

Temple Emanu-El

Shabbat Ki Tavo

פֶּרֶשַׁת כִּי תָבוֹא

September 13, 2025 /20 Elul 5785

Bar Mitzvah: Henry Greenberg

Bat Mitzvah: Zoe Lebel

Baby Naming: Lily Joy Levine

Torah Reading:	Deuteronomy	26:1-29:8	page 1140
Triennial Reading:	Deuteronomy	27:11-29:8	page 1146
Haftarah Reading:	Isaiah	60:1-22	page 1161

Weekly Torah Reading – Ki Tavo

Pshat – The Story at a Glance

1. When the Israelites' crops are harvested, they are to bring the first fruits to Jerusalem as part of a festive ritual of gratitude to God.
2. The extended piece recited at the Passover seder commonly referred to as "my father was a wandering Aramean" appears in this parsha (Deut. 26:4).
3. In an elaborate ceremony on Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Eval, the Israelites answer "Amen!" repeatedly to demonstrate their renewed commitment to the covenant.
4. The Israelites will be abundantly rewarded if they observe the commandments...
5. ...But on the other hand, the Israelites will be thoroughly punished if they don't observe the commandments, in a lengthy admonition called the *Tocheha* (rebuke) that spans a huge section of this parsha's Torah reading.

Drash – A Closer Look at this Week's Parsha

Blessed shall you be in your comings and blessed shall you be in your goings. (Deuteronomy 28:6).

The commentators present us with two very different ways of reading this verse:

Rashi: may your departure from this world be as sinless as your coming into the world.

Ibn Ezra: May you be blessed when celebrating festivals, engaging in business, when you go out to war, or in all your daily comings and goings. In short, the meaning of this statement is that you shall be successful in all that you do.

This seemingly simple verse is a beautiful example of how the Torah can be read so differently, as Rashi and Ibn Ezra have completely different interpretations of what it means to be blessed in our comings and goings. While Rashi reads it as being a statement about the clean slate we both enter and exit the world with, Ibn Ezra has a much simpler and more universal reading, understanding it as being about success in our daily lives. Ibn Ezra's reading about success and prosperity has caught on more than Rashi's explanation for obvious reasons, and these welcoming words often adorn entrances to Sukkot during the holiday.

Shabbat Shalom שבת שלום

Weekly Service Times:

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

Sunday Morning 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. David Spiegel, Henry Greenberg, Nanette Greenberg, Jake Becker and Zoe Lebel for reading Torah and Zoe and Henry for chanting the Haftarah.

Thank You

Thank you to Dr. Rica Rabinowitz and Steve Leeman for serving as our Gabbaim. Thank you to Marilyn Steinthal and Michael Wanderman for serving as our Parnasim and Lisa Jesner and Jill Herling for serving as our Shabbat Greeters.

Mazal Tov

Mazal Tov to the Greenberg family on Henry becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Mazal Tov to the Lebel family on Zoe becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Mazal Tov to Genna Mazor-Levine & Jason Levine, Marlene Mazor, Lainie & Jerry Modell, Jerry Levine and Jeffrey Mazor z"l, on the baby naming of their daughter/granddaughter, Lily Joy.

Sponsors

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

Thank you to the Lebel family for sponsoring the bima flowers and for sponsoring the kiddush in honor of Zoe's Bat Mitzvah.

Thank you to the Levine and Mazor families for co-sponsoring the kiddush in honor of Lily's baby naming.

Thank you to Eva Holzer for co-sponsoring Kiddush in memory of Eva's son, Richard Holzer z"l, her husband, Erich Holzer z"l, and her father, Joseph Rauchwerger z"l.

Thank you to Joyce Rothschild for co-sponsoring Kiddush in memory of Joyce's mother, Rose Wolff z"l.

Announcements

High Holy Day Clothing Drive, now through October 2nd! Support our High Holy Day Clothing Drive! We're collecting gently used fall and winter attire to help those in need (no footwear or socks). Drop-off location: Temple Office

Birthday Party for the World Wednesday, September 24th, immediately following Kehillah Service. TE Families: Join us on Rosh Hashanah Day 2 after our Kehillah Service at 12:00 PM for TE's Birthday Party for the World on Temple Emanu-El's campus. The party will feature Shofar blowing, activities for all ages, performances by Matty Roxx, and sweet treats. For ALL ages! [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

TE Teens Homecoming Hangout Sunday, October 5th at 11:30 AM. Join us for an awesome start to the year! Come hang out with other teens, hear about exciting opportunities to volunteer, learn and connect throughout the year, enjoy a great lunch, play games, take part in fun activities and help us build and decorate the sukkah. Don't miss it - it's the perfect way to kick off the year together! Please [RSVP HERE!](#)

Schechter Sukkot Celebration at TE Wednesday, October 8th at 9:00 AM. TE invites Schechter Bergen* families to join us for services at 9:00 AM, followed by a Festive Dairy Kiddush at 11:00 AM in our Sukkah. Featuring an ice cream truck for all in attendance! Kids of all ages welcome! To help us plan, please [RSVP HERE!](#) *Kiddush is co-sponsored by Schechter Bergen in celebration and appreciation of the strong connection between our shared communities.

Hazak Sukkot Celebration Thursday, October 9th at 11:30 AM. Hazak Members: Join us for a special luncheon in the Sukkah! This gathering kicks off our Hazak series; a collection of engaging programs designed just for seniors, typically held Tuesdays at 11:30 AM. *Please note: this is the only session taking place on a Thursday.* To RSVP, please call the Temple office at 201-750-9997.

Steak n' Scotch in the Sukkah Thursday, October 9th at 7:00 PM. TE Men's Club: Join us at 7:00 PM for Minyan, followed by Men's Club 12th Annual Steak n' Scotch in the Sukkah! Thursday Night Football game (Giants vs. The Eagles) to be shown. Adults: \$54 per person with advance registration. Registration after 10/5 or at the door is \$72. Must be 21+ to attend. [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP!

Sisterhood Sushi in the Sukkah Sunday, October 12th at 6:00 PM. Sisterhood Members: Join us for a can't miss "Girls Night Out". COMPLIMENTARY FOR TEMPLE MEMBERS (Non-Member: \$36 per person). [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP! Sponsored by the Sisterhood of Temple Emanu-El

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