



PARSHAT KI TAVO

16 ELUL 5786 | AUGUST 29, 2026

Among the mitzvos that apply when we enter the land of Israel and plant and reap the harvest, we must bring the first fruits to the Temple in an expression of thanksgiving. When we do, we recite a capsule summary of the Jewish people's history—this summary is found at the beginning of our Passover Haggadah. We also bring tithes, which go to support the needy among us as well as the tribe of Levi, who serve in the Temple. When the Jewish people crossed over the Jordan River, we were instructed to emplace large stones as memorials and engrave the text of Torah on them.

The parsha also contains the “tochacha” or “rebuke,” a series of imprecations which will befall those who stray from the proper path of Jewish observance. This section is always read in close proximity to Rosh Hashana so that any malediction remains in the year that's closing, and only blessing accompanies us in the New Year. At the close of the parsha, Moshe prepares his final charge to the Jewish People

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Very Close to Us



A story is told to describe the feelings of the month of Elul, the month before the High Holidays:

When the King is in his palace, only a few select people can enter, and then only with permission and invitation and with great preparation. However when the King is on the way to the palace and journeying through the fields, all the people are able to approach the King at any time, wearing their work clothes and with no preparation. And the King greets them with a shining countenance and a warm smile.

In Tishrei, we have the Days of Awe, the High Holy Days. Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur are filled with trembling and trepidation. But this month of Elul is when the King is very close to us, on our turf so to speak; and in this time of great mercy we can find a profound closeness-- if we seek it out.

We are now midway through the month of Elul, so Rosh Hashana will be here in two short weeks. Now you know that the week leading up to Rosh Hashana is a busy one, so let's not count on getting too much spiritual work or preparation done the week after Labour Day-anyway, we'll be full from the KST family barbecue that Monday!. There are phone calls to make, and selichot to say early in the morning. There are friends and family to make up with and meals and guests and family to think about. So we really only have this coming week to prepare ourselves in an inward way for the coming High Holidays.

The main task now is a cheshbon hanefesh, a stock-taking of our own souls. It's a luxury and a necessity at the same time, but we must allow ourselves some sacred time to do this. Some suggest sitting down with a piece of paper and a pencil, and actually write down for ourselves what we hope to accomplish in the next few weeks. No one else will see it. It's just for yourself. Ask questions like these: What did I want to accomplish in the past year? Where am I now? What do I want to be in the coming year? What parts of me are better left behind in the departing year, and what parts should I strengthen and build in the new year, 5787? What opportunities did I miss this past year, and why? What can I do to make sure I make the most of the New Year, not just on Rosh Hashana, but every day? Only you know the answer to these questions, and this week is the perfect time to ask ourselves, and think carefully and deeply about them.

For those who have not yet heard the shofar, we are sounding it every weekday morning after shacharit. Please feel welcome to join us. We are also adding Psalm 27, whose message is particularly attuned to this season. You can do that anywhere, anytime.

Let's give ourselves a break from the news—there's not much there that's going to make us feel better about life. By contrast there is a wealth of Torah-based resources online in every format to give us excellent food for thought at this time of year. Let's give ourselves some quiet moments to reflect on the changing year, and our changing selves.

This is the time of year we phone up family, talk to friends, call up people you haven't heard from in a long time and renew ties. We make peace because if we can't make peace within ourselves and among ourselves, there won't be peace in the world.

Take a look in your machzor, the High Holiday prayerbook, which should be waiting for you on the shelf. Rabbi Sacks has an excellent introduction to both the Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur machzor. This is a time to re-acquaint ourselves with those special prayers. Why do we go into five hours of davening on Rosh Hashana, thinking that it will just be a moving experience, even if we don't prepare ourselves? Like anything in life; if you invest in it, you'll see returns. The High Holidays and in particular the period leading up to them offer us a chance to connect with that deepest and highest part of ourselves—let's get ready to be all that we can be.

A week from Sunday morning, September 6th, we'll begin the Selichot, extra penitential services that prepare us for the holidays. Those will begin at 8:30 Sunday morning, with our Chazzan Pesach Goldman. Selichot will be followed by shacharit at 9:10, and at 10am we'll enjoy breakfast and an inspirational speaker. Monday afternoon is the Barbecue-and then only a few days left until Rosh Hashana.

Shabbat shalom, and

Shana Tova umetuka—a happy, healthy, and sweet new year.



Earliest Candle lighting: 6:37 pm | Candle Lighting: 7:41 pm | Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30pm

Shacharit: 9:15am | Torah Reader: Yaakov Kanofsky

Chumash: p.1068 | Haftorah: p. 1201 | Class In Talmud Sanhedrin 7:25pm

Shabbat Ends: 8:43 pm

SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush this week is enhanced by Joan O'Callaghan in celebration of her 80th birthday and Norman and Beryl Mosselson in honour of the 70th anniversary of Norman's bar mitzvah

Annual KST Family BBQ will be Labour Day Monday, September 7. Sponsorship greatly appreciated.

High holiday tickets are available for visiting family members who are members of shuls elsewhere. Please call the office to purchase.

YORTZEIT BOOK NOTICE

We will reprint the list of names to be remembered in this year's yizkor book from last year's.

If you have an additional name to add, or would not like to be included in this year's yizkor book, please email the office or leave a message no later than Thursday, September 3 at 5pm.

Each name will be billed to your account at \$25 per name.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
August 30 Shacharit 8:30 am	August 31 Shacharis 7:00am Essential Talmud Class 1pm	September 1 Shacharis 7:00am Chassidus on the parsha 12 pm	September 2 Shacharit 7:00am
THU	FRI	SHABBOS	
September 3 Shacharit 7:00 am	September 4 Shacharit: 7am Breakfast Learning Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat 6:20pm Early Candle lighting 6:26 Candle lighting 7:29	September 5 Shacharit: 9:15 am Talmud Sanhedrin 7:15 pm Shabbat Ends 8:35	

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6: SELICHOT

SERVICES WITH CHAZZAN PESACH GOLDMAN

SELICHOT BEGINS 8:30AM

SHACHARIT 9:10AM

BREAKFAST AT 10AM WITH GUEST

SPEAKER: REBBITZEN RIVKY GANSBURG



Sustaining Our Shabbat Kiddush, Week After Week.

The KST Chevrah helps ensure our community comes together around a warm, welcoming hot Kiddush every Shabbat at KST.

Kiddush is where community relationships deepen, newcomers to the Shul feel welcomed, and our community truly connects after davening.

Please consider supporting this cornerstone of Shabbat at KST.

[Click here to support](#)

NEW
This week's upcoming yahrzeits

Yahrzeits

Friday

Earl Schwartz for aunt Rose Kleinberg

Sunday

Marcia Aizicowitz for mother Helen Sandler

Robert Singer for father Alex Singer

Tamara Baker for father Joseph Epstein

Tuesday

Ralph Aizicowitz for father Robert Aizicowitz

Stuart Horowitz for father Izzy Isadore Horowitz

Wednesday

Sidney Papernick for wife Julia Ann Papernick

Thursday

Elliott Kirshenbaum for Jeffrey Kirshenbaum

Gladys Buckler for father-in-law Joseph Buckler

Mervyn Ziv for mother Riva Ziv

Pamela Stein for sister Beth Medjuck

Vivien Sharon for grandfather Joseph Buckler

