

December 11, 2021
7 Tevet, 5782
Shabbat Vayigash



It has been told to you, what is good, and what Adonai requires of you
Only to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

Elohai N'shama

Music and English lyrics by Casey Prusher

Elohai, n'shama shenatata bi, t'hora hi. אֱלֹהֵי, נְשָׁמָה שֶׁנָּתַתָּה בִּי, טְהוֹרָה הִיא.
My God, the soul You have given me is pure.

Atah v'ratah, Atah y'tzartah, Atah n'fachtah bi. אַתָּה בְּרָאתָהּ, אַתָּה יָצַרְתָּהּ, אַתָּה נִפְחַתָּהּ בִּי.
You created me, You shaped me, You breathed me into life.

Genesis 45 בְּרֵאשִׁית 45

- טז** וְהִקּוּל נִשְׁמַע בַּיִת פְּרַעֲהַ לְאֹמֵר בָּאוּ אֶחָי יוֹסֵף וַיִּיטֵב בְּעֵינָי פְּרַעֲהַ וּבְעֵינָי עַבְדָּיו: **16** And the report was heard in Pharaoh's palace: "Joseph's brothers have arrived!" And this pleased Pharaoh and his courtiers,
- יז** וַיֹּאמֶר פְּרַעֲהַ אֶל־יוֹסֵף אָמַר אֶל־אֶחָיךָ זֹאת עֲשׂוּ טַעֲנוּ אֶת־בְּעִירְכֶם וּלְכוּ־בָאוּ אֶרְצָה כְּנָעַן: **17** so Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Say to your brothers, 'Do this: load up your beasts and head straight for the land of Canaan,
- יח** וּקְחוּ אֶת־אֲבִיכֶם וְאֶת־בְּתֵיכֶם וּבָאוּ אֵלַי וְאֶתְנֶנָּה לָכֶם אֶת־טוֹב אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם וְאָכְלוּ אֶת־חֶלֶב הָאָרֶץ: **18** and take your father and your households and come to me; I will give you the best that the land of Egypt offers; [come] eat the fat of the land.'
- יט** וְאֶתְּהָ צִוִּיתָהּ זֹאת עֲשׂוּ קְחוּ־לָכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם עֲגָלוֹת לְטַפְּכֶם וּלְנִשְׁיָכֶם וּנְשֵׂאתֶם אֶת־אֲבִיכֶם וּבָאתֶם: **19** Moreover, you are instructed [to say], 'Do this: take wagons from the land of Egypt for your little ones and your wives, and convey your father, and come.
- כ** וְעִינְכֶם אַל־תַּחֲסוּ עַל־כְּלֵיכֶם כִּי־טוֹב כָּל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לָכֶם הוּא: **20** And don't look with regret at your household goods, because the best that the whole land of Egypt offers is yours.'"
- כא** וַיַּעֲשׂוּ־כֵן בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּתֵּן לָהֶם יוֹסֵף עֲגָלוֹת עַל־פִּי פְּרַעֲהַ וַיִּתֵּן לָהֶם צֹדָה לְדַרְדָּר: **21** Israel's sons set about doing this; Joseph provided them with wagons at Pharaoh's command, and he gave them provisions for the journey.
- כב** לְכֻלָּם נָתַן לְאִישׁ חֲלָפוֹת שְׂמֹלֹת וּלְבִנְיָמִן נָתַן שְׁלֹשׁ מֵאוֹת כֶּסֶף וְחֲמִשׁ חֲלָפוֹת שְׂמֹלֹת: **22** To each he furnished a change of clothing; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver and five changes of clothing.

כג וּלְאָבִיו שָׁלַח כְּזֹאת עֶשְׂרֵה חֲמֹרִים נֹשְׂאִים
מְטוֹב מִצְרָיִם וְעֶשֶׂר אֲתֹנֹת נֹשְׂאֹת בָּר וְלֶחֶם
וּמִצּוֹן לְאָבִיו לַדֶּרֶךְ: **23** And to his father he sent some ten asses
laden with fine Egyptian goods and ten
she-asses carrying grain, bread, and food to
his father for the road.

כד וַיִּשְׁלַח אֶת־אֶחָיו וַיִּלְכוּ וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם
אֲלֵתִרְגְּזוּ בַדֶּרֶךְ: **24** He sent his brothers forth, and as they
were going he said to them, “Don’t be
anxious along the way.”

Haftarah for Vayigash: Isaiah 11: 1-16

In parashat Vayigash, Joseph and Judah are reunited, and the brothers are reconciled. In this messianic vision from Isaiah, all relationships are harmonized through the wise and insightful leadership of a man descended from King David (this is the reference to Jesse in verse 1). In Isaiah’s vision, the lion will lie down with the lamb just as the brothers and tribes Ephraim and Judah will be reunited. Of course, it is not quite so simple, and the Jewish tribes will rule over other nations. Nonetheless, justice and goodness reign, other nations are only condemned for their lack of adherence to the principles of equity and decency.

Isaiah 11:1-16

(1) But a shoot shall grow out of the stump of Jesse, a twig shall sprout from his stock. (2) The spirit of the Eternal shall alight upon him: a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and valor, A spirit of devotion and reverence for the Eternal. (3) He shall sense the truth by his reverence for the Eternal: He shall not judge by what his eyes behold, nor decide by what his ears perceive. (4) Thus he shall judge the poor with equity and decide with justice for the lowly of the land. He shall strike down a land with the rod of his mouth and slay the wicked with the breath of his lips. (5) Justice shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his waist. (6) The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard lie down with the kid; the calf, the beast of prey, and the fatling together, with a little boy to herd them. (7) The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion, like the ox, shall eat straw. (8) A babe shall play over a viper’s hole, And an infant pass his hand over an adder’s den. (9) In all of my sacred mount nothing evil or vile shall be done; for the land shall be filled with devotion to the Eternal as water covers the sea. (10) In that day, the stock of Jesse that has remained standing

ישעיהו י"א-ט"ז

(א) וַיֵּצֵא חֹטֵר מִגִּזְע יֶשְׁעִי וְנָצַר מִשְׁרָשָׁיו יִפְרֶה:
(ב) וְנָחָה עָלָיו רוּחַ יְהוָה רוּחַ חֵכְמָה וּבִינָה
רוּחַ עֲצָה וְיִגְבוֹרָה רוּחַ דַּעַת וַיְרַאֲת יְהוָה:
(ג) וְהִרְיָחוּ בִּירְאֵת יְהוָה וְלֹא־לְמַרְאֵה עֵינָיו
יִשְׁפּוֹט וְלֹא־לְמִשְׁמַע אָזְנוֹ יוֹכִיחַ: (ד) וְשֹׁפֵט
בְּצִדֵק דְּלִים וְהוֹכִיחַ בְּמִישׁוֹר לְעִנְיֵי־אֶרֶץ
וְהִכָּה־אֶרֶץ בְּשֶׁבֶט פִּי וּבִרְיַח שִׁפְתָיו מִיַּת
רֶשַׁע: (ה) וְהָיָה צִדֵק אֲזוֹר מִתְּנָיו וְהֶאֱמוּנָה
אֲזוֹר חֲלָצָיו: (ו) וְגַר זָאֵב עִם־כֶּבֶשׂ וְנֹמֵר עִם־
גְּדִי יִרְבֹּץ וְעֹגֵל וְכַפִּיר וּמְרִיא יַחְדָּו וְנֹעַר קִטּוֹן
נִהְגָּ בָם: (ז) וּפְרָה וְדָב תִּרְעַלְיָנָה יַחְדָּו יִרְבְּצוּ
וְלִדְיָהוּ וְאַרְיָה כַּבָּקָר יֹאכְל־תֵּבֵן:
(ח) וְשֹׁעֲשַׁע יוֹנֵק עַל־חַר פִּתּוֹ וְעַל מְאוּרַת
צִפְעוֹנִי גִמּוּל יָדוֹ הָדָה:
(ט) לֹא־יִרְעוּ וְלֹא־יִשְׁחִיתוּ בְּכֹל־הָר קִדְשֵׁי
כִּי־מִלְאָה הָאָרֶץ דַּעַה אֶת־יְהוָה כַּמַּיִם לַיָּם
מִכַּסִּים: (י) וְהָיָה בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא שָׂרֵשׁ יֶשְׁעִי אֲשֶׁר
עָמַד לְגַס עַמִּים אֲלָיו גּוֹיִם יִדְרָשׁוּ וְהָיְתָה
מִנְחָתוֹ כְּבֹד: (יא) וְהָיָה | בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא יוֹסִיף
אֲדָנָי | שְׁנִית יָדוֹ לִקְנוֹת אֶת־שְׂאֵר עַמּוֹ אֲשֶׁר
יִשְׁאֵר מֵאֲשׁוֹר וּמִמִּצְרָיִם וּמִפְתָּרוֹס וּמִכּוֹשׁ
וּמִעֵיִלָם וּמִשְׁנַעַר וּמִחַמַּת וּמֵאֵיִי הַיָּם:
(יב) וְנָשָׂא נֶס לְגוֹלִים וְאָסַף נְדָחֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
וּנְפֻצוֹת יְהוּדָה יִקְבֹץ מֵאַרְבַּע כְּנָפוֹת הָאָרֶץ:
(יג) וְסָרָה קִנְאָת אֶפְרָיִם וְצַרְרֵי יְהוּדָה כִּכְרָתוֹ
אֶפְרָיִם לֹא־יִקְנֵא אֶת־יְהוּדָה וַיְהוּדָה לֹא־יִצָּר
אֶת־אֶפְרָיִם: (יד) וְעָפוּ בְּכַתֵּף פְּלִשְׁתִּים לְמָה
יַחְדָּו יָבִיזוּ אֶת־בְּנֵי־קָדָם אֲדוּם וּמוֹאָב מִשְׁלוֹחַ

shall become a standard to peoples— Nations shall seek his counsel and his abode shall be honored. (11) In that day, my Lord will apply God’s hand again to redeeming the other part of God’s people from Assyria—as also from Egypt, Pathros, Nubia, Elam, Shinar, Hamath, and the coastlands. (12) [God] will hold up a signal to the nations and assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. (13) Then Ephraim’s envy shall cease and Judah’s harassment shall end; Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim. (14) They shall pounce on the back of Philistia to the west, and together plunder the peoples of the east; Edom and Moab shall be subject to them and the children of Ammon shall obey them. (15) The Eternal will dry up the tongue of the Egyptian sea. God will raise God’s hand over the Euphrates [river] with the might of the wind and break it into seven wadis, so that it can be trodden dry-shod. (16) Thus there shall be a highway for the other part of God’s people out of Assyria, such as there was for Israel when it left the land of Egypt.

יָדָם וּבָנִי עֲמוֹן מְשַׁמְעֶתָם: (טו) וְהַחֲרִים יְהוָה
 אֶת לְשׁוֹן יַם־מִצְרַיִם וְהִנִּיף יָדוֹ עַל־הַנָּהָר בְּעֵינֵם
 רוּחוֹ וְהִפְהִיחוֹ לְשִׁבְעָה נְחָלִים וְהִדְרִיךְ בְּנַעֲלֵים:
 (טז) וְהִיטָה מַסְלָה לְשָׂאֵר עַמּוֹ אֲשֶׁר יִשְׂאֵר
 מֵאֲשׁוּר כַּאֲשֶׁר הִיטָה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל בְּיוֹם עֲלֵתוֹ
 מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם:

Refuah Shleimah

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We Remember a Few of Far Too Many Lives Lost to COVID-19

Paulo Gustavo, 42, helped bring LGBTQ family life to public media, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Father Joseph Santos, 62, priest who never missed a 4th of July parade, Providence, Rhode Island
Sally Ann Mernah, 61, daycare worker, grandmother, and avid reader, Burke, Virginia

We Remember Those Lost to Violence in Washington, DC

Stephon Franks, 27, SE DC; Raychelle Freeman, 24, NE DC; Derico Justice Miles, 21, SE DC;
Willie Spain Jr., 40, SE DC; Larelle Washington, 17, NE DC

Condolences

Hartley Zamore, father of Joanne Zamore

Shloshim

Ida Lessman, Goldie Nussbaum, Alex Schiffman-Shilo, Steven Sondheim

Yahrzeit

Harry Albert, Betty Wagner Atlas, Bernice Balash, Ethel Bamberger, Max Bender,
Emma Blum Berliner, Shimon Brand, Bertil Arnot Brink, Mace Broide, Harry Bruckheim,
James Burrell-Sahl, Sandra Feldman, Grace Fitz, Myrle Freedman, Marion Goldberg,
Stanley Grossman, Paul Hachman, Bernie Hamilton, Crosby Ingersoll, Ida Bloom Kanter,
Jeanne Klein, Bertha E. Levenson, Josie J. Lipman, Stanley Muhlstein, David Queller,
Susan Reich, Rhea Rockower, Harry C. Rolnick, Ruth Rubin, Louis E. Schotz, Rose P. Shapiro,
Carl Shapiro, Julius Sokolow, Leon Springer, Rose Stowe, Harry Val, Bernyce Wald,
Louise Werlin, Judy Wiley, Reuben Wisotzky, Sybil Yermack, Lillian Zapruder, Dale Zingg

Temple Micah acknowledges our synagogue stands on the traditional territory of the Piscataway and Nacotchtank (Anacostan) peoples. We pay respect to their elders past and present and recognize their stewardship of this land and the vital contribution of indigenous peoples to this nation we share.

DANIEL G. ZEMEL, Rabbi

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BETH WERLIN, Executive Director | **DEBRA WINTER**, Director of Spiritual Arts

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