

Kollot Haftarah for Shabbat HaGadol

Before reading the Haftarah

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מְלִךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָנוּ בֵּת קוֹל שְׁאֲמַרְהָ אֵלָיו וְאָלוּ דְבָרָי חֻכְמָה: בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה הַבּוֹחֵר בַּתּוֹרָה וּבַמִּשְׁשָׁה עֶבְדּוֹ וּבַיִּשְׂרָאֵל עִמּוֹ וּבַחֲכָמֵי אֲמַת וְצַדִּיק:

Baruch attah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher natan lanu bat kol she’amrah eilu va’eilu divrei chochmah. Baruch attah Adonai, ha-bocheir ba-torah, uv’mosheh avdo, uv’yisra’el ammo, uv’chachmei emet va-tzedek.

Blessed are You, our Living God, Sovereign of the universe, who gave to us a heavenly voice to say that “These and these” are words of wisdom. Blessed are You God, You chose the Torah, Moses Your servant, Israel Your people and true and righteous Sages.

Babylonian Talmud, Ta’anit 22a

רבי ברוקא חוּזאה הוּה שכיח בשוקא דבי לפט, הוּה שכיח אליהו גביה, אמר ליה: איכא בהאי שוקא בר עלמא דאתי? אמר ליה: לא. אדהכי והכי חזא לההוא גברא דהוה סיים מסאני אוכמי, ולא רמי חוטא דתכלתא בגלימיה. אמר ליה: האי בר עלמא דאתי הוא. רהט בתריה, אמר ליה: מאי עובדך? אמר ליה: זיל האינדא ותא למחר.

Rabbi Beroka of Choza’ah used to frequent the marketplace of Bei Lefet. Elijah frequently appeared to him. Once Rabbi Beroka said to him, “Is there anyone in this marketplace who is destined for the World to Come?” Elijah answered him, “No.” In the meantime, he saw a certain man who was wearing black shoes, and who did not have a thread of *techelet* on his clothes. Elijah said to Rabbi Beroka, “This one is destined for the world to come.” Rabbi Beroka ran after him [and] asked him, “What do you do?” He replied, “Go away and come back tomorrow!”

למחר אמר ליה: מאי עובדך? אמר ליה: זנדוקנא אנא, ואסרנא גברי לחוד ונשי לחוד, ורמינא פוריאיא בין הני להני כי היכי דלא ליתו לידי איסורא. כי חזינא בת ישראל דיהבי נכרים עלה עינייהו מסרנא נפשאי ומצילנא לה. יומא חד הוות נערה מאורסה גבן דיהבו בה נכרים עינייהו, שקלי דורדייא דחמרא ושדאי לה בשיפולה, ואמרי: דיסתנא היא. אמר ליה: מאי טעמא לית לך חוטי ורמית מסאני אוכמי? אמר ליה עיילנא ונפיקנא ביני נכרים כי היכי דלא לידעו דיהודאה אנא, כי הוו גזרי גזירתא מודענא להו לרבנן, ובעו רחמי ומבטלי לגזירתייהו.

The following day, he asked him, “What do you do?” He replied, “I am a jailer, and I jail men separately and women separately, and I place my bed between the men and the women so that they do not transgress. When I see a daughter of Israel, on whom the non-Jewish guards have their eye, I risk my life to save her. One day, there was a betrothed Jewish woman with us, on whom the non-Jews had their eye. I took the lees of wine and threw them on the lower part of her, and I said ‘She is menstruating.’” Rabbi Beroka asked, “Why do you not have threads, and wear black shoes?” He replied, “I come and go among non-Jews. [I wear these things] so that they won’t know that I am a Jew. Whenever they make a decree, I inform the Rabbis, and they pray for mercy and annul their decrees.”

ומאי טעמא כי אמינא לך אנא מאי עובדך ואמרת לי זיל האינדא ותא למחר? אמר ליה: בההיא שעתא גזרי גזירתא, ואמינא ברישא איזיל ואשמע להו לרבנן דלבעי רחמי עלה דמילתא. אדהכי והכי אתו הנך תרי אתי. אמר ליה: הנך נמי בני עלמא דאתי נינהו. אזל לגבייהו. אמר להו: מאי עובדייכו? אמרו ליה: אינשי בדוחי אנן, מבדחינן עציבי. אי נמי, כי חזינן בי תרי דאית להו תיגרא בהדייהו - טרחינן ועבדינן להו שלמא.

“And why, when I said to you ‘What do you do?’ did you say ‘Go away and come back tomorrow?’” He replied, “At that very moment, they had just issued a decree, so I said: let me first go and inform the Rabbis so that they may pray for mercy concerning this matter.” In the meantime, two others came into the marketplace. Elijah came and said to Rabbi Beroka, “These, too, are destined for the World to Come.” Rabbi Beroka went to them and asked them, “What do you do?” They said to him, “We are jesters; we go to cheer up those who are depressed. Not just that; whenever we see two people quarrel, we work hard to make peace between them.”

After reading the Haftarah

על התּוֹרָה וְעַל הָעִבּוּדָה וְעַל דְּבָרֵי חֻכְמָה וְעַל יוֹם הַשְּׁבֵת הַזֶּה שֶׁנִּתְּתָ לָנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְקַדְּשָׁה וּלְמַנּוּחָה לְכַבוֹד וּלְתַפְאֲרָת. עַל הַכֹּל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֲנַחְנוּ מוֹדִים לָךְ וּמְבַרְכִים אוֹתְךָ. יִתְבָּרַךְ שְׁמֶךָ בְּפִי כָל־יְחִי תְּמִיד לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד: בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה. מְקַדֵּשׁ הַשְּׁבֵת:

Al ha-torah v'al ha-avodah, v'al divrei chochmah, v'al yom ha-shabbat ha-zeh, shennatatta lanu, Adonai eloheinu, likdushah v'limnuchah, l'chavod ul'tif'aret, al ha-kol Adonai eloheinu, anachnu modim lach um'var'chim otach, yitbarach shimcha b'fi chol chai tamid l'olam va'ed. Baruch attah Adonai, m'kaddeish ha-shabbat.

For the Torah, for the service, for words of wisdom, and for this Shabbat day which You gave us, our Living God, for holiness and rest, for glory and beauty - for all these, God our Creator, we thank and bless You. May Your name be blessed by the mouth of all living forever and ever. Blessed are You God, who makes the Shabbat holy.

Community News

Alyth is built on a foundation of mutual care, in which we share one another’s joys and sorrows, and accompany one another through our life journeys.

On this Shabbat we celebrate with:

Daniel Bowman and Rosanna Thomson, on the birth of a daughter, Madeleine Rebecca

We join with those marking the anniversary of the death of a loved one:

Ninette Ball, mother of Joyce Behrmann

Alec Berger, stepfather of Rolfe Roseman and grandfather of Daniel and Tim Roseman

Neville Cohen, brother of Aileen Jampel

Phyllis Crawcour, mother of Matthew Crawcour

Pauline Eisenberg, mother of Peter Eisenberg

Zelda Enlander, mother of Janice Friend

Israel Field, father of Susan Pearl

Marion Goff, mother of Jo Goff

Abraham Guz, father of Gabrielle and Stephanie Guz

Ian Hermer, husband of Judith Hermer

Alice Lenz, mother of Maurice Lenz

Ray Levitt, mother of John Levitt

Hymie Levy, father of Mark Levy

Rhoda Levy, mother of Mark Levy

Alec Marmot, husband of Myra Marmot

Ernest Miller, father of Steve Miller

Helene Miller, mother of Steve Miller

Abraham Morris, father of Myra Marmot

Norman Nathan, brother of Shirley Marks, uncle of Laura and Richard Marks and Helen Hainbach

Betty Pearl, mother of Raymond Pearl

Rachel Phillips, mother of Judith Smith

Jacqueline Pinto, mother of Jane Kessler

Paulette Rothschild, mother of Jeanne-Marie Stern

Esther Rudolf, mother of Annie Saunders and Ruth Blane

Harvey Scriven, husband of Valentine Scriven

David Share, father of Helena Miller

Seymour Springer, father of Lauretta-Jayne Bernstein

Malka Stern, mother of Glenn Stern

Myer Stern, father of Glenn Stern

Peggy Susman, mother of Dan Susman

Josephine Urban, mother of Mark Urban

Ethel Wix, sister of Janet Bloch

Coming up at Alyth...

The Alyth Ramblers Monday 21 April (10:00 – 16:00)

Do you enjoy walking? Please join the Alyth Ramblers for a seven and a half mile walk through the Chiltern Hills and surrounding valleys and the grand Stonor Country Park House. For details and to book please email: Vivienne.bellos@btinternet.com.

Yom HaShoah Commemorative Concert & Service Wednesday 23 April (19:30)

Please join us for a special commemorative Holocaust Day concert featuring Alyth choirs and soloists. Following the hour-long concert, there will be a brief pause and then we will come together for our Yom HaShoah Service.

Alyth Community Chavurah Supper Friday 25 April (18:30)

Join us for the Erev Shabbat Service, followed by dinner together. A great opportunity for members of the community to come together for dinner. Join us for Alyth’s community chavurah supper with guest speaker: Rick Blaskey who will talk about his fascinating career in the music industry. Rick has worked with some of the great musical stars and been an innovator in the industry. We will hear about his career and various great anecdotes. Please bring a dish to share with everyone and let us know you are coming by signing up online.

Year 7 & 8 Secret Cinema Saturday 26 April (17:00)

A highlight of the Youth and Education calendar. For all those in year 7 and 8, join us for a cinema evening with dinner, snacks, fun and friends. Contact izzie@alyth.org.uk for information.

Progressive Judaism & Alyth Monday 28 April (19:00)

Following on from our We Need to Talk About Progressive Judaism meeting, this event will be an opportunity to speak with our Alyth Trustees about the combination before we move forward as a community. More details will follow in Around Alyth.

Yom HaZikaron Tuesday 29 April (19:00)

We will be making Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day) with an evening of reflection and sharing, including testimony and a short memorial service. If your family has an Israel story that you would like to share, please be in touch with Rabbi Elliott, ellriott@alyth.org.uk.