

Ekev: The Only Thing We Have is Fear

My usual route from the yeshiva where I'm studying to the apartment where I'm staying on the Upper West Side of Manhattan was blocked by police tape on my way back from Tisha b'Av services. I thought it odd, but I was more annoyed than dismayed. Only later did I learn that a Jewish man, himself on his way home from synagogue, had been stabbed at that very spot not an hour earlier.

There is much for a Jew to be concerned about in the world today—not least of which the threat to his physical safety. It is a threat to be taken seriously (to the tune of many millions spent on security). But concern, however serious, must not become fear. The Torah exhorts us today as Moses did the Israelites ages ago:

“Do not stand in dread of [the nations you now fear], for the LORD your God is in your midst ...”
(Deuteronomy 7:21)

We are commanded both to love and to fear God. Loving a human being is no infringement on the love due God, writes Rabbi Yaakov Zvi Mecklenburg—but fearing a mere mortal is. “One who truly fears the Lord,” he writes, “cannot possibly be afraid of a creature of His.” So it is that a certain pious man is claimed to have said: “I would be ashamed to fear anyone in the world other than God.”

May we as a people live shamelessly in the face of those who would shame, harass, and intimidate us. The only thing we have to fear is God Himself.

Shabbat Shalom.
Rabbi Moe Howard

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

- Jessica Green - Executive Director
Jay Harwitt - Ritual Director
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SINAI TEMPLE



18 MENACHEM AV 5786 | 1 AUGUST 2026



PARASHAT EKEV | עקב
Torah reading begins: Deuteronomy 7:12 (page 1037)
Maftir: Deuteronomy 9:1-3 (page 1042)
Haftarah: Isaiah 49:14-51:3 (page 1056)
(The Second Haftarah of Consolation)
“I’m Here to Help”: Sermon by Rabbi Erez Sherman

EMERGENCY SECURITY GRANT
The Emergency Security Grant was made possible through funding from the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles and Jewish Federation Los Angeles.

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



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.

MINCHA & KABBALAT SHABBAT
in Kohn Chapel
Every Friday at 5:45 PM
Also available to watch on YouTube

TORAH AT THE TABLE
in Blumenthal Library Classroom at 9:00 a.m.

SHABBAT SERVICE
in Ziegler Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon by ...
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.

TEMPLE EVENTS

Sinai Speaks: “The High Holiday Spark with Nili Salem”
Wednesday, August 5, 2026 | 7:00 PM | Online
Join us for an inspiring conversation with Nili Salem as we prepare for the High Holidays. Explore meaningful ideas, practical insights, and fresh perspectives to help you connect more deeply with this season of reflection, renewal, and growth.

ISRAEL 360° with Benjamin Anthony
Saturday, August 8, 2026 | 12:00 PM
Join us for Shabbat Morning Services featuring an exclusive lecture with Benjamin Anthony, CEO of The MirYam Institute, as he explores the Iranian threat, Israel-U.S. relations, the Israel-Hamas War, and the future of the Jewish people. The program will be followed by a Q&A and refreshments.

Sinai Speaks: “Kick Off Elul with Rabbis Guzik and Sherman”
Wednesday, August 12, 2026 | 7:00 PM | Online
Join Co-Senior Rabbis Nicole Guzik and Erez Sherman for a meaningful evening as we enter the month of Elul, a time for reflection, renewal, and spiritual preparation. Together, we'll explore the themes of the season and prepare our hearts for the High Holy Days.

Feit Family Live: Welcome Back BBQ
Friday, August 21, 2026 | 5:00 PM
Join Sinai Temple clergy and our community for the third Annual Feit Family Live: Welcome Back BBQ! Enjoy a delicious BBQ by Beverly Catering, bounce houses, sports coaches, a special tour for new members, and a meaningful Kabbalat Shabbat service. Pre-registration is required, and tickets **will not** be available at the door.

Order Your Lulav and Etrog Set for Sukkot
Reserve your lulav and etrog set today and prepare to welcome Sukkot, beginning Friday evening, September 25.
Early bird special for orders placed before 9/1/26: \$45.00 per set. \$50.00 thereafter. Order deadline: Tuesday, September 22. Visit sinaitemple.org to place your order.
Questions? Call Jay: (310) 481-3201 or email jharwitt@sinaitemple.org



Calling All Young Voices!
Sinai Temple children **ages 8 to 11** have an exciting new opportunity to lead our congregation in prayer. Every Shabbat morning, students are invited to arrive early at **8:30 a.m.** to meet in Cantor Feldman's office and receive a solo for that day's service.

Whether it is singing *Romemu*, *Baruch Sheamar*, *Ashrei*, or *Yotzer Or*, just show up and the solo is yours! Family and friends can proudly watch in person or via our livestream. As an added bonus, participants will receive a special assortment of sweet treats.

No RSVP is needed. Step into your Jewish roots, enjoy some baked goods, and let your voice be heard in the Ziegler Sanctuary!

L'Shalom,
Cantor Marcus Feldman and Benjamin Fingerhut

Beren Scholars Fellowship
The Beren Scholars Fellowship is a selective leadership program for rising 11th and 12th graders who want to deepen their understanding of Israel, strengthen their Jewish identity, and develop the confidence to navigate today's complex conversations. Through engaging seminars, expert speakers, and a national cohort of peers, students gain the knowledge and skills to become thoughtful Jewish leaders.

To join, contact Rabbi Tori Greene at tgreene@sinaitemple.org.

David and Angella Nazarian Youth Leadership Program
The David and Angella Nazarian Youth Leadership Program empowers 9th and 10th graders to grow as Jewish leaders through meaningful conversations, mentorship, immersive travel opportunities, and connections with leading Zionist organizations. Fellows build leadership skills, deepen their Jewish identity, and join a vibrant community of engaged teens.

To join, contact Atara Rush at arush@sinaitemple.org.



Rosh Hashanah 5787 Elevate: A New Year Rising
Welcome the New Year at Sinai Temple with a variety of meaningful services and experiences for all ages. From inspiring services in **Ziegler Sanctuary** and **Barad Hall** to **the Traditional Family Minyan, Torah in the Round Musical Service**, and special programming for children, teens, young adults, and families, there are many ways to celebrate the High Holy Days together.

Rosh Hashanah Day 1: Saturday, September 12, 2026
Rosh Hashanah Day 2: Sunday, September 13, 2026

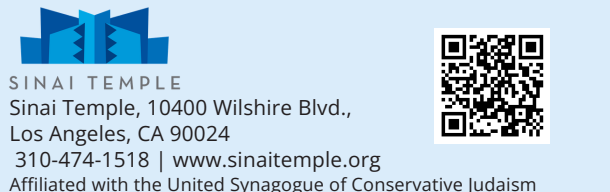
For more information and the complete schedule, visit sinaitemple.org.

SINAI TEMPLE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
A Wonderful Start to Jewish Learning
Give your four-year-old the gift of joyful Jewish learning with Sinai Temple STARS Religious School's Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Class. Through baking challah, singing Israeli music, celebrating Jewish holidays, and engaging in hands-on activities, children build friendships, explore Jewish traditions, and grow as part of a caring community. Classes meet Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with special introductory membership rates available for families brand new to Sinai Temple.

Contact us at (310)-481-3271 or sprovost@sinaitemple.org.

SINAI AKIBA ACADEMY

Sinai Akiba Academy is on **Summer Break!**
We wish our students, families, faculty, and staff a wonderful summer and look forward to sharing upcoming events and programming as we prepare for the new school year.



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

