

## DEBAR TORAH by RABBI ROHDE

### Keeping the Flow of Credit, a Delicate Balance

*Every seventh year you shall practice remission of debts. This shall be the nature of the remission: all creditors shall remit the due that they claim from their fellow; they shall not dun their fellow or kin, for the remission proclaimed is of the LORD (Deut. 15:1-2)*

*Beware lest you harbor the base thought, “The seventh year, the year of remission, is approaching,” so that you are mean and give nothing to your needy kin—who will cry out to the LORD against you, and you will incur guilt. Give readily and have no regrets when you do so, for in return the LORD your God will bless you in all your efforts and in all your undertakings. For there will never cease to be needy ones in your land, which is why I command you: open your hand to the poor and needy kin in your land (Deut. 15:9-11).*

The area of law which our Parasha thought to include is the laws of debt remission every seven years as well as the commandment to offer loans to our needy brethren. Making sure that fellow citizens are neither overburdened with debt nor unable to obtain the credit to which they normally would be entitled is crucial to keeping a people free. We are used to thinking that debt overload can lead to enslavement, and that is why remedies like debt remission or debt refinancing are necessary. But it is also important to remember that the Torah considers credit a basic need to which the citizen is entitled, at least under ordinary circumstances. Everyone, especially in the middle to lower reaches of society, will have shortfalls and cash-flow problems now and then. The denial of credit is a sure way to reduce a legitimate enterprise, agricultural or business, to failure. And that, too, will lead to poverty and enslavement. So the law must maintain a delicate balance, to keep the citizens from being overburdened by debt, and at the same time to keep credit flowing where credit is due. For that, the people must have the faith and trust to lend a hand to their fellow citizens. By juxtaposing the passage mandating debt remission with the passage requiring proper credit and lending, the Torah acknowledges the delicate nature of that balance.



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL  
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

## Shabbat Reeh-Rosh Hodesh

August 25-26, 2022 | 29 Ab, 5782

### SHABBAT SCHEDULE

Hertz: p. 799 | Haftarah: p. 818

Kaplan: p. 924 | Haftarah: p. 1232

**Candle Lighting** | 7:20 pm

**Friday Evening Services** | 7:00 pm | Main Sanctuary

**Zemirot** | 8:30 am

**Shahrit** | 9:00 am | Main Sanctuary

**Women's Service** | 9:00 am | Paved Paradise

**Youth Program** | 10:00 am | Fidanque Youth Room

**Kiddush Luncheon** | following services | Paved Paradise | *Sponsored by the Wiznia Family, in honor of Neta becoming a bat mitzvah*

**Shabbat Afternoon Class** | 6:30 pm | Rabbi Soloveichik

**Evening Services** | 7:15 pm | Main Sanctuary

**Habdala** | 8:14 pm

*In honor of Rosh Hodesh, these haftarah verses are chanted by the congregation:*

כֹּה אָמַר יְהוָה הַשָּׁמַיִם כִּסְאֵי וְהָאָרֶץ הַדָּם רִגְלֵי אֵי-יָהּ בֵּית אֲשֶׁר תִּבְנוּ-לִי וְאֵי-יָהּ מְנוּחָתִי:  
וְהָיָה מִדֵּי-חֲדָשׁ בְּחֻדְשׁוֹ וּמִדֵּי שַׁבַּת בְּשַׁבְּתוֹ יָבֹא כָל-בָּשָׂר לְהַשְׁתַּחֲוֹת לִפְנֵי אֲמֵר יְהוָה:

וַיֹּאמְרוּ-לוֹ יְהוֹנָתָן מִתָּר חֲדָשׁ וּנְבֻלָּדָת בְּי יִפְקֹד מוֹשֶׁבֶד:  
וַיֹּאמְרוּ יְהוֹנָתָן לְדָוִד לֵךְ לְשָׁלוֹם אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּעְנוּ שְׁנֵינוּ אֲנַחְנוּ בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה לֵאמֹר יְהוָה יִהְיֶה בֵּינֵינוּ וּבֵינֶךָ  
וּבֵינוּ וּבֵינֵי זָרְעֵי וּבֵינוּ זָרְעֵי עַד-עוֹלָם:

### Weekday Service Times

#### Morning Services

Sunday: 8:05 am | Monday-Friday: 7:05 am

#### Evening Services

Monday-Thursday (Minha/Arbit): 6:30 pm | *Selibot begin on Sunday night*

Congregation Shearith Israel | 2 West 70th Street | 212-873-0300 | [www.shearithisrael.org](http://www.shearithisrael.org)

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## HIGH HOLIDAYS

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### High Holiday Seating Reservations

*For Members & Guests*

**Register by September 12 (but sooner is appreciated!)**

We are offering both Indoor Services in our Main Sanctuary and Outdoor Services next door on Paved Paradise.

Both services will be beautiful and uplifting, and Rabbi Soloveichik will be spending time with each and delivering his sermons at both.

*For more detailed information on the venues and to place your reservation, please visit [shearithisrael.org/hb-5783](http://shearithisrael.org/hb-5783).*

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### Shabbat Teshuba Derasha

**Rabbi Meir Soloveichik**

**Shabbat, October 1 | Following Morning Services**

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

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### Place Your Lulab & Etrog Orders

**Deadline: October 2**

Purchase your lulab & etrog set through the synagogue at [shearithisrael.org/lulab](http://shearithisrael.org/lulab).

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

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*Members: Would you like to be a Shearith Israel Goodwill Ambassador?*

### Join our new Welcoming & Hospitality Committee

Shearith Israel insiders know that, on the one hand, we have a very formal and dignified service, while, at the same time, our community is warm, friendly, and even “down to earth.” However, newcomers or visitors who are not accustomed to our service may find it confusing or intimidating.

We are eager to help newer members and guests “find their way,” settle in, and get to know us and for all members to feel integrated and embraced by the *kehila*. Toward this end, we are launching a Welcoming and Hospitality Committee led by our newest trustee, Leah Albek.

We are currently looking for members to serve as volunteer **Sanctuary Goodwill Ambassadors** and **Shabbat Meal Hosts** — if either opportunity interests you, please let Leah know at [leahalbek@gmail.com](mailto:leahalbek@gmail.com).

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## SAVE THE DATES

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### New Member Tour with Z. Edinger

**Wednesday, September 7 | Following 6:30 pm Evening Services**

Are you a member who joined our congregation during COVID-19 times? Or have you been a member for a while but always wanted a chance to get to know our synagogue better? This tour is designed especially for you!

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**Nina Wachsmann, Author of *The Gallery of Beauties*,  
in conversation with Shearith Israel trustee, David Sable**

*Integration Without Assimilation:*

*The "Modern Jew" in Renaissance Venice*

**Wednesday, September 14 | 7:00 pm, following 6:30 pm evening services**

In the city that invented the concept of the ‘Ghetto,’ it is surprising to learn that the Jews lived separately but not isolated from the culture around them in the seventeenth century. Rabbis were not only leaders in the Jewish community, but scholars, mathematicians, statesmen and playwrights. The music, art, and innovative foods which filled the city, filtered into the Ghetto, finding its way into synagogues and homes.

In a salon-like discussion with trustee David Sable, Nina Wachsmann will bring to life this unusual city and its unusually modern Jews, from her research for her novel of historical suspense, *The Gallery of Beauties*.

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### Young Families Welcome Back Shabbat Picnic

**Shabbat, September 24 | following kiddush**

Welcome back! Enjoy a potluck picnic on Paved Paradise and share your summer stories. Bring your kids, and have your kids bring their friends! Watch our upcoming emails for more details.

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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Mazal tob to **Lucas Drill**, upon his forthcoming marriage to Lizzie Turovsky.

Mazal tob to **Neta Wiznia**, upon becoming a bat mitzvah. Congratulations to her parents, Rivka & Marc Wiznia, and the entire Wiznia family.