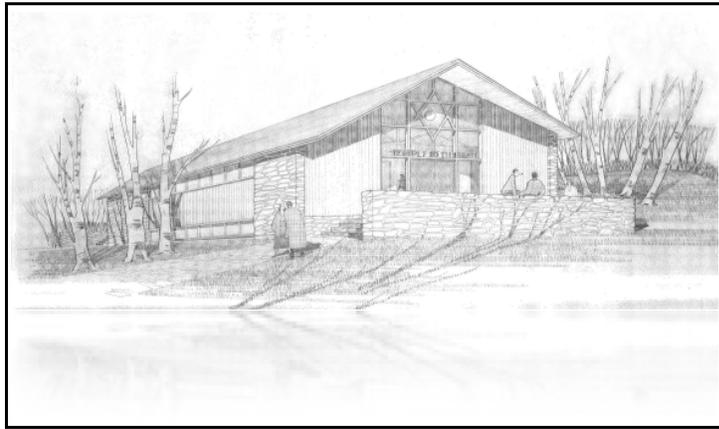


Temple Beth Israel Preservation Society

Danielson, Connecticut



ROSH HASHANAH

2014 / 5775

Tashlikh – The Casting

"And Thou wilt cast ("ve-tashlikh") all their sins into the depths of the sea." Michah, 7:19

TASHLIKH

King David writes in Psalms, “Out of the narrows of distress I called upon God, God answered me with liberation.”

מִרְהַמְצַר קָרָאתִי יְהוָה. עָנְנִי בְמִרְקָב יְהוָה:

1. During this season of repentance, we are called upon to do T'shuva, to return to God in sincerity and in truth. Through prayer and study, reflection and ritual, we strive to begin the New Year in a spirit of humility, self – scrutiny, and spiritual renewal.
2. Today we come to this body of water to perform the Tashlikh ceremony, seeking symbolically to “cast away” our accumulated sins and transgressions, to send away our unworthy thoughts, to purify our hearts and our souls, as the New Year begins.

We read together from the prophet Micah 7:18-20

מִי־אֵל כְּמוֹךָ נִשְׂא עוֹן וְעֵבֶר עַל־פֶּשַׁע לְשֹׂאֲרֵי־תַחַת.
לֹא־תִחַזֵּק לְעַד אַפּוֹ כִּי־תִפֶּן חֶסֶד הוּא:
יָשׁוּב יִרְחַמֵּנוּ יִכַּבֵּשׁ עֲוֹנוֹתֵינוּ.
וְתִשְׁלִיךְ בְּמַצְלוֹת יְיָ כָּל־חַטָּאתָם:
תִּתֵּן אֱמֶת לִיעֲקֹב חֶסֶד לְאַבְרָהָם.
אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּעְתָּ לְאַבְרָהָם מִיְמֵי קְדָם:

(together)

Who is a God like You, forgiving iniquity and pardoning the transgression of the remnant of Your people? You do not maintain anger forever but You delight in loving-kindness. You will again have compassion upon us subduing our sins, **casting all our sins into the depths of**

the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and enduring love to Abraham, as You promised our fathers from days of old.

3. *Tashlikh* teaches us that whatever sins come to us through the temptations of daily life, acts of arrogance, fits of anger, moments of weakness, or times of despair, none of these transgressions become part of ourselves. Just like they aren't what we really want to be, they never become who we are. They remain a superficial coating that can be scrubbed off, disowned, and cast away at any time.

4. *Tashlikh* teaches us that we can change and improve, because at our core we are holy and pure – a spark of the Divine. When gazing mindfully at the calming, rushing waters, we may begin to comprehend God's immeasurable and limitless love for us, calling us to return in complete *teshuva*.

(read responsively)

Casting Away

Let us cast away the sin of vain ambition, which prompts us to strive for goals that bring neither true fulfillment nor genuine contentment.

Let us cast away the sin of stubbornness, so that we will neither persist in foolish habits nor fail to acknowledge our will to change.

Let us cast away the sin of indifference, so that we may be sensitive to the sufferings of others and responsive to the needs of people everywhere.

Let us cast away the sin of pride and arrogance, so that we can worship God and serve God's purposes in humility and truth.

Let us cast away the sin of envy, so that we will neither be consumed by desire for what we lack nor grow unmindful of the blessings that are already ours.

Let us cast away the sin of selfishness, which keeps us from enriching our lives through wider concerns, and

greater sharing, and from reaching out in love to other human beings.

Let us cast away the sin of wasting time, because time is precious and we want to make the best possible use of our time;

Let us cast away the sin of wasting the earth's resources, because the earth is here to care for and preserve us and if we fail to care for the earth, we will be forced to live in a place that is spoiled and unpleasant;

Let us cast away the sin of cluttering our lives and our homes with confusion and things that are not important, because clutter makes us lose the things that are important.

הַשִּׁיבֵנו יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה חֲדָשׁ יְמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם:

*Ha-shi-vei-nu A-do-nai ei-le-kha ve-na-shu-vah
kha-deish ya-mei-nu ke-ke-dem.*

(together)

Turn us to You, O God, and we shall return;
Renew us as in days of old.

5. A Pilgrim Song.

Out of the depths I call to You, O Lord. Hear my voice; let your ears be attentive to my supplicating voice.

If you, O Lord, kept strict account of iniquities, who could live on?

But with You there is forgiveness. I look for You. My whole being hopes; I wait for Your word.

My soul waits for You, more eagerly than watchmen for the dawn.

O Israel, put your hope in the Lord for with the Lord there is kindness; with God there is great saving power. It is Adonai who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

(Psalm 130)

6. God, Help Us To Turn

From callousness to sensitivity,
From hostility to love,
From pettiness to purpose,
From envy to contentment,
From carelessness to discipline,
From fear to faith.

Turn us around, O God, and bring us back toward You.
Revive our lives, as at the beginning.
And turn us towards each other, God,
For in isolation there is no life.

יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ רַחוּם וְחַנוּן. אֲרֹךְ אַפַּיִם וְרַב־חֶסֶד וְאֱמֶת:
נִצֵּר חֶסֶד לְאַלְפִים. נִשָּׂא עֲוֹן וּפְשָׁע וְחַטָּאתָה וְנִקָּה:

*Adonai, Adonai, Eyl rakhum v'khanun,
erekh apa-yim v'rav khesed ve-emet.
No-tzeyr khesed la-alafim,
nosey avon va-fe-sha v'khata-a v'nakey.
Adonai, Adonai,*

(read together)

Compassion and Tenderness,
Patience, Forbearance,
Kindness, Awareness,
Bearing love from age to age,
Lifting guilt and mistakes,
And making us free.

(read responsively)

A Prayer for Tashlich

Here I am again
ready to let go of my mistakes.

*Help me to release myself
from all the ways I've missed the mark.*

Help me to stop carrying
the karmic baggage of my poor choices.

*As I cast this bread upon the waters
lift my troubles off my shoulders.*

Help me to know that last year is over,
washed away like crumbs in the current.

*Open my heart to blessing and gratitude.
Renew my soul as the dew renews the grasses.*

And we say together:
Amen.

Avinu Malkeinu

(read responsively)

Avinu Malkeinu, she-ma ko-lei-nu

Eternal, our God, hear our prayer.

Avinu Malkeinu, we have sinned before you.

Eternal, our God, have mercy upon us and upon our children.

Avinu Malkeinu, inscribe us for blessing in the book of life.

Eternal, our God, grant unto us a year of happiness.

Avinu Malkeinu, Be gracious and answer us, for we have not done enough good deeds. Please love us, be generous with us, and help us.

אָבִינוּ מֶלְכֵנוּ חַנּוּנוּ וְעֲנֵנוּ כִּי אֵין בָּנוּ מַעֲשִׂים
עֲשֵׂה עִמָּנוּ צְדָקָה וְחֶסֶד וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנוּ:

Avinu Malkeinu Chanenu va'aneinu (2x) ke ein banu ma'asim.

Aseh imanu tzdakah vakhosed -

Aseh imanu tzdakah vakhosed, v'hoshi'enu. (repeat)
