

Shaare Zedek

Koleinu

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חג פסח שמח





Rabbi Alan W. Bright

Along with the traditional and familiar rituals of the Passover Seder such as eating matzah and maror and drinking four cups of wine, the essence of the Seder experience is the telling of the story of the Exodus from Egypt. While we all know the story's details, I thought I would share two different perspectives on why that story and the Seder are so important.

The Talmud tells us that two Babylonian rabbis, Shmuel and Rav, disagreed about the purpose of the Seder. Shmuel was of the opinion that the enduring lesson of the Exodus which we are reminded of at the Seder was historical; the celebration of our liberation from slavery to a free people, "meavdut l'cherut." On the other hand, Rav taught that the primary lesson of the Seder is theological; our turning away from idolatry to become followers of the one true God who demonstrated His power and His love for us by freeing us from slavery, "meavdut l'cherut," giving us the Torah, and then leading us to the Promised Land.

Which opinion do you think is reflected in the Haggadah?

The answer is both. The truth is that whether we view Passover and the Exodus story as one of historical consequence or as one of theological consequence, both purposes serve to remind us of our journey "meavdut l'cherut," from slavery to freedom. That is also why we are told "bechol dor vador," in every generation, we must see ourselves as if we were personally enslaved and liberated from Egypt. And today, in 2024, we know that these words are not mere reminders of the ancient past but our current condition.

Today, we celebrate Passover with the knowledge that over 100 of our fellow Jews will not be joining us at our Seders. This year, we will celebrate Passover knowing that "meavdut l'cherut," has not come to them and indeed to many of us who experience the bondage of anguish for the hostages. This year, we understand, more than at any other time in our lifetimes, the importance of ensuring that these meaningful words at Passover are not just ancient relics. This year, we must ensure that those words have both a historical and theological meaning as we continue to fight and pray for the release of all our captives, and that true freedom, "meavdut l'cherut," comes to us without fail.

May you have a Chag Kasher V'Sameach, a Happy and Kosher Passover.



Mark Merson, President

I feel compelled to address the recent challenges our community has faced. It saddens me to see the troubling rise of antisemitism in Montréal, in Canada and across the globe. However, I want to assure you that we are taking proactive steps to ensure the safety of our synagogue. If you have attended shul recently you would have noticed the additional security measures we implemented both in personnel and infrastructure.

Amidst the escalating tensions let us unite in offering our unwavering support and prayers to our friends and family in Israel. Our strength and resilience shine brightly during these trying times. Shaare Zedek will continue to stand as a beacon of faith, family and community. Together, we will navigate through adversity and emerge even stronger.

As we tell the story of the Exodus let us pray for the safe return of the hostages.

Bonnie and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone at Shaare Zedek Chag Pesach Sameach.

Am Israel Chai.



Cantor Boaz Davidoff

Tu Bishvat, a significant celebration in Israel marking the "Rosh Hashanah" for trees, holds deep cultural and spiritual importance. Following this year's observance, a poignant incident unfolded, shedding light on the resilience of the Israeli spirit amidst adversity.

A relative, typically fervent in their love for Israel, conveyed the absence of their Tu Bishvat seder. This departure from tradition stemmed from the somber mood engulfing the nation due to ongoing challenges. Reflecting on this, I was struck by the realization: "You gave them the sword!" Our enemy seeks to erode our morale, yet yielding to despair relinquishes our greatest strength.

Recalling the words of Rabbi Yisrael Law, a Holocaust survivor, reaffirmed this notion. He staunchly asserted, "I will never give him or them the sword! Am Yisrael Chai!" His unwavering faith embodies resilience in the face of adversity.

I'm turning to you, dear friends, to consider: Will you surrender the sword? Now, more than ever, is the time to embrace our heritage, to volunteer, to fortify our collective spirit. Let us wield the sword of faith, illuminating the world with the enduring light of the Jewish people. We are the beacon of hope, the guardians of our future.

Am Yisrael Chai!

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND HOLIDAYS

Monday, April 22

Erev Pesach

10:30 AM Stop eating chametz
11:30 AM Burning of chametz
7:00 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
7:32 PM Candle Lighting
8:00 PM First Seder

Tuesday, April 23

Pesach I

10:00 AM Morning Service
7:30 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
8:00 PM Second Seder
8:40 PM Candle Lighting

Wednesday, April 24

Pesach II

9:15 AM Morning Service*
8:00 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
8:41 PM Havdalah

***Joint morning service ONLY
will take place at Shaare Zion
Beth-El**

Thursday, April 25

Pesach III

Hol HaMo'ed
Regular service schedule

Friday, April 26

Pesach IV

Hol HaMo'ed
7:30 AM Morning Service
6:00 PM Hakafot, Mincha
and Ma'ariv and Kabbalat
Shabbat Service
7:37 PM Candle Lighting

Shabbat, April 27

Pesach V

Hol HaMo'ed
10:00 AM services
8:00 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
8:46 PM Havdalah

Sunday, April 28

Pesach VI

Hol HaMo'ed
8:45 AM Morning Service
7:00 PM Mincha and Ma'ariv
Service
7:40 PM Candle Lighting

Monday, April 29

Pesach VII

10:00 AM Morning Service
7:30 PM Mincha and Ma'ariv
Service
8:49 PM Candle Lighting

Tuesday, April 30

Pesach VIII

10:00 AM Morning Service
Yizkor Service
8:30 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
8:50 PM Havdalah

Monday, May 6

Yom Hashoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day

Monday, May 13

Yom Hazikaron

Tuesday, May 14

Yom Ha'atzma'ut

Saturday, May 25

Erev Lag B'Omer

Sunday, May 26

Lag B'Omer

Wednesday, June 5

Yom Yerushalayim

Tuesday, June 11

Erev Shavuot

8:00 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
8:25 PM Candle Lighting

Wednesday, June 12

Shavuot I

10:00 AM Morning Service
6:00 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
9:42 PM Candle Lighting

Thursday, June 13

Shavuot II

10:00 AM Morning Service
Yizkor Service
9:00 PM Mincha and
Ma'ariv Service
9:42 PM Havdalah

SZ ANNUAL PESACH SEDER

with
RABBI BRIGHT AND FAMILY

Sit back and relax at
a participatory
lively heimishe seder!



Monday, April 22
7:00 PM Mincha and Ma'ariv
Seder following Services

Register by 12 PM, Monday, April 15
Donations Appreciated

PASSOVER FLOWERS

Shaare Zedek
teams up with Summit Flora
for beautiful Passover bouquets

Order by Monday, April 15
Delivery on April 21 and 22



Option 1 \$80
without vase \$72



Option 2 \$95
without container \$80

PURIM CARNIVAL



Saturday, March 23
6:00 pm

Shabbat compliant Carnival with Dinner
Ma'ariv Havdalah Service
Megillah reading by Josh Wolman

PIÑATA
BOUNCY CASTLE
BASKETBALL
AND MORE!

COME IN
COSTUME

PIZZA
FRENCH FRIES
ICE CREAM

Please Register
Donations appreciated

Shaare Zedek presents **A JEWISH ART EXPERIENCE**

Join us for an engaging art show exploring
Jewish art pieces and the Tablet Tableaux Exhibit

VERNISSAGE COCKTAIL

Thursday, April 11
7 PM - 10 PM

Registration Required

Exhibit Hours with artist-led tours:

April 12
1 PM - 4 PM
Tours 1 PM + 3 PM

April 13
1:30 PM - 3 PM
Tour 1:30 PM

April 14
1 PM - 4 PM
Tours 1 PM + 3 PM

Free Admission

Nona Zilberberg Gold
Artist

Sheila Nemtin Levine
Tablet Tableaux

TORAH FUND

WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Shaare Zedek
and Shaare Zion Beth-El Sisterhoods

2024 ANNUAL TORAH FUND EVENT

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:15 PM

RESILIENCE AND FAITH

A moderated conversation with guests
Karen Cahana and Rabba Briah Cahana

More information to follow

2024 RAFFLE GRAND PRIZE \$15,000

HELP SECURE OUR SZ FUTURE

THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024
7:00 PM

TICKETS \$150

faith · family · community

To stay updated and register for all events, visit shaarezedek.ca

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