



Temple Emanu-El

Shabbat Behar-Bechukotai

בְּהַר-בְּחֻקָּתַי

May 24th, 2025 /26 Iyar 5785
41st day of the Omer

Bar Mitzvah: Russell Adler

Annual Torah Reading:	Leviticus	25:1– 27:34	page 738
Triennial Torah Reading:	Leviticus	27:1—27:34	page 753
Haftarah Reading:	Jeremiah	16:19 – 17:14	page 762

Weekly Torah Reading – Behar-Bechukotai

Pshat – The Story at a Glance

1. Every 7th year in Israel is to be a Sabbatical year, known as *Shmita*, wherein the land rests and may not be worked.
2. Every 50th year in Israel is to be a Jubilee year in which slaves are freed and landowners return to their original plots.
3. People are responsible for preventing fellow citizens from falling into poverty by giving Tzedakah and offering interest-free loans.
4. God lays out a system of reward and punishment. If the Israelites follow God's commands, they will be rewarded with peace and ample grain. A long list describes all the dangerous ramifications that will follow if they do not follow God's command, including defeat at the ends of their enemies and a land that will not grow and fruit or vegetation.
5. The final chapter of Leviticus deals with monetary pledges toward the expensive undertaking of maintaining the sanctuary. A person's monetary value was determined by factors such as their age, gender and social status.

Drash – A Closer Look at this week's Parsha

"And God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai" (Leviticus 25:1)

The 12th century commentator, Abraham Ibn Ezra looks at this scene and wonders how it can be that this section takes place at Mount Sinai chronologically. What he ultimately determines is that this is one of the places in the Torah that is evidence of the fact that there is actually no chronological order in the Torah. It can often be hard to make sense of why certain pieces of the Torah feel out of order or certain details don't match up. But if we accept what the Ibn Ezra says here, then we can spend less time trying to focus on the details that don't match up and think instead about the lessons the Torah is imparting.

Shabbat Shalom שבת שלום

Weekly Service Times:

Friday Eve 6:15pm, **Shabbat Morning** 9am

Sunday Morning 9am, **Monday—Thursday Evenings** 7pm

Wednesday Morning 7:30am

Yasher Koach to Rabbi David-Seth Kirshner, Rabbi Jeremy Ruberg and Cantor Israel Singer for leading services. Steve Leeman, David Spiegel, Bari Adler, Noah Adler, Dr. Rica Rabinowitz, and Russell Adler for reading Torah and Russell for chanting the Haftarah.

Thank You

Thank you to Dr. Rica Rabinowitz and Steve Leeman for serving as our Gabbaim. Thank you to Stevem Feinmark for serving as our Parnas and Bruce Balsam and Michael Wanderman for serving as our Shabbat Greeters.

Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to the Adler family on Russell becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Sponsors

Thank you to the Adler family for sponsoring the bima flowers and for sponsoring the kiddush in honor of Russell's Bar Mitzvah.

Thank you to Deborah and Ken Tuchman for sponsoring Kiddush in memory of Deborah's parents, William & Irene Schumer z"l and Ken's parents, Ruth Young z"l & Frank Tuchman z"l.

Thank you to the Wimpfheimer family for co-sponsoring Kiddush in honor of Justin Wimpfheimer's 90th birthday - Mazal Tov!

Announcements

Just One More Thing. JOMT is designed to address and combat food insufficiency right here in our community. We will be partnering with the Closter Food Pantry, targeting items month by month that are most in need. We are asking our congregation to purchase "just one more thing" when shopping at the supermarket. *Drop-off location: Temple Office.* **May Items: Flour & Sugar**

Annual Congregational Meeting Tuesday, May 27th at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting. At this meeting we will ask you to approve our annual budget and elect our new Board Members. Our clergy and lay leaders will also highlight many of the Temple's achievements and activities during the past year.

Wardrobe and Color: Projecting the Best Image of You Thursday, May 29th at 7:30 PM. Join Laura Tappan, certified image consultant and certified color analyst as she discusses what the colors you wear mean for your image, tips on curating your closet and how to make a fabulous first impression. \$18 per person* (*One attendee will win a gift certificate for a full color consultation with Laura!) [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

Blue Jeans & BBQ Friday, May 30th at 5:00 PM. Join us for our annual end-of-year BBQ as the 5785 year comes to a close. \$25 per adult, \$12 per kid. The event and services will take place outdoors (Weather Permitting). [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

Shem Tov Award Friday, May 30th at 6:15 PM. Join us as we honor Allie Jesner (Youth Shem Tov) & Dr. Rica Rabinowitz (Shem Tov) award recipients, the service will be followed by a celebratory dessert oneg. [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

TE's Annual NY Boulders Baseball Game Thursday, June 19th at 7:00 PM. Join us for Temple Emanu-El's Annual NY Boulders Baseball Game. Includes admission to the covered Sunset Deck on the Suite Level, with seating and lots of room to walk around. As well as Kosher food and non-alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages can be purchased at the event. \$60 per adult, \$30 for children (12 & under). Register [HERE](#) by Friday, June 13th!

Family Mission to Israel. Travel Dates (approx.) December 23, 2025 – January 1, 2026. Interested in joining us for our December 2025 Family Mission to Israel? Please fill out our form [HERE](#) to confirm your interest.

Please visit the Temple Emanu-El website for more information and to join us virtually: <https://tecloster.org>