Shabbat Mishpatim 24 Sh'vat 5785 / 21 - 22 February 2025

Erev Shabbat

17:15 Space for Reflection (upstairs in the Meeting Room)

Before we bring in Shabbat together, for those who wish there will be a space to come together, reflect and share how you are feeling in this difficult time.

18:30 Erev Shabbat Service (in the Beit Tefillah)

Led by Rabbi Elliott and Katie.

Shabbat Morning

9:15 Choir Rehearsal

Rehearsing Alyth's Shabbat repertoire.

10:30 Shabbat Choral Service (in the Beit Tefillah)

Led by Rabbi Elliott and the Alyth Choir.

The Torah will be read by Harry Dadoun and Maxwell Partridge.

The Sermon will be given by Rabbi Nicola.

There will be an unsupervised kids corner in the Beit Tefillah.

Highlights for February

A night of Songs Concert - Sunday 23 February (18:00 - 19:30)

Alyth will be filled with the voices of Katie Hainbach, Tom Morss and Janine Clements, accompanied by Stephen Hose on piano and Henry Gilbert on bass, all in support of our Monday Club, for adults with learning and other disabilities. Following the success of our inclusive recording project, Monday Club is supporting our member, Anthony to record another song. Please check online for details.

We Need to Talk About.... Technology - Monday 24 February (19:30)

We Need to Talk About ... is a new series of evenings where we come together to discuss issues facing our community with experts in the field. Since the demands of the Covid pandemic, technology in services has literally become a part of the furniture in our building as a way of including more people in Alyth's prayer life. Join us for a special evening of learning and conversation, in which we will consider the principles underlying our use of technology in services and reflect on the way in which it affects our experience of worship at Alyth. We are delighted to be joined by Student Rabbi Andrea Kulikovsky, who will speak about her rabbinic dissertation research in this area. Please see the Alyth website to sign up.

Baby and Toddler Group - Tuesday 25 February (10:00-12:00)

Running every Tuesday. £2 for members and £5 for non members. A great opportunity to get to know others at the same stage of life as you and your children, and a space to develop ideas for what we can do for your families at Alyth. Contact abi@alyth.org.uk

Newlyweds Chavurah Dinner - Friday 28 February (18:30)

Are you a newly-wed after celebrating your marriage in 2024? Or are you eagerly counting down to your 2025 nuptials? Join us for the Erev Shabbat Service and stay for a Chavurah supper, hosted by Rabbi Hannah and Sam. As well as chatting, eating and drinking wine, we will use this evening as a mini focus group, so you can let us know what you want your Alyth journey to look like. Email sam@alyth.org.uk to let us know you are coming.

Proposed Alyth Poland Trip - Wednesday 8 - Sunday 12 April 2026

Would you be interested in joining an Alyth Journey to Poland? We are planning Alyth's very first educational and informative four-day visit to Poland in April 2026. We will go to Auschwitz and other places of Jewish interest, as well as experiencing the revival of Jewish life in Poland. There will also be an option for you to join the March of the Living. Cost will be approx: £900 to include accommodation, breakfast and coach travel. It excludes flights, travel insurance, lunches and dinner (except Shabbat) and cost for the March of the Living. In order to register your interest, please email Lynette by 31 March 2025 lynette@alyth.org.uk

Shabbat Services at Alyth

Throughout Jewish history, Shabbat has been at the heart of Jewish life, a distinctive and special time, different from the working week. At Alyth, we strive to uphold this holiness of Shabbat, with learning and multiple services to meet the needs of the community. Please help us to ensure that everyone can pray and participate by thinking about the needs of those around you. If you need to leave the service to avoid disturbing others, please note that the service can be watched on livestream, this week in the kindergarten. To help us to separate Shabbat from the rest of the week, please switch off your mobile phone, and do not take photographs or video, or smoke/vape on the premises on Shabbat.

In case of an emergency, evacuation of the building is either through the main entrance doors, congregating on Temple Grove, or via the kindergarten into the cemetery. Please do not gather on Alyth Gardens as this may block emergency services access. We will make Kiddush together over wine and challah on Friday nights & Shabbat mornings to end our services. We ask that you please not drink or eat until we have said the blessings.

On Shabbat, as through the week, we rely on the contribution of many of our members. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this Shabbat special. *Shabbat Shalom.*

Additional Songs and Readings for Shabbat

L'chu n'rann'nah

Words: Psalm 95:1-2

Music: Ken Chazen

לְכוּ נְרַנְּנָה לֵיהוָה נָרִיעָה לְצוּר יִשְׁעֵנוּ: נְקַדְּמֵה פַּנִיו בָּתוֹדָה בִּוֹמֵרוֹת נַרִיעַ לוֹ:

כִּי אֵל גָּדוֹל יהוה וּמֵלֵךְ גַּדוֹל עַל־כָּל־אֵלהִים:

L'chu n'rann'nah ladonai, nari'ah l'tsur yish'einu; N'kad'mah fanav b'todah, bizmirot nari'a lo. Ki eil gadol Adonai, umelech gadol al kol elohim. Come let us sing out to the Eternal, call out to the rock of our safety. Let us come before God with thanks, call out to God with psalms. For the Eternal is almighty God, a mighty ruler beyond all gods.

Adonai Oz

Words: Psalm 29:11

Music: Yoel Sykes and Daphna Rosenberg

יהוה עז, לעמו יתן: יהוה, יברד את-עמו בשלום

Adonai oz l'ammo yittein. Adonai y'vareich et ammo vashalom. God give strength to Your people, God bless Your people with peace.

Ufros Aleinu/Lo Yissa Goy

Words: Evening liturgy and Isaiah 2:4

ופרש עלינו סכת שלומד.

Uf'ros aleinu sukkat sh'lomecha

Spread over us the shelter of Your peace

לא־יִשָּׂא גוֹי אֶל־גוֹי חֶרֶב וְלֹא־יִלְמְדוּ עוֹד מִלְחָמָה:

Lo yissa goy el-goy cherev v'lo yilm'du od milchamah

Nation shall not lift up sword against nation; never again shall they train for war

בָּרוּךְ אַתַּה יהוה. הַפּוֹרֵשׁ סָכַּת שָׁלוֹם עַלֵינוּ וְעַל־עַמוֹ יִשְּׂרָאֵל וְעַל־כַּל־הָעוֹלַם:

Baruch attah Adonai, ha-poreis sukkat shalom aleinu v'al ammo yisra'el, v'al kol ha-olam Blessed are You God, spreading the shelter of peace over us, over Your people Israel, and over all the world.

Nachman of Bratslav's Prayer for Peace

May it be Your will, Eternal God, that war and bloodshed be abolished from the world, that a great and wondrous peace rule forever; that never again shall nation lift up sword against nation, and never again shall they train for war. But may all who dwell on the earth recognize and understand the basic truth: that we have not come into this world for strife and division, nor for hate and jealousy, contrariness and bloodshed; but we have come into this world to recognize and know You, may You be blessed forever.

A Prayer for the Release of Captives

Words: based on the words of Kol Haneshamah Reform Congregation, Jerusalem God of Abraham, the first who risked his life for the release of captives. God of Moses, Miriam and Aaron, whose words and actions brought us out of slavery. God of Elijah, who was comforted through his deep despair, by your still small voice. Be with those everywhere who are enslaved and captive. We wait and pray in hope that they will be returned to their loved ones. In this time of uncertainty, grant strength and resilience to them and their families. Give wisdom, courage and conviction to all those working to bring them home. Help us to understand what we too can do to support those in distress.

בַּרוּך אַתַּה יִהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֵלֶךְ הַעוֹלַם מַתִּיר אֱסוּרִים:

Baruch attah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam matir asurim. Blessed are you our Living God, who frees captives.

Ana El Na

Words: based on Numbers 12:13

Music: Daphna Rosenberg and Naveh Agmon אַנָא אֵל נַא רָפָא נָא לָה

Ana El na, r'fa na la Please God, please bring healing.

Oseh Shalom

Words: Psalm 89:3 / liturgy

Music: Menachem Creditor / Yoel Sykes

עֹשֶּׂה שָׁלוֹם בִּמְרוֹמִיו הוּא יַצְשֶּׁה שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל־יִשְּׂרְׂאֵל וְעַל־כָּל־יוֹשְׁבֵי תַבָל וָאָמָרוּ אָמֵן:

Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol yisra'el, v'al kol yoshvei tevel v'imru amen.

May the Maker of peace in the highest bring this peace upon us, upon all Israel and upon all who inhabit the world. Amen

Od Yavo Shalom Aleinu

Music: Mosh ben Ari

עוֹד יָבוֹא שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כֵּלְם: סַלַאם. עָלֵינוּ וְעַל־כּל־הָעוֹלָם. סַלַאם סלאם:

Od yavo shalom aleinu x3, v'al kulam.

Salaam, aleinu v'al kol ha-olam, salaam, salaam. X2

Peace will come to us, and everyone. Salaam, peace for us and for all the world, peace, peace.

Torah Portion for Shabbat Mishpatim

Exodus 21:1-19

^א וְאֵלֶּהֹ הַמִּשְׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר תִּשִּׁים לִּפְנֵיהֶם: ^ב כֵּי תִקְנֶהֹ עֲבֶד עִבְרִי שֵׁשׁ שָׁנִים יַצֲבֹד וּבַשְׁבִלּה יַצֵּא לְחָפְשִׁי חִנָּם: ^ג אִם־בְּנֵפּוֹ יָבֹא בְּנַפּוֹ יַצֵּא אִם־בַּעַל אִשָּׁה הוֹא וְיֵצְאָה אִשְׁהוֹ וְיִלְדִיה אִשְׁהוֹ נְעִמְרֹ יָמֶן־לוֹ אָשָּׁה וְיִלְדָיה אָשְׁהוֹ בְנִים אוֹ בָנוֹת הָאִשָּׁה וְיִלְדִיה אָשְׁהוֹ נְעִמְרֹ לְאַבֹּרְיֹ אֶשְׁה וְיִלְדִיה אָהְיֹה לְאִדנִיוֹ אָת־אֲדֹנִי יִ וְהִגִּישׁוֹ אֲל־הַנֵּי לְאַבֹּא הַפְּשִׁי: ^{וּ} וְהִגִּישׁוֹ אֲדֹנִיוֹ אֶל־הַנֵּעֻלֹהִים וְהִגִּישׁוֹ אֶל־הַדֶּלֶת אִלֹּה יִם וְהִגִּישׁוֹ אֶל־הַדֶּלֶת אִלֹבוּ וֹ לִעִלם:

אוֹ אל־המזוּזה ורצע אדניו את־אזנוֹ בּמרצע ועבדוֹ לעלם:

¹These are the rules that you shall set before them: ²When you acquire a Hebrew slave, that person shall serve six years—and shall go free in the seventh year, without payment. ³If [a male slave] came single, he shall leave single; if he had a wife, his wife shall leave with him. ⁴If his master gave him a wife, and she has borne him children, the wife and her children shall belong to the master, and he shall leave alone. ⁵But if the slave declares, "I love my master, and my wife and children: I do not wish to go free," ⁶his master shall take him before God. He shall be brought to the door or the doorpost, and his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall then remain his master's slave for life.

ֹ וְכִי־יִמְכַּרְ אָיֶשׁ אֶת־בָּתּוֹ לְאָמָהָ לֹא תַצֵּא כְּצֵאת הָעֲבָדִים: חֹ אָם־רָעָהׁ בְּעֵינֵי אֲדֹנֵיהָ אֲשֶׁר־לֹא [לִּוֹ] יְעָדָהִ וְהֶפְּדָּהְ לְעַם נָכְרָיִ לֹּא־יִמְשֹׁלֹ לְמָכְרָהְ בְּבִגְדּוֹ־בָהּ: אֲדֹנֵיהָ אֲשֶׁר־לֹא [לִוֹ] יְעָדָהִ וְהֶפְּנָה לְעֵם נָכְרָיִ לֹא־יִמְשֹׁלֹ לְמָכְרָהְ בְּבִּגְדּוֹ־בָהּ: ' אִם־אַחֶרֵת יִקְּחֵרֹלוֹ שְׁאֵרָהְ מִ וְאָם־לְּבִּי הַעָּשֶׁה־לָּהְ: ' אִם־אַחָרֵת יִקְּחִרֹלוֹ שְׁאַרָהְ כְּסוֹתָהּ וְעִנְּתָהְ לֹא יִגְרָע: יא וְאִם־שְׁלָשׁ־אֵלֶה לֹא יַעֲשֶׂה לָה וְיֵצְאָה חִנָּם אֵיִן כִּסרּ:

When a parent sells a daughter as a slave, she shall not go free as other slaves do. ⁸If she proves to be displeasing to her master, who designated her for himself, he must let her be redeemed; he shall not have the right to sell her to outsiders, since he broke faith with her. ⁹And if the master designated her for a son, he shall deal with her as is the practice with free maidens. ¹⁰If he takes another [into the household as his wife], he must not withhold from this one her food, her clothing, or her conjugal rights. ¹¹If he fails her in these three ways, she shall go free, without payment.

ַבְּמַבֶּה אָישׁ נָמֵת מִוֹת יוּמָת: 'ג נַאֲשֶׁר לֵא צָדָה וְהָאֱלֹהִים אַנַּה לְיָדְוֹ וְשַּׁמְתִּי לְךְּ מָקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יָנוּס שָׁמָה: 'ד וְכִי־יָזְד אָישׁ עַל־רֵעֵהוּ לְהָרְגוֹּ בְעָרְמָה מֵעָם מִזְבְּחִי תּקחנוּ למוּת: יוֹ וּמַכֵּה אַבִיו וִאָמוֹ מִוֹת יוּמַת:

¹²One who fatally strikes another party shall be put to death. ¹³If [a man] did so but not by design—it came about by an act of God—I will assign you a place to which he can flee. ¹⁴When one party schemes against another and kills through treachery, you shall take that person from My very altar to be put to death. ¹⁵One who strikes one's father or mother shall be put to death.

^{טז} וְגֹנֵב אַיָשׁ וּמְכָרְוֹ וְנִמְצָא בְיָדוֹ מִוֹת יוּמָת: 'וֹ וּמְקַלֵּל אָבֶיו וְאָמוֹ מִוֹת יוּמָת: '^ח וְכִי־יְרִיבֵן אֲנָשִׁים וְהִכָּה־אִישׁ אֶת־רֵעֵהוּ בְּאֶבֶן אוֹ בְאֶגְרֹף וְלֹא יָמוּת וְנָפֵּל 'ִמְשְׁכָּב: '^ט אָם־יָקוֹּם וְהִתְהַלֵּךְ בַּחוּץ עַל־מִשְׁעַנְתוֹ וְנָקָּה הַמַּכֶּה רַק שִׁבְתוֹ יִתֵּן לְמִשְׁכָּב: 'טֹ אָם־יָקוֹּם וְהִתְהַלַּךְ בַּחוּץ עַל־מִשְׁעַנְתוֹ וְנָקָּה הַמַּכֶּה רַק שִׁבְתוֹ יִתֵּן וְרַכּּא יְרַפֵּא:

¹⁶One who kidnaps another party—whether having sold or still holding the victim—shall be put to death. ¹⁷One who insults one's father or mother shall be put to death. ¹⁸When [two] parties quarrel and one strikes the other with stone or fist, and the victim does not die but has to take to bed. ¹⁹if that victim then gets up and walks outdoors upon a staff, the assailant shall go unpunished—except for paying for the idleness and the cure.

Haftarah Portion for Shabbat Mishpatim

Jeremiah 34:8-22: 33:25-26

The word that came to Jeremiah from God after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people in Jerusalem to proclaim a release among them— 9that everyone should set free their Hebrew slaves, both male and female, and that no one should keep their fellow Judean enslaved. ¹⁰Everyone, officials and people, who had entered into the covenant agreed to set their male and female slaves free and not keep them enslaved any longer; they complied and let them go. "But afterward they turned about and brought back the men and women they had set free, and forced them into slavery again. ¹²Then it was that the word of God came to Jeremiah from God: 13Thus said the Eternal, the God of Israel: I made a covenant with your ancestors when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage, saying: 144In the seventh year each of you must let go any fellow Hebrew who may be sold to you; when they have served you six years, you must set them free." But your ancestors would not obey Me or give ear. ¹⁵Lately you turned about and did what is proper in My sight, and all of you proclaimed a release to your compatriots; and you made a covenant accordingly before Me in the House that bears My name. ¹⁶But now you have turned back and have profaned My name; each of you has brought back the men and women whom you had given their freedom, and forced them to be your slaves again. ¹⁷Assuredly, thus said God: You would not obey Me and proclaim a release, each to your kin and neighbour. Lo! I proclaim your release—declares God—to the sword, to pestilence, and to famine; and I will make you a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth. ¹⁸I will make the parties who violated My covenant, who did not fulfil the terms of the covenant that they made before Me, [like] the calf that they cut in two so as to pass between the halves: ¹⁹The officers of Judah and Jerusalem, the officials, the priests, and all the people of the land who passed between the halves of the calf ²⁰shall be handed over to their enemies, to those who seek to kill them. Their carcasses shall become food for the birds of the sky and the beasts of the earth. ²¹I will hand over King Zedekiah of Judah and his officers to their enemies, who seek to kill them—to the army of the king of Babylon that has withdrawn from you. ²²I hereby give the command—declares God—by which I will bring them back against this city. They shall attack it and capture it, and burn it down. I will make the towns of Judah a desolation, without inhabitant.

²⁵Thus said God: As surely as I have established My covenant with day and night—the laws of heaven and earth—²⁶so I will never reject the offspring of Jacob and My servant David; I will never fail to take from his offspring rulers for the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Indeed, I will restore their fortunes and take them back in love.

Save The Dates for March

Alyth Community Dog Walk - Sunday 2 March (10:00)

Join Rabbi Hannah, Bailey (Marc and Lior) and for a walk on the Heath Extension and a run on the Heath for our furry friends. We will meet at Alyth and walk from there. Pick up a bagel and coffee and join us. No dogs needed. Wet weather plan – bring an umbrella! A new addition to our regular programming

Alyth's Iftar - Sunday 9 March (16:45)

Over 12 years, Alyth has brought communities together to talk, study and eat at our annual Iftar. We are grateful for the friendships which have grown over the years at this very special event in our annual calendar. It is vital that we continue to reach out beyond boundaries of difference, to cultivate friendships and to deepen our understanding of our brothers and sisters of different cultures, backgrounds and faiths. We will come together for the call to prayer, finishing in time to share our Iftar meal which, as always, will be plentiful and delicious. Please register online.

Purim Ma'ariv & Megillah Reading - Thursday 13 March (20:00)

Join us for a full reading of the Megillah together with Ma'ariv.

Purim Events at Alyth - Friday 14 March (various times)

Various Purim events are happening at Alyth... Purim Baby Den, Purim Family Tea and Ruach wide day, and a Purim Fi-Esther Carnival with a Street Food Feast. Come and celebrate with us. Please look online for full details, timings and to register. If you would like to make a Purim donation, please call the office on 020 8455 6763.

Alyth's Adult Amateur Dramatic Group Taster - Sunday 16 March (10:00)

Following the carnival experience of Purim, are you interested in joining an adult amateur dramatic group at Alyth? Come and join us for a taster, facilitated by Ellen Scannell, and breakfast to discuss the future of this exciting new venture. If you are not able to join us but are still interested, email sam@alyth.org.uk.

Alyth's Weekend Away - Friday 28 - Sunday 30 March 2025

The Alyth Weekend Away is back, bigger and better than ever before. Offering something for everyone, with a variety of indoor and outdoor activities to choose from. Alongside shared community times, there will be Israel with Rabbi Galit Cohen-Kedem, Learning, Music and Movement & Meditation tracks for you to dip in and out of depending on what sparks your interest. Or just read a newspaper and enjoy the spectacular view. Our Youth & Education team will also run a full programme for children during the day and in the evenings. Please email sam@alyth.org.uk for details and to sign up.

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:

Harry Dadoun, who is reading Torah for the first time in our Shabbat morning service to celebrate becoming Bar Mitzvah

Maxwell Partridge, who is reading Torah for the first time in our Shabbat morning service to celebrate becoming Bar Mitzvah

Jeffrey Tribich, who is reading Haftarah to celebrate his 70th birthday

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

Norma Bellman, mother of Peter Bellman

Jeanette Bergman, mother of Philip Bergman

Joyce Burton, mother of Brian Burton

Harry Cohen, father of Eve Goldstein

Ivor Cohen, father of Liz Papier

Josephine Cohen, wife of Edward Cohen

Peter Collins, brother of Angela Lyons

Doris Field. mother of Judith Dell

Mandy Fisher, mother of Katie Kersen and Oliver Bobroff

Dora Garfield, mother of Barry Garfield

Sydney Godfrey, father of Ian Godfrey

David Gold, father of Suzanne Mindel

Renee Grabiner, mother of Robert Grabiner and Stephen Grabiner

Anthony Harris, brother of Brian Harris

Vera Jacobs. mother of Corinne Goodman

Peter Jonas, brother of Paul Jonas

Andrew Lawty, brother of Tracey Kieve

Herbert Loebl, father of Naomi Baker and Miriam Grabiner

Wolfgang Mendelsson, husband of Eva Mendelsson

Bernard Moss, father of Vivien Summers

Solomon Neufeld, father of Inge Hyman and Edgar Neufeld

Susan Neufeld, wife of Edgar Neufeld

Harold Nowitz, father of Gregory Nowitz

Nahum Ordman, husband of Marie Ordman and father of Anthony Ordman

Philip Permutt, father of Martin Permutt

Arnold Rack, father of Gregory Rack

Nathan Rosen, father of Judith Litvin

Joseph Rubins, father of Annette Benson

Benjamin Sacks, father of Maxine Sacks

Loretta Sklar, wife of Gerald Sklar and mother of Robert Sklar

Boyd Smith, father of Nicholas Smith

Kathryn Tansey, wife of Philip Tansey and mother of Alexander, Nicholas, Sam and

Benjamin Tansey

Alfred Udow, father of Henry Udow

Enid Vyner, mother of Martin Andrew Benson

Annabel Wagner, sister of Martin Andrew Benson

Daniel Weinstein, father of Simon Weinstein

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