

Re'eh: An Ear for Blessing

As he prepares the Israelites for life after his leadership, Moses presents them with a stark choice between “blessing and curse”:

“Blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I enjoin upon you this day; and curse if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God ...” (Deuteronomy 11:27)

At least, that’s how the English translation reads in our Etz Hayim chumash—but it’s not quite what the Hebrew says:

Ha-brachah asher tishm’u el mitzvot Adonai Eloheichem ...

“The blessing that you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God ...”

In other words, the blessing is not given that you, Israel, hear and heed the commandments of God; the blessing is itself that you—that we—are able to hear God’s call at all.

It may be harder than ever to perceive the divine signal through the noise of social media, twenty-four hour newsfeeds, and the many, conflicting messages constantly vying for our attention, but one thing is for certain: we won’t hear God’s voice if we can’t hear each other’s. Listening, as one Hasidic commentator describes it, is nothing less than the purpose of our creation and the path to world peace. Only by opening our ears and our hearts to the piece of divinity in another can we ourselves become shalem, “whole.” Only when we become shalem will the world have shalom—which, our Sages say, is the greatest blessing of all.

Shabbat shalom.

- Rabbi Moe Howard



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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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Special thanks to the staff and lay leaders who make Shabbat services exceptional:

Executive Director – Jessica Green
Ritual Director – Jay Harwitt
Musical Director – Benjamin Fingerhut
Director of Media and Communication – Roy Regev
Audio Visual Tech – Christopher Princivalli
Natalia Rojas – Communications Manager
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Shabbat Childcare
Parenting Center Room 114
9:45-11:45 a.m.

*First come first serve
Potty trained- 5 years old

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT

in Kohn Chapel
Every Friday at 5:45
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

DAILY MINYAN

in Kohn Chapel
Monday–Friday at 7:30 a.m. and
5:45 p.m. (in person)

Saturday 9:00 p.m. (online only)

Sunday (and National Holidays, when
held in-person) 8:30 a.m.



SINAI TEMPLE

29 AV 5785 | 23 AUGUST 2025



PARASHAT RE'EH | ראה
SHABBAT MACHAR CHODESH — Blessing the New Month of Elul

(Tonight, tomorrow, and Monday)

Torah reading begins: Deuteronomy 15:1 (page 1076)

Maftir: Deuteronomy 16:13-17 (page 1084)

Haftarah: Machar Chodesh (I Samuel 20:18-29, page 1216)

“How To Choose Your Sacred Space:” Sermon by Rabbi Erez Sherman

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.

The Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Darvish

Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

TORAH AT THE TABLE

in CC Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.

TORAH IN THE ROUND

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.

The Bar Mitzvah of Joshua S. Simantob

Honor or remember someone special
with a meaningful gift to Sinai Temple.
Scan this QR code to make a contribu-
tion in their name and create a lasting
tribute.



Find us on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@SinaiTemplePresents

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT MEHRZAD ROSHAN

At Sinai Temple, membership is more than an affiliation — it is belonging to a sacred community rooted in tradition, connection, and purpose. As members, we are part of a multigenerational family that celebrates together, learns together, and lifts one another up in times of need.

Membership means showing up — not only for services and programs, but for one another. It means supporting our clergy, educators, and staff who inspire us daily. It means investing in the future of Jewish life through our schools, our youth, and our commitment to Conservative Judaism and to Israel.

Please join us in our sacred work. As we approach the High Holy Days, I invite you to reflect on what membership means to you. Let us continue building a community where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued.

Together, we are stronger.
Together, we are Sinai.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Feit Family Live: Back at Sinai Shabbat BBQ

Friday, August 22, 5:00 p.m.

Join us for a festive Shabbat evening with a classic BBQ dinner, kids' entertainment, and a musical service led by Sinai Temple Clergy. Members only.

Rock Wednesday!

Wednesday, August 27, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us for Rock Wednesday as we assemble Rosh Hashanah gift bags for a local Adult Day Health Care Center.

From Tragedy to Hope: Building Bridges After 9/11

Thursday, September 11, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us at Sinai Temple for a conversation with Co-Senior Rabbi Erez Sherman and Sharaka, amplifying moderate Arab voices for peace and partnership in the Middle East.

Weekly Parsha Class

Every Thursday at 8:30 a.m. starting Aug. 7th

Join us as Sinai Temple's rotating clergy lead an in-depth exploration of the weekly Parsha. This class is offered exclusively online.

Sinai Temple Women's Mission to Israel October 2025 Led by Rabbi Nicole Guzik

October 27 – November 2, 2025

For more information, email Gary Fayman at gfayman@sinaitemple.org. Deadline is 9/1.

Siddur Project

Share your personal prayers, art, or music for a new Sinai Temple Siddur created by and for our community. Submit your original works to inspire others and enrich our collective prayer experience. Submissions are sent to siddurproject@sinaitemple.org. Scan the QR below for more information.



SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for Dor Chadash's end-of-summer party on Thursday, August 31, at 10:30 AM! Join us for a fun and festive celebration to close out the summer season.

ATID

Atid Retreat at Camp Alonim

Sunday, September 7

Join us for a day trip to Camp Alonim with young Jewish adults! We will have a full day of activities and fun planned! Please note: This trip is for young Jewish adults ages 21-39 years old.

YOM KIPPUR BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Many Sinai Temple congregants find it meaningful to remember loved ones by including their names in the annual Book of Remembrance, which is distributed on Yom Kippur for the Yizkor service.

To include a loved one's name in the 5786 Book of Remembrance, please go to <https://bit.ly/4k8wSCW>, or scan the QR code below to enter the information online and pay with a credit card. Alternatively, enter the names below and return the form, along with a check (payable to Sinai Temple) in the amount of \$20 per individual, by Friday, September 5, 2025.



Memorial Plaques- Honor the Memory of Your Loved Ones

Many members of our community find deep meaning in dedicating a permanent memorial plaque, in memory of their loved ones. These plaques are located in the back of Ziegler Sanctuary. There, the names of loved ones are illuminated on days when the Yizkor prayers are recited, as well as on yahrzeit anniversary dates in perpetuity. Names that are inscribed on these plaques are automatically honored in the Perpetual Memory section of our Yom Kippur Book of Remembrance.

If you are interested in purchasing a permanent Sinai Temple memorial plaque, please contact Judy Begin at (310) 481-3222 or jbegin@sinaitemple.org. We hope you have a wonderful summer and look forward to warmly welcoming you to our High Holy Day services.

WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT AT SINAI TEMPLE?

Host your next event at Sinai Temple, where exquisite catering meets a stunning setting to create unforgettable experiences.

Let our expert caterers transform your special occasion into a celebration filled with flavor, elegance, and impeccable service.

For more information, please contact Judy Begin at jbegin@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3222.

SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT



Honor a simcha or yahrzeit by sponsoring an oneg! Your sponsorship will be featured in the Shabbat bulletin and announced from the bimah on Shabbat.

To sponsor, contact Judy Begin at jbegin@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3222.



Scan the QR code to RSVP and to learn about more events.

For more information contact Amanda Harrison at aharrison@sinaitemple.org or 310-481-3246