



Our Clergy, Staff, and Lay Leadership Welcome You!

Jill L. Maderer, Senior Rabbi (she/her)

Eli C. Freedman, Rabbi (he/him)

Bradley D. Hyman, Cantor (he/him)

Alan D. Fuchs, Rabbi Emeritus (he/him)

William I. Kuhn, Rabbi Emeritus (he/him)

Jonathan M. Broder, President (he/him)

Jeffrey W. Katz, Executive Director (he/him)

Jennifer D. James, Director of Youth Learning and Engagement (she/her)

Andrea S. Miller, Buerger Early Learning Center Jewish Engagement (she/her)

Shabbat Morning Service

Introduction to the Saturday Morning Service



Often, during our Saturday morning service, we celebrate *b'nai mitzvah*. In Jewish tradition, this is when a young person begins to take on the rights and responsibilities of an adult in the religious community at the age of thirteen. At that age, those who identify as boys become “*bar mitzvah*,” which means a “son of the commandments.” Those who identify as girls become “*bat mitzvah*,” or “daughter of the commandments.” The plural is “*b'nai mitzvah*” – children of the commandments – which also is a term used by some children who identify as non-binary or gender fluid.

The *b'nai mitzvah* ceremony formally marks the occasion when one has the right to take part in leading religious services and the responsibility to perform *mitzvot* (commandments). It is an opportunity to welcome the young person into our congregation as a full spiritual member of the Jewish community.

In its earliest and most basic form, a *b'nai mitzvah* is the celebrant's first *aliyah* (literally “going up”), the honor of saying the blessings before and after the reading of the *Torah* (the handwritten scroll of the 5 books of Moses). The *Torah* is the first part of the Hebrew Bible, also known as the *Tanakh*, which also includes the Prophets (e.g. Jeremiah, Isaiah) and the Writings (e.g. Psalms, Proverbs).

At Rodeph Shalom, a *b'nai mitzvah* student learns and recites the weekly *Torah* portion and the *haftarah* portion (selection from the Prophets) in its traditional chant (*trope*). The celebrant also leads part of the worship service and gives a *d'var Torah* (literally a “word of *Torah*”), which is a teaching that reflects their understanding of their *Torah* portion and how it applies to life today.

B'nai mitzvah generally occurs during 7th or 8th grade. At Rodeph Shalom, Jewish learning continues through 12th grade and culminates in a special community celebration of all that the teens have learned and the relationships they have built.

It is customary to wish a hearty “*mazel tov*” (wish of congratulations) to the *b'nai mitzvah* and their families. Congregation Rodeph Shalom wishes you a *Shabbat Shalom* – a peaceful Sabbath.

Saturday *Shabbat* Morning Service

May 10, 2025

Led by: Rabbi Jill Maderer, Rabbi Eli Freedman,
and Cantor Brad Hyman
and Rabbi Tamir Nir, HUC Golden Hanassi Fellow,
joining us from Israel

Bat Mitzvah: Alix Sophia Mandel,
daughter of Mia & Sean Mandel

Board Representative: Ned Hanover

Alix Sophia Mandel, daughter of Mia & Sean Mandel and granddaughter of Linda & Martin Simon and Abraham & Susan Mandel, will become a *Bat Mitzvah* on Saturday, May 10. Alix is a 7th grader at Friends Select School. For her *mitzvah* project, Alix volunteered at *Mitzvah Meals* where she and other volunteers cooked over 50 meals for RS congregants in need. Alix says the most meaningful part of her *Bat Mitzvah* journey at Rodeph Shalom has been learning her *Torah* and *Haftarah* portions with Cantor Hyman.

Shabbat Morning Torah Reading

Parashat Acharei Mot - K'doshim: Leviticus 16:1-12

1 *Adonai* spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron who died when they drew too close to the presence of *Adonai*. 2 *Adonai* said to Moses: Tell your brother Aaron that he is not to come at will into the Shrine behind the curtain, in front of the cover that is upon the ark, lest he die; for I appear in the cloud over the cover. 3 Thus only shall Aaron enter the Shrine: with a bull of the herd for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.— 4 He shall be dressed in a sacral linen tunic, with linen breeches next to his flesh, and be girt with a linen sash, and he shall wear a linen turban. They are sacral vestments; he shall bathe his body in water and then put them on.— 5 And from the Israelite community he shall take two he-goats for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. 6 Aaron is to offer his own bull of sin offering, to make expiation for himself and for his household. 7 Aaron shall take the two he-goats and let them stand before *Adonai* at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting; 8 and he shall place lots upon the two goats, one marked for *Adonai* and the other marked for Azazel. 9 Aaron shall bring forward the goat designated by lot for *Adonai*, which he is to offer as a sin offering; 10 while the goat designated by lot for Azazel shall be left standing alive before *Adonai*, to make expiation with it and to send it off to the wilderness for Azazel. 11 Aaron shall then offer his bull of sin offering, to make expiation for himself and his household. He shall slaughter his bull of sin offering, 12 and he shall take a panful of glowing coals scooped from the altar before *Adonai*, and two handfuls of finely ground aromatic incense, and bring this behind the curtain.

1 וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה אַחֲרֵי מוֹת שְׁנֵי בְנֵי אַהֲרֹן בְּקִרְבָּתָם לִפְנֵי־יְהוָה וַיִּמְתּוּ: 2 וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה דַּבֵּר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן אַחִיךָ וְאֵל־יָבֵא בְּכָל־עֵת אֶל־הַקֹּדֶשׁ מִבַּיִת לַפְּרֹכֶת אֶל־פְּנֵי הַכַּפֹּרֶת אֲשֶׁר עַל־הָאֹרֹן וְלֹא יָמוּת בִּי בָעֲוֹן אַרְאֶה עַל־הַכַּפֹּרֶת: 3 בְּזֹאת יָבֵא אַהֲרֹן אֶל־הַקֹּדֶשׁ בְּפָר בֶּן־בְּקָר לְחַטָּאת וְאַיִל לְעֹלָה: 4 כְּתֹנֶת־בִּד קָדֹשׁ יִלְבָּשׁ וּמְכַסֵּי־בֶד יִהְיוּ עַל־בְּשָׂרוֹ וּבֹאבְגַט בֶּד יַחְגֹּר וּבְמִצְנַפֶּת בֶּד יִצְנַף בְּגַד־יְקֹדֶשׁ הֵם וְרִתֹץ בְּמִים אֶת־בְּשָׂרוֹ וּלְבָשִׁים: 5 וּמֵאֵת עֵדֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל יִקַּח שְׁנַיִם־שְׂעִירֵי עֲזִים לְחַטָּאת וְאַיִל אֶחָד לְעֹלָה: 6 וְהִקְרִיב אַהֲרֹן אֶת־פָּר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וּכְפָר בְּעֵדוֹ וּבְעֵד בֵּיתוֹ: 7 וְלָקַח אֶת־שְׁנֵי הַשְּׂעִירִים וְהַעֲמִיד אֹתָם לִפְנֵי יְהוָה פְּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד: 8 וְנָתַן אַהֲרֹן עַל־שְׁנֵי הַשְּׂעִירִים גִּרְלוֹת גּוֹרֵל אֶחָד לַיהוָה וְגּוֹרֵל אֶחָד לְעֹזָאֵזֶל: 9 וְהִקְרִיב אַהֲרֹן אֶת־הַשְּׂעִיר אֲשֶׁר עָלָה עָלָיו הַגּוֹרֵל לַיהוָה וַעֲשָׂהוּ חַטָּאת: 10 וְהַשְּׂעִיר אֲשֶׁר עָלָה עָלָיו הַגּוֹרֵל לְעֹזָאֵזֶל יַעֲמַד־תַּי לִפְנֵי יְהוָה לְכַפֵּר עָלָיו לְשַׁלַּח אֹתוֹ לְעֹזָאֵזֶל הַמִּדְבָּרָה: 11 וְהִקְרִיב אַהֲרֹן אֶת־פָּר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וּכְפָר בְּעֵדוֹ וּבְעֵד בֵּיתוֹ וְשִׁתַּם אֶת־פָּר הַחַטָּאת אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ: 12 וְלָקַח מִלֵּא־הַמִּחְתָּה גֹחַל־אֵשׁ מֵעַל הַמִּזְבֵּחַ מִלִּפְנֵי יְהוָה וּמְלֵא חֲפָנָיו קִטְרֶת סַמִּים דִּקָּה וְהִבִּיא מִבַּיִת לַפְּרֹכֶת:

Shabbat Morning Haftarah Reading

Ezekiel 22:1-5

1 The word of GOD came to me:

2 Further, O mortal, arraign, arraign the city of bloodshed; declare to her all her abhorrent deeds!

3 Say: Thus said the Sovereign GOD: O city in whose midst blood is shed, so that your hour is approaching; within which fetishes are made, so that you have become impure!

4 You stand guilty of the blood you have shed, defiled by the fetishes you have made. You have brought on your day; you have reached your year. Therefore I will make you the mockery of the nations and the scorn of all the lands.

5 Both the near and the far shall scorn you, O besmirched of name, O laden with iniquity!

1 וַיְהִי דְבַר־יְהוָה אֵלַי לֵאמֹר:

2 וְאַתָּה בְּוֹאֵם הַתְּשֻׁפֵט הַתְּשֻׁפֵט אֶת־עִיר הַדָּמִים וְהוֹדַעְתָּהּ אֵת כָּל־תּוֹעֲבוֹתֶיהָ:

3 וְאַמַּרְתָּ כֹּה אָמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה עִיר שְׂפָכַת דָּם בְּתוֹכָהּ לְבוֹא עֲתָה וְעֲשֵׂתָה גְלוּלִים עָלֶיהָ לְטִמְאָה:

4 בְּדַמְךָ אֲשֶׁר־שָׂפַכְתָּ אֲשַׁמְתָּ וּבְגִלְוֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר־עָשִׂיתָ טִמְאָת וַתִּקְרִיבִי יָמֶיךָ וַתָּבֹא עַד־שְׁנוֹתַיךָ עַל־כֵּן נִתְּתִיךָ חֶרְפָּה לְגוֹלִים וּמְלָסָה לְכָל־הָאֲרָצוֹת:

5 הַקְּרֹבוֹת וְהַרְחֲקוֹת מִמֶּךָ תִּתְקַלְסוּ־בְךָ טִמְאָת הַשֵּׁם רַבַּת הַמְּהוּמָה:

In Memoriam: May 4 to May 10, 2025

Yahrzeit (anniversary of death)

Mitzi Adis	B. Franklin Glass	Miriam Pudell
Ezra Agmon	Edwin M. Goldsmith, Jr.	Laurie Schwarz Reinheimer
Babette F. Austrian	David Goldstein	Fred M. Rodin
Fritzie R. Bauer	Sol W. Goodman	Eileen M. Rosen
Florence Kaufmann Bergsmann	Sophie Wice Gordon	Harvey Rosenbluth
Shirley Bernstein	Ray Pimes Greenberg	Sarah Strauss Rosenfeld
Isidor Binswanger	Celia Hecht	David Robert Sacks
Eugene Block	Charlotte R. Holt	Therese Borns Salus
Ruth Breslau	Israel Isaac Jamison	George E. Schweig
Charlotte Caust	Harry C. Kahn, II	Rebecca Feinberg Sellers
Florence Chavin	Clothilde Kohn	Abraham L. Shapiro
Richard Christopher	David Koss	Opal Shirley
Jessie Clark	Goncer Krestal	David P. Shulman
Lewis Cohen	Jacob Krieger	Melvin 'Butch' Siegel
Eric Ivan Cohen	Jack H. Landau	Leon Solis-Cohen
Nettie Levy David	Freda Goldich Leof	Morris Spector
Milton M. Ettelson	William W. Levinson	Miriam S. Strumpf
Arthur Flory	Jennie Lipman Luria	Gustav C. Tassman
Albert Fogel	Selma C. Lyman	Lewis Walder
Kalman Frankel	Milton M. Meyers	Marie Wallerstein
Max Friedman	Ida E. Needle	Harry Frank Weil
Frances Frumin Weiner	Katherine Ginsburg Nelson	Sarah Weiner
Joseph J. Gabel	Celia Freedman Newman	Amelia Sandberg Whitehall
Jane Ganey	Helene Schaul Newman	Helene Wilner
Ignatius O. Gardner	Eleanor Perelmutter	Irene G. Wolf
Sadye Lande Garfinkle	Rose Hassler Pinkus	Henrietta Wolf
Marilyn J. Gelb	Harriet Poland	Morris Wolff
Abram Geller	Bernard Polikoff	Shirley Zemsky
Rosa E. Gerstley	Dolly Potashnik	Shirley Oken Zinman
Abraham Glant		

Shloshim (30 days of mourning)

Martin Rawdin Michael Rosen

May the source of peace send peace to all who mourn and comfort to all who are bereaved

Discover the Rodeph Shalom Vision Statement

◆ Immersed in Jewish time ◆ Guided by enduring values ◆ Compelled to moral action

We create profound connections

Immersed in Jewish time

Sustained by the sacred rhythms of the Jewish year, pivotal moments of the Jewish life cycle, and generations of Jewish history, we are part of something greater than ourselves. Living in Jewish time teaches us how to express meaning in the everyday, to gather as a community, and to walk with each other through the joys and sorrows of our lives.

Guided by enduring values

The timeless wisdom of our tradition inspires our intentional quest for truth, righteousness, and purpose amid the uncertainties we face in our world. We dedicate ourselves to Judaism's ethical messages to treat each other with loving-kindness. The faithful, the skeptic—and those who perceive God in different ways—wrestle to renew the teachings of Torah for our present and for the future of the Jewish people.

Compelled to moral action

In a broken world, we commit to be a voice of conscience and to engage in the work of social justice. From our doorstep to our neighborhood and beyond, we welcome the stranger and embrace our responsibility to connect with and learn from others.

We create profound connections

We seek meaning in shared experiences and cherish our diverse perspectives. We who are new to synagogue life or have extensive Jewish backgrounds; we who are Jewish or who share our lives with Jews; we who live within different family constellations, who are of all abilities, gender identities, sexual orientations, races, and generations: we enter the synagogue to celebrate, to learn, to laugh, to heal, to pray, to challenge ourselves, and to connect with others about the deepest questions of our lives.

Welcome to Congregation Rodeph Shalom

Who belongs here at Congregation Rodeph Shalom?

Whether you are...

- Black, brown, white, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, or multi-racial
- Queer, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, or straight
- Three days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old
- Single, married, with/without kids, divorced, widowed, or partnered
- Living in Philadelphia, the suburbs, or elsewhere
- Struggling with addictions or know someone in that position
- A student, looking for a job, or gainfully employed
- Disabled, able-bodied, or a person of differing abilities
- Neurodiverse or neurotypical
- New to Judaism or a lifelong member
- Seeking your path, Jewish or not

You belong here at Rodeph Shalom!

Where equity, inclusion, and diversity are our congregational values!

We would like to hear from you! Please contact:
Steven Share, Senior Membership & Community Engagement Manager (he/him)
via email at sshare@rodephshalom.org.

Thank you to our EID (Equity, Inclusion, Diversity) Task Force for its ongoing leadership, crafting the above message, and helping to pursue our congregational vision.

www.rodephshalom.org 215-627-6747
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Blog: rodephshalom.org/blog