

This Shabbat's reflections are offered by Sinai Temple Religious School
5th Grader Katelyn Benjamin.

Vayakheil–Pekudei: A Greater Whole

Have you ever wondered what a community really is? In this week's parsha, *Vayakheil*, we learn more about the rules for Shabbat. Following that, Moses reviews the instructions for building the Tabernacle, the portable sanctuary that the Israelites used for worship and sacrifices. Moses instructs the people to contribute gifts to the building of the Tabernacle, and he appoints Bezalel to construct it.

This parsha is the first time, since the creation of the Golden Calf, that the Jewish people have come together as a community. Some commentators believed that the Jews were trying to make up for their past rebellion by coming together and donating so much material that Moses had to announce that no more material was needed. Moses says, "Everyone whose heart is so moved" should contribute. The commentator Rashi explains this to mean that the donations for the Tabernacle should come from the heart and that the generosity should be natural. God only desired donations from those who *wanted* to give.

Each person believed their individual contribution to the Tabernacle was good, but when they saw the whole Tabernacle, they realized that the combination of all the small contributions had created something greater and worthy of God. Everyone felt equal, and no person was greater than another because they were all part of a whole—a community.

In our community, we give money to help others and each other, no one feels more important, and we all come together. There may not be many Jews in the world, but each Jew contributes something by doing *tikun olam*, "repairing the world," to make one big, amazing whole that is stronger and better together.



Sinai Temple, 10400 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024
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Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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- Rabbi David Wolpe
- Max Webb Emeritus Rabbi
- Moe Howard
- Rabbinic Intern

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

- Jessica Green - Executive Director
- Jay Harwitt - Ritual Director
- Benjamin Fingerhut - Musical Director
- Cantor Keith Miller - Cantorial Support & B'nai Mitzvah Mentor
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- Ebby Tabariai
- Michael Nazarian
- David Matloob
- Faith Gershbock
- Jacob Gershbock

Mehrzad Roshan, Sinai Temple President



MISSION STATEMENT

Sinai Temple is dedicated to providing a welcoming and caring community for its members, devoted to Jewish learning and support for Israel and the Jewish people, and committed to improving ourselves and the world through a growing relationship with God from generation to generation. We are committed to the principles and values of Conservative Judaism and we welcome Jews of all backgrounds and affiliations to observe life cycle events, and pursue our mission through prayer, rituals, learning, music and the other gifts God has given us.

SHABBAT CHILDCARE

Ages Potty Trained - 5 Years Old
9:45 AM | Room 114

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT

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

DAILY MINYAN

in Kohn Chapel
Monday–Friday at 7:30 a.m.
Sunday morning at 8:30 am
Sunday-Friday evenings at 5:45 pm
Saturday evenings 9:00 p.m. (online only)
Please consult the website for holiday locations and times.



25 ADAR 5786 | 14 MARCH 2026



PARASHAT VAYAKHEIL/PEKUDEI | ויקהל ופקודי
SHABBAT HACHODESH
BLESSING THE NEW MONTH OF NISAN (WEDNESDAY EVENING AND THURSDAY)
TEEN SHABBAT
Torah reading begins: Exodus 35:1 (page 552)
Acharon: Exodus 40:34-38 (page 571) - to complete the Book of Exodus
Maftir: Exodus 12:1-20 (page 380)
Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16-46:18 (page 1291)
"Shaping Your Future" - Sermon by Rabbi David Wolpe

SHABBAT SERVICE

in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.
Also available to watch on [YouTube](#)

TORAH AT THE TABLE

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

TORAH IN THE ROUND

in Kohn Chapel at 9:30 a.m.
The Bat Mitzvah of Julia Furer

STARS SHABBAT

in Gold Hall & Lower Traub at 10:00 a.m.

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



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



TEMPLE EVENTS

Zev Yaroslavsky in Conversation with Rabbi Wolpe TODAY Immediately following services

Zev Yaroslavsky will join Rabbi David Wolpe in conversation, sharing insights from decades of public service and reflecting on the intersection of politics and Jewish life.

Ethics of War with Yisrael Klitsner

THIS Wednesday, March 18, 2026 | 7:00 PM

Drawing on Jewish tradition, moral philosophy, and contemporary realities, Klitsner will explore how we grapple with questions of justice, responsibility, and human dignity in times of conflict.

Foundations: Israel History Class with Dr. Saba Soomekh

THIS Thursday, March 19, 2026 | 6:30 PM | Online Only

Explore the history of Israel in an engaging four-session on-line class with Dr. Saba Soomekh, offering valuable context, discussion, and time for questions.

Meet Your Mensch: Shabbat Dinner

THIS Friday, March 20, 2026 | 6:30 PM

Join us for a Shabbat evening with live music and a short dating coach-led conversation for Jewish singles ages 35–65. Early registration is encouraged as space is limited. Pre-payment required.

Book Signing and Conversation with Dr. Arnold Gilberg

Author of *The Myth of Aging*

NEXT Sunday, March 22, 2026 | 11:00 AM

Join Sinai Temple for a book signing and conversation with Dr. Arnold Gilberg, author of *The Myth of Aging*, in discussion with Rabbi Wolpe. Enjoy brunch and an engaging exploration of health, longevity, and living well.

ROCK Wednesday!

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 | 6:00 PM

Join us for Rock Wednesday as we support efforts connected to Israel by writing cards to American and Israeli soldiers and making Happy Hats for those injured in the war. Pizza dinner will be provided.

Learning with Rabbi David Wolpe

Join Rabbi David Wolpe to explore the wisdom, texts, and teachings that have shaped Jewish life across generations. Together, participants will trace Jewish thought from its ancient foundations through medieval interpretation and into its enduring relevance today.

The next session will take place at 7:00 PM on March 24, in Kohn Chapel.

Rosh Hodesh Nisan with Sinai Temple Sisterhood

Join Sinai Temple Sisterhood THIS Thursday, March 19, 2026, from 6:00–8:00 PM in West Hollywood as we celebrate the month of Nisan.

Hosted by Nora Rakow, the evening will feature guest speaker Angela Maddahi, who will explore the connection between Nowruz and Passover. Dinner is included, and the cost to attend is \$20 per person.

RSVP to Jennifer Malvin at songwrks@gmail.com

This event is for women only.

Torah Fund Luncheon - Tuesday, March 24

Please Join Sinai Temple Sisterhood for a Torah Fund Luncheon honoring Jay Harwitt and Sharona Rachmani with the Ha'Yay Olam Award.

To register online, please scan the QR code. Advance registration is required by Tuesday, March 17 – NOON!



To make a Torah Fund donation in honor of Jay and Sharona, please scan the QR code.



SAVE THE DATE

Join us on May 17 for the annual Sinai Temple Gala, a festive dinner and dance honoring President Mehrzad Roshan.

WANT TO PLAN AN EVENT?

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