

**Cantor Sobel's Readings from the Bimah at Temple B'nai Chaim  
Veterans Day, Friday Shabbat Service, November 11, 2016**

***Veterans Day Prayer***

G-d of compassion,  
G-d of dignity and strength,  
Watch over the veterans of the United States  
In recognition of their loyal service to our nation.  
Bless them with wholeness and love.  
Shelter them.  
Heal their wounds,  
Comfort their hearts.  
Grant them peace.  
G-d of justice and truth,  
Rock of our lives,  
Bless our veterans,  
These men and women of courage and valor,  
With a deep and abiding understanding  
Of our profound gratitude.  
Protect them and their families from loneliness and want.  
Grant them lives of joy and bounty.  
May their dedication and honor  
Be remembered as a blessing  
From generation to generation.  
Blessed are You,  
Protector and Redeemer,  
Our Shield and our Stronghold.

- Alden Solovy

***Reading #2:***

Compassionate God, Source of Mercy, we pay tribute to those who have served our country, to express our gratitude for their courage and selflessness, both those among us today and those of generations past. This nation, built by those born of this soil and those who have come here from all the corners of the earth, is on a continual journey toward its destiny. May we never let down those who have served in defense of this country. May we uphold the values of freedom, of the inherent dignity of every human being, by our own right conduct, by the kindness and tolerance we show to one another. May we lead the world by example, and become, in the words of Isaiah, a light to the nations. Then will the labors and sacrifices of these veterans be honored not in words alone, but by our deeds. - Rabbi Dr. Laurence Milder

Reading #3 -

***A Prayer for the Day After the US Presidential Elections***

There was that moment at the Red Sea when our people despaired like never before. Looking behind, the people saw an enemy coming for them. Looking ahead, the waters seemed ready to swallow them up.

To stand still was not an option.

We pray,

*Eloheinu veilohei avoteinu v'imoteinu*

Our God and God of our fathers and mothers,

When our nation is divided

When our people are afraid

When our children are confused

When we ourselves are unsure about how to move forward.

Grant us,

Like Nachshon, the courage to face our fears and walk forward into the unknown.

Like Miriam, the insight to find the hidden waters in the wilderness to quench our thirst.

Like King Solomon, the wisdom to decide wisely as we face difficult questions in the days and months ahead.

Like the prophet Nathan, the faith to speak truth to power, demanding as he did from King David, truth and justice, compassion and kindness.

And may we lie down in peace and rise up each tomorrow refreshed and renewed, prepared to work toward blessing for all.

Amen.

- Rabbi Paul Kipnes