ, מְלֶכֶךְ  
 מַמְיֵת וּמְחַיֶּה וּמְצַמֵּחַ יְשׁוּעָה. וְנֶאֱמַן אֶתָּה לְהַחֲיוֹת  
 הַכֹּל. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מְחַיֶּה הַכֹּל.

*M'khal-keyl kha-yeem b'khe-sed, m'kha-yey ha-kol b'ra-kha-meem ra-beem. So-meykh  
 nof-leem, v'ro-feh kho-leem, u-ma-teer a-soo-reem, oom-ka-yeym eh-moo-na-to  
 lee-shey-ney a-far. Mee kha-mo-kha ba-al g'voo-rot, u-mee do-meh lakh, me-lekh  
 mey-meet oom-kha-yey u-matz-mee-akh y'shoo-ah? V'ne-eh-mahn a-tah l'ha-kha-yot  
 ha-kol. Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, m'kha-yay ha-kol.*

Eternal is Your might, O God, and great is Your saving power. You rain dew upon us. In love You sustain the living; in Your great mercy, You sustain us all. You uphold the falling and heal the sick; free the captive and keep faith with Your children in death as in life. We praise You, Eternal One, the Source of life.

**KEDUSHAH**

**קְדוּשָׁה**

אַתָּה קָדוֹשׁ וְשִׁמְךָ קָדוֹשׁ וְקְדוּשֵׁים בְּכָל יוֹם  
 יְהַלְלוּךָ, סְלָה. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הָאֵל הַקָּדוֹשׁ.

*A-tah ka-dosh v'shim-kha ka-dosh, ook-do-sheem b'khol yom y'ha-l'lu-kha se-lah.  
 Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, he-eyl ha-ka-dosh.*

You are holy, Your name is holy, and Your holy ones declare Your glory day by day. Blessed is Adonai, the Holy God.

**SHALOM RAV**

**שְׁלוֹם רַב**

שְׁלוֹם רַב עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל עַמְּךָ תָּשִׁים לְעוֹלָם.

*Sha-lom rav al Yisrael am-kha ta-seem l'o-lahm.*

כִּי אַתָּה הוּא מְלֶכֶךְ אֲדוֹן לְכָל הַשָּׁלוֹם.

*Kee a-tah hu me-lekh ah-don l'khol ha-sha-lom.*

וְטוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ לְבָרֶךְ אֶת עַמְּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל,

בְּכָל עֵת וּבְכָל שָׁעָה בְּשִׁלוֹמְךָ.

*V'tov b'ey-ne-kha l'va-rekh et am-kha Yisrael b'khol eyt oov-khol sha-ah bish-lo-me-kha.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הַמְּבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּשָׁלוֹם.

*Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, hahm-va-rekh et a-mo Yisrael ba-sha-lom.*

O Sovereign of Peace, let Israel Your people know enduring peace, for it is good in Your sight continually to bless Israel with Your peace. Praised be God, You bless Your people Israel with peace.

WoodSY Board Installation

סֵדֵר קְרִיאַת הַתּוֹרָה

Service for the Reading of the Torah

AYN KAMOKHA

אֵין כַּמוֹךָ

אֵין כַּמוֹךָ בְּאֱלֹהִים, יי, וְאֵין כְּמַעֲשֵׂיךָ. מְלֻכּוּתְךָ  
מְלֻכּוּת כָּל עֲלָמִים, וּמְשַׁלְּתְךָ בְּכָל דֹּר וְדֹר.  
יי מֶלֶךְ, יי מֶלֶךְ, יי יִמְלֹךְ לְעֹלָם וָעֶד.  
יי עֹז לְעַמּוֹ יִתֵּן יי יְבָרֶךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ בְּשָׁלוֹם.

*Ayn ka-mo-kha va-E-lo-heem, Adonai, v'ayn k'ma-a-se-kha. Mal-khoo-t'kha mal-khoot kol o-la-meem, oo-mem-shal-t'kha b'khol dor va-dor. Adonai me-lekh, Adonal ma-lakh, Adonai yim-lokh l'o-lahm va-ed. Adonai oz l'a-mo yi-tayn, Adonai y'va-rekh et a-mo va-sha-lom.*

There is none like You, O God, among the gods that are worshipped, and there are no deeds like Yours. Your sovereignty is everlasting; You reign through all generations. God rules; God will reign forever and ever. Eternal God, give strength to Your people; Eternal God, bless Your people with peace.

SH'MA

שְׁמַע

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יי אֶחָד.

*Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai E-lo-hey-nu, Adonai E-khad!*

אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ, גָּדוֹל אֲדוֹנָנוּ, קְדוֹשׁ שְׁמוֹ.

*E-khad E-lo-hey-nu, ga-dol A-do-ney-nu, ka-dosh sh'mo.*

גָּדְלוּ לֵי אֱתֵי, וְנִרְוַמְמָה שְׁמוֹ יַחְדָּו.

*Gahd-lu l'Adonai ee-tee, oon-ro-m'mah sh'mo yakh-dav.*

Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One. Our God is One, Adonai is great; holy is Your name. O magnify Adonai with me, and together let us exalt God's name!

הַקְפָּה

Hakafah

**LEKHA ADONAI**

לך יי

לְךָ יְיָ הַגְדֵּלָהּ וְהַגְבוֹרָה וְהַתְפָּאֶרֶת וְהַנִּצְחָה וְהַהוֹד,  
כִּי כָל בְּשָׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ, לְךָ יְיָ הַמַּמְלָכָה וְהַמְתַּנְשָׂא  
לְכָל לְרֹאשׁ.

*Le-kha, Adonai, hag-doo-lah v'hag-voo-rah v'ha-teef-e-ret v'ha-ne-tzakh v'ha-hod, kee khol ba-sha-ma-yim u-va-a-retz, le-kha Adonai ha-mam-la-kha v'ha-mit-na-sey l'khol l'rosh.*

Hear, O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is One. Our God is One, Adonai is great; holy is Your name. O magnify Adonai with me, and together let us exalt God's name! Yours, Adonai, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and earth is Yours. Dominion is Yours, Adonai; You are supreme over all.

**BEFORE THE READING OF THE TORAH**

בְּרַכּוּ אֶת יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ.

*Bar-khu et Adonai hahm-vo-rakh.*

בְּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

*Ba-rukh Adonai hahm-vo-rakh l'o-lahm va-ed.*

בְּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרָךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ  
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר בָּנוּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים, וְנָתַן לָנוּ  
אֶת תּוֹרָתוֹ. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

*Ba-rukh Adonai hahm-vo-rakh l'o-lahm va-ed. Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, E-lo-hey-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, a-sheyr ba-khar bah-noo mee-kol ha-a-meem v'nah-tahn la-noo et To-ra-to. Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, no-teyn ha-To-rah.*

Blessed is God to whom our praise is due. Blessed is God to whom our praise is due now and forever. Blessed is Adonai are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has chosen us from all peoples by giving us the Torah. Blessed are You, Adonai, Giver of the Torah.

**LEVITICUS 25:1**

**GABRIEL FUSCHILLO**

וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בְּהַר סִינַי לֵאמֹר:

God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying:

**LEVITICUS 25:2**

**SARAH SAGNER**

דַּבֵּר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם כִּי תֵבֵאוּ  
אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי נֹתֵן לָכֶם וְשָׁבַתָה הָאָרֶץ שְׁבֻת  
לַיהוָה:

Speak to the Israelite people saying to them: When you enter the land that I assign to you, the land shall observe a sabbath of the Eternal.

**LEVITICUS 25:3**

שֵׁשׁ שָׁנִים תִּזְרַע שְׂדֶךְ וְשֵׁשׁ שָׁנִים תִּזְמַר כַּרְמְךָ  
וְאָסַפְתָּ אֶת־תְּבוּאָתָהּ:

Six years you may sow your field and six years you may prune your vineyard and gather in the yield.

**LEVITICUS 25:4**

**JOSEPH KLEINMAN**

וּבְשִׁשָּׁה הַשָּׁבִיעֹת שְׁבֻת שְׁבֻתוֹן יִהְיֶה לְאֶרֶץ שְׁבֻת  
לִיהוָה שְׂדֶךְ לֹא תִזְרַע וְכַרְמְךָ לֹא תִזְמַר:

But in the seventh year the land shall have a sabbath of complete rest, a sabbath of the Eternal: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard.

**LEVITICUS 25:5**

**CHARLIE LINDER**

אֵת סִפְיָו קִצְיָרְךָ לֹא תִקְצֹר וְאֶת־עֲצָבֵי זִיּוֹרְךָ לֹא  
תִבְצֹר שְׁבֻת שְׁבֻתוֹן יִהְיֶה לְאֶרֶץ:

You shall not reap the aftergrowth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your untrimmed vines; it shall be a year of complete rest for the land.

**LEVITICUS 25:6**

**ELIANA MIRO**

וְהִיְתָה שְׁבֻת הָאָרֶץ לָכֶם לְאֹכְלָהּ לָהּ וּלְעַבְדֶּיהָ  
וּלְאִמָּתָהּ וּלְשִׁכְיָרָהּ וּלְתוֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ עִמָּךְ:

But you may eat whatever the land during its sabbath will produce—you, your male and female slaves, the hired and bound laborers who live with you,

**LEVITICUS 25:7**

**JOHN ALDOUS**

וּלְבְהֵמָתְךָ וּלְזִמְיָה אֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרְצְךָ תִּהְיֶה כָּל־תְּבוּאָתָהּ  
לְאֹכֹל: {ס}

and your cattle and the beasts in your land may eat all its yield.

### AFTER THE READING OF TORAH

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָנוּ  
תּוֹרַת אֱמֶת, וְחַיֵּי עוֹלָם נָטַע בְּתוֹכֵנוּ. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה  
יי, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

*Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, E-lo-hey-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam, a-sheyr na-tan la-noo To-rat e-met v'kha-yey o-lahm na-ta b'to-khey-nu. Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, no-teyn ha-To-rah.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life.  
Blessed are You, O God, Giver of the Torah.

### MEE SHEBERAKH – PRAYER FOR WHOLENESS

מִי שְׁבֵרַךְ

מִי שְׁבֵרַךְ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ,  
מִקּוֹר הַבְּרָכָה לְאֲמוֹתֵינוּ.

*Mee she-bey-rakh ah-vo-tey-nu, m'kor ha-b'ra-kha l'ee-mo-tey-nu.*

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 אֲמוֹתֵינוּ,  
מִקּוֹר הַבְּרָכָה לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ.

*Mee she-bey-rakh ee-mo-tey-nu, m'kor ha-b'ra-kha la-a-vo-tey-nu,*

Bless those in need of healing with רְפוּאָה שְׁלֵמָה (*r'fu-ah sh'ley-mah*),

The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit. And let us say: Amen.

### HAGBAH

הַגְּבָהָה

זֹאת הַתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר שָׂם מֹשֶׁה  
לְפָנַי בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל פִּי יי בְּיַד מֹשֶׁה.

*V'zot ha-To-rah a-sheyr sahm Mo-she lif-ney b'ney Yisrael, al pee Adonai b'yad Mo-she.*

This is the Torah which Moses placed before the children of Israel in order to fulfill the word of God.

### RETURNING THE TORAH TO THE ARK

כִּי לָקַח טוֹב נָתַתִּי לָכֶם תּוֹרַתִּי אֶל תַּעֲזֹבוּ.

*Kee le-kakh tov na-ta-tee la-khem, to-ra-tee al ta-a-zo-vu.*

עֵץ חַיִּים הִיא לְמַחֲזִיקִים בָּהּ, וְתִמְכֶּיָהּ מְאֹד.  
דְּרָכֶיהָ דְרָכֵי נְעָם, וְכָל נְתִיבוֹתֶיהָ שְׁלוֹם.

*Eytz kha-yeem hee l'ma-kha-zee-keem bah, v'tom-khe-ha m'oo-shar. D'ra-khe-ha dar-khey no-am, v'khol n'tee-vo-te-ha sha-lom.*

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנִשְׁוֵבָה, חֲדָשׁ יְמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם.

*Ha-shee-vey-nu Adonai ey-le-kha v'na-shu-vah; kha-deysh ya-mey-nu k'key-dem.*

Behold I have given you a good doctrine – My Torah – do not forsake it. It is a tree of life to those who hold it fast, and all who cling to it find happiness. Its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace. Help us to return to You, O God; then truly shall we return. Renew our days as in the past.

**Greetings: Abby Reiken**

**Presentation of Certificates and Gifts**

**Clergy Blessing of our 2022/5782 Graduates:  
Rabbi Mara Young  
and Cantor Lance Rhodes**

ALENU

עלינו

עֲלֵינוּ לְשִׁבְחָ לְאֲדוֹן הַכֹּל, לְתֵת גְּדֻלָּה לְיוֹצֵר  
בְּרֵאשִׁית, שֶׁלֹּא עֲשָׂנוּ כְּגוֹיֵי הָאֲרָצוֹת, וְלֹא שָׂמְנוּ  
כְּמִשְׁפְּחוֹת הָאֲדָמָה, שֶׁלֹּא שָׂם חֶלְקֵנוּ כֵּהֶם, וְגִרְלָנוּ  
כְּכֹל הַמוֹנִם.

*A-ley-nu l'sha-bey-akh la-a-don ha-kol, la-teyt g'doo-lah l'yo-tzeyr b'rey-sheet, she-lo a-sa-nu k'go-yey ha-a-ra-tzot, v'lo sa-ma-noo k'mish-p'khot ha-a-da-mah; she-lo sahm khel-key-nu ka-hem, v'go-ra-ley-nu k'khol ha-mo-nam.*

וְאֲנַחְנוּ כּוֹרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים וּמוֹדִים, לְפָנֵי מֶלֶךְ  
מְלִכֵי הַמְּלָכִים, הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא.

*Va-a-nakh-nu kor-eem u-mish-ta-kha-veem u-mo-deem lif-ney me-lekh mal-khey hahm-la-kheem, ha-ka-dosh ba-rukh hu.*

It is our duty to praise God, ascribing greatness to God who formed the world in the beginning, for God did not make us like the others of all lands. God gave us a portion like no other. We bow in reverence and thanksgiving before the Ruler of rulers, the Holy One of Blessing.

BAYOM HAHU

ביום ההוא

וְנֹאמַר: וְהָיָה יְיָ לְמֶלֶךְ עַל כָּל הָאָרֶץ.  
בְּיוֹם הַהוּא יְהִיָּה יְיָ אֶחָד, וְשִׁמוֹ אֶחָד.

*V'ne-e-mar: "V'ha-ya Adonai l'me-lekh al kol ha-a-retz; ba-yom ha-hu yi-h'yeh Adonai e-khad u-sh'mo E-khad."*

And it has been said: "God shall reign over all the earth. On that day, O God, You shall be One and Your name shall be One."

**KADDISH**

**קדיש יתום**

יִתְגַּדֵּל וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְרָא כְרַעוּתָהּ,  
וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ, בְּחַיֵּיכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בַּיִת  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעַגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן. יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ  
רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וְלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא. יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח,  
וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא,

*Yit-ga-dal v'yit-ka-dash sh'mey ra-ba b'al-ma dee v'ray kheer-u-tey, v'yahm-leekh mal-khu-tey b'kha-yey-khon oov-yo-mey-khon oov-kha-yey d'khol beyt Yisrael, ba-a-ga-la oo-viz-man ka-reev, v-eem-ru: A-men. Y'hey sh'mey ra-ba m'vo-rakh l'a-lam ool-al-mey al-ma-ya.*

וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלֵּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקַדְשָׁא, בְּרִיךְ  
הוּא. לְעֵלְא מִן כָּל בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא, תְּשַׁבַּחְתָּא  
וְנַחֲמַתָּא, דְאִמְרִין בְּעֵלְמָא, וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

*Yit-ba-rakh v'yish-ta-bakh v'yit-pa-ar v'yit-ro-mahm v'yit-na-sey, v'yit-ha-dar v'yit-ah-leh v'yit-ha-lal sh'mey d'kood-sha, b'rikh hu. L'ey-la min kol bir-kha-ta v'shee-ra-ta, toosh-b'kha-ta v'ne-khe-ma-ta da-a-mee-rahn b'al-ma, v'eem-ru: A-men.*

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא, וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

*Y'hey sh'lah-mah ra-ba min sh'ma-yah v'kha-yeem a-ley-nu v'al kol Yisrael, v'eem-ru: A-men.*

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ  
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל כָּל יוֹשְׁבֵי תֵיבֵל וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

*O-seh sha-lom bim-ro-mav, hu ya-a-seh sha-lom a-ley-nu v'al kol Yisrael v'al kol yosh-vei te-vel, v'eem-ru: A-men.*

Let the glory of God be extolled, and God's great name be hallowed in the world whose creation God willed. May God rule in our own day, in our own lives, and in the life of all Israel, and let us say: Amen. Let God's great name be blessed forever and ever. Beyond all the praises, songs, and adorations that we can utter is the Holy One, the Blessed One, whom yet we glorify, honor, and exalt. And let us say: Amen. For us and for all Israel, may the blessing of peace and the promise of life come true, and let us say: Amen. May the One who causes peace to reign in the high heavens, cause peace to reign among us, all Israel, and all the world, and let us say: Amen.

**KIDDUSH FOR SHABBAT EVENING**

**קדוש ליל שבת**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

*Ba-rukhh a-ta, Adonai, e-lo-hey-nu me-lekh ha-o-lahm, bo-rey p'ree ha-ga-fen.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ  
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְרָצָה בָּנוּ, וְשִׁבַּת קִדְּשׁוֹ בְּאַהֲבָה וּבְרָצוֹן  
הִנְחִילָנוּ זְכוֹרֹן לְמַעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית, כִּי הוּא יוֹם  
תְּחִלָּה לְמִקְרָאֵי קִדְּשׁ, זְכוֹר לְיִצְיַאת מִצְרַיִם.

*Ba-rukhh a-ta, Adonai, e-lo-hey-nu me-lekh ha-o-lahm, a-sher kid-sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav  
v'ra-tzah va-nu, v'Sha-bat kod-sho b'a-ha-vah oov-ra-tzon hin-khee-la-nu, zee-ka-ron  
l'ma-a-seh v'rey-sheet. Kee hu yom t'khee-lah l'meek-ra-ey ko-desh, ze-kheyr lee-tzee-at  
mitz-ra-yim.*

כִּי בָנוּ בְּחַרְתָּ וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדְּשָׁתָּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים, וְשִׁבַּת  
קִדְּשָׁךְ בְּאַהֲבָה וּבְרָצוֹן הִנְחַלְתָּנוּ.

*Kee va-nu va-khar-ta v'o-tah-nu kee-dash-ta mee-kol ha-a-mim, v'Sha-bat kod-sh'kha  
b'a-ha-vah oov-rah-tzon hin-khal-ta-nu.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, מְקַדֵּשׁ הַשַּׁבָּת.

*Ba-rukhh a-ta, Adonai, m'ka-deysh ha-Sha-bat.*

We praise You, God, Ruler of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine. We praise You, Adonai, Ruler of the universe, for delighting in us and sanctifying us with Your mitzvot. Lovingly, You have given us Your holy Shabbat as an inheritance and a reminder of Creation and the Exodus from Egypt. It is first among our sacred days. You have chosen us from all people and have given us a sacred purpose in life. Lovingly, you have given us Your holy Shabbat as a sacred heritage. Praised are You, O God, who makes Shabbat holy.

**MOTZI**

**מוציא**

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,  
הַמוֹצִיא לָחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ.

*Ba-rukhh a-ta, Adonai E-lo-hey-nu, me-lekh ha-o-lahm, ha-mo-tzee le-khem min ha-a-retz.*

**ADONAI OZ (PSALM 29)**

**יְיָ עֹז**

יְיָ עֹז לְעַמּוֹ יִתֵּן.  
יְיָ יְבָרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ בְּשָׁלוֹם.

*Adonai oz l'a-mo yi-teyn, Adonai y'va-rekh et a-mo.  
Adonai y'va-rekh et a-mo va-sha-lom.*

May God give strength to all people. May God bless all people with peace.

We believe in tomorrow.

We believe that we have the power to make tomorrow different than today.

We believe that poverty need not be permanent and that people need not learn war forever.

We believe in people, despite all that we know about them.

We believe that there can yet be a time of peace and a time of justice, a time of fellowship and a time of tranquility, for all who live on earth.

We believe that we can have a share in bringing that day closer by the way in which we live.

Amen.

#### **ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS:**

##### **GRADUATION STATEMENT: KARENNA BEST**

There are no words to describe how much growing up Jewish means to me. And I'm not just saying that for the sake of this speech. Ask anyone - I cried when I found out I was missing this graduation. Being Jewish is the #1 thing I am so proud to be and has taught me so much. One of my first memories here at Woodlands was during Kesher on a Saturday morning. Rabbi Mara was telling us a story about a congregation that was holding Shabbat services when all of a sudden this guy walks in. A random dude, tattoos, ripped jeans, not really clean looking or smelling. As a 10 year old, my initial reaction to the story was "get him out of there! He doesn't belong there! He's probably not Jewish and he's probably a bad guy!" But then Rabbi Mara finished the story. It turned out that the guy ended up being this really sweet person who just wanted to listen in and enjoy the services at peace like everyone else. That was when Mara then taught us to never judge a book by its cover and always be accepting of everyone no matter what they look like.

Being Jewish has shaped me into the person I am today, and for that I am forever grateful. Becoming a woman, giving Tzedakah, feeding the homeless in New York City on Christmas Eve, singing to Holocaust survivors, or working in a soup kitchen all have transformed me into the person I am today. When I was in 8th grade, we would make visits to the Coachman center in White Plains where we would spend time doing activities with kids who didn't have a home. Being Jewish throughout the last 18 years of my life has taught me that we do nothing but help our community - whether that's putting others before us, or simply holding the door for someone because you know the next time you are at temple you'll share your mitzvah with the class.

What makes Judaism important to me is family. My Greek grandmother was one of many Jews who hid during WWII in Greece. She had to completely change who she was, including changing her name to Lily, a less Jewish, more Catholic-sounding name. She was separated from her siblings and had to serve food to the Nazis who were occupying Greece at the time. Years

later, when my grandmother came back from Greece, it was her first time seeing my great-grandmother since she had gotten married and pregnant with my aunt. They were reunited right off a ferry from Greece, literally jumping up and down with joy. Growing up on Long Island, my dad would spend his Friday nights with all his cousins who were all very close. They'd all gather around a huge table of his Nona's food, and she wouldn't even let them clean up. I was always envious of the way my dad grew up and how close he was with his grandparents and cousins, and how they embraced their Greek Jewish heritage. I used to wish it could be the same way for me. Even though I never got to meet my Nona, I know I got most of my traits from her and continue everyday to take after her. Her legacy continues to carry on throughout the family with her recipes and artwork all throughout our house.

In my future I want nothing but to include the importance of Judaism to my husband and kids. We will do so by celebrating Shabbat weekly and putting the kids in religious school so they can hopefully have the same experience I did and most importantly become a bat or bar mitzvah as well.

### **GRADUATION STATEMENT: JACK OREN**

When I look back on growing up Jewish, a couple of traditions have definitely shaped me more than others. One of these traditions that has helped shape me is participating in Jewish holidays each year. Whether it be going to the Purim carnival or traveling down to Florida for the Passover seder, these types of traditions kept me grounded. No matter the year I had, whether it was good or bad, I always had these Jewish moments to look forward to each year. The holiday traditions not only allowed me to grow my most basic social skills with others, but also gave me something that I could pass onto the next generation, which is really special.

Another tradition that really helped shape a part of me was participating in the Hebrew school program here at Woodlands. Like the holidays, attending religious school was a tradition I looked forward to every week. It, too, helped shape my most basic skills, but more importantly, it gave me my first real community: the Jewish one. The Jewish community that I got here really helped me realize the important values that I want to keep in my life going forward. I found values like kindness, friendship, and selflessness at Woodlands, and what better way to remember this community than by spreading these values to others. Judaism is so important to me because of these values. I have never been in a more loving community, especially one that did everything possible to take care of me, and make me feel important. As soon as I arrived at Woodlands, someone always went out of their way to hold the door for me. All through my time here, someone always wanted to know how I was doing. You don't need to ask someone else about them before they ask about you here at Woodlands.

However, I don't feel like that is special to Woodlands alone. No, it is what comes with Judaism, and I love that. It is so special to me that I can go to any Jewish community and know that they will always be kind, friendly, and selfless. Going forward, I definitely plan to incorporate Judaism into my life. As of right now, I feel like I really want to try and become a published author. I can say confidently that no matter the story I write, I will always try and write characters that align with the important Jewish values. Of course, I will also continue the traditions that have kept me so grounded these past years. I will send my kids to Hebrew school, I will celebrate Hanukkah and Yom Kippur and Passover with them and my family. I look forward to keeping these Jewish aspects in my life.