

Shabbat Ki Tisa פְּרִשַׁת כִּי תִּשָּׂא Shabbat Parah

March 7, 2026 /18 Adar 5786

Bar Mitzvah: Logan Miller

Torah Reading:	Exodus	30:11 – 34:35	page 523
Triennial Torah Reading:	Exodus	30:11 – 31:17	page 523
Maftir Aliyah:	Numbers	19:1-22	page 880
Haftarah Reading:	I Kings	18:20-39	page 1286

Weekly Torah Reading – Shabbat Ki Tisa

Pshat – The Story at a Glance

1. The Israelites take a census, and all men over age 20, regardless of their economic status, must pay a tax of a half-shekel.
2. The Israelites become impatient waiting for Moses to return from the mountain. Aaron consequently instructs the people to donate their gold for the construction of the Golden Calf, designed as a replacement for God.
3. When Moses finally descends the mountain and sees the Israelites dancing with the idol, he smashes the first set of tablets in bitter anger. God threatens to wipe out the people, but Moses begs for forgiveness from God to spare the nation from annihilation.
4. Moses asks to see God's face, but is only allowed to see God's back because no person, not even Moses, can see God's face and live.
5. Moses descends the mountain holding the two tablets and finds the people afraid of the glowing light coming from his face. Moses uses a veil to cover his face when interacting with the Israelites that is removed when he interacts with God.

Drash – A Closer Look at this Week's Parsha

When God finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai, God gave him the two tablets of the Pact, stone tablets inscribed with the finger of God. (Exodus 31:18)

There is a tremendous amount of insight to be gained from just this one verse. In three separate comments, the 12th century French commentator, Bechor Shor explains the significance of this moment. Why were the Ten Commandments inscribed on stone by God's finger? Because stone is not affected by rot and because these words dictated by God are everlasting. The writing does not get erased just as words of Torah are never nullified. And Bechor Shor goes on to explain that they were written on two tablets because they are like two witnesses. The Torah will later tell us that testimony against someone requires two individuals, and that same ideas is alluded to here by dividing the commandments onto two separate tablets.

Shabbat Shalom שבת שלום

SERVICE TIMES:

Friday Evening 6:15pm, Shabbat Morning 9am

Sunday 9am, Monday-Thursday evenings 7pm

Wednesday morning 7:30am

Yasher Koach to Rabbi David-Seth Kirshner, Rabbi Gabe Cohen, Rabbi Jeremy Ruberg and Cantor Israel Singer for leading services. To Tara Miller, Steve Feinmark, Dr. Rica Rabinowitz, Cantor Israel Singer, and Logan Miller for reading Torah and to Logan for chanting the Haftarah.

Thank You

Thank you to Steve Leeman and Dr. Rica Rabinowitz for serving as our Gabbaim. Thank you to Louann Reed for serving as our Parnas and Michael Wanderman and Neil Chalfin for serving as our Shabbat Greeters. Thank you and Yasher Koach to Michael Brenner for leading us in P'sukei D'Zimra.

Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to the Miller family on Logan becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Sponsors

Thank you to the Miller family for sponsoring the Kiddush and the bima food baskets with their donation to the Closter Food Pantry in honor of Logan's Bar Mitzvah.

Thank you to Dr. Lewis and Neli Attas for co-sponsoring Kiddush in memory of Dr. Lewis' father, Calef (Calvin) Solomon Attas z"l.

Thank you to Drs. Michael & Sharon Meininger for co-sponsoring Kiddush in memory of Sharon's father, Stephen Newman z"l.

Thank you to Carol Steuer for co-sponsoring Kiddush in memory of her father, Joseph Spector z"l.

ANNOUCEMENTS:

Sisterhood Night of Military Bridge Wednesday, March 11th at 7:30 PM. Come out for a Sisterhood Night of Military Bridge! We will have a unique and fun, interactive game night! Starting at 7:30 PM refreshments and lite bites will be served. \$18 per member; \$36 per non-member *Preferable to sign up with a table of 4 but you may still sign-up as an individual or a pair! [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

Sisterhood Study Group Friday, March 13th at 10:30 AM. Join Rabbi Kirshner on select Friday mornings for a women's study group. Click below to RSVP or contact Donna Weintraub at, donnaw64@gmail.com for more information. [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP.

Temple Emanu-El's 98th Annual Celebration Thursday, March 19th, 2026. Honoring Nancy & Josh Gillon, Alicia & Hal Messer, and Rachel & David Harris. **It's going to be MADNESS!** [To RSVP & Submit a Journal Ad Click Here!](#)

Scholar in Residence: Col. (Res.) Kobi Marom Saturday, March 21st at 9:00 AM. Join us as we welcome Col. (Res.) Kobi Marom, a decorated IDF commander and leading expert on Hamas, Hezbollah, and regional security. In his briefing, "Understanding Israel at War," he will offer an insider's perspective on Israel's conflict with Hamas and Iran, including developments in Gaza and along the northern front in Syria and Lebanon.

Pickleball Sunday, March 29th at 9:00 AM. Join our TE Sisterhood and Men's Club for a fun morning of Pickleball! This is an adult coed event. All levels welcome. We will meet at Bergen County Pickleball Club (101 N. Summit Street, Tenafly, NJ). \$54 per member | Brunch included. Please complete the registration [HERE](#) on or before Monday, March 16th.

Passover Seder Tuesday, April 2nd at 6:30 PM. Join us as we celebrate this Passover with your family and our family. This year's communal Seder promises to be an engaging and enjoyable evening for guests of all ages. Our communal Seder will include a 4-course gourmet meal by Northern Valley Affairs and services will be led by Rabbi Gabe Cohen, Rabbi Jeremy Ruberg, and Cantor Israel Singer. MEMBERS | Adults – \$136 per person, Child – \$36 per child (12 years old and under). NON-MEMBERS | Adults – \$154 per person, Child – \$54 per child (12 years old and under). Please RSVP [HERE](#) by Friday, March 20th.

Please visit the Temple Emanu-El website for more information: <https://tecloster.org>