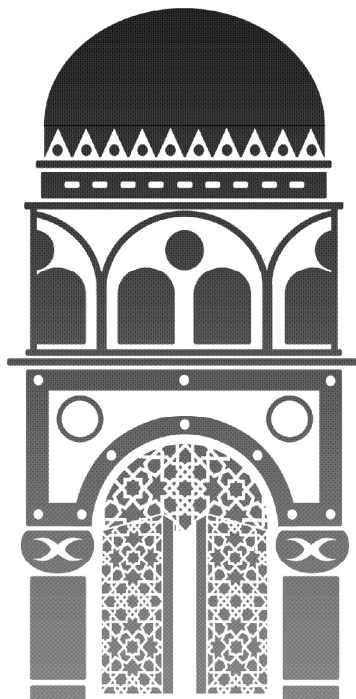


WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

ק"ק שער ציון

WELCOMES YOU



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

SHABBAT SHALOM

1/2 November 2019

4 Cheshvan 5780

SHABBAT SHALOM AND WELCOME TO WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

FRIDAY

6.00pm:

Erev Shabbat Service

Led by Rabbi Helen and Rabbi Sybil
Sermon by: Rabbi Helen

Wardens:

Oliver Walton, Liliane Chan and Monica Jankel

Beadle:

Ivor Epstein

7:15pm

Shabbat Shirah

Led by: Rabbi David and Student Rabbi Elliott

SATURDAY

10.30am:

Coffee Morning

11.00am:

Shabbat Morning Service

Led by Rabbi David, Rabbi Sybil and Student
Rabbi Elliott
Sermon by: Rabbi David

Wardens:

Oliver Walton, Liliane Chan and William Campos-Ortega

Beadle:

Ivor Epstein

Torah:

Genesis 9:1-17

Haftarah:

Isaiah 54:1-10

Please join us for Shabbat kiddush after the service.

Doctor or fully trained first aider?

If you are a doctor, trained first aider or fully trained mental health first aider please make yourself known to the wardens and beadle.

SHABBAT NOACH

Parashat Noach tells the story of God's decision to destroy the earth with a flood because of the corruption and wickedness found in the world. Only a righteous man by the name of Noah, his family, and pairs of every kind of creature were to survive. Noah was told to build a large boat, an ark, and to make a place on it for every creature he was to save. After the Flood, those aboard the ark started life on earth all over again, and God promised never to send another flood. Later, human beings decided to build a city and a huge tower that would reach from earth to heaven. Seeing what they were doing, God scattered them all over the earth and gave them different languages to speak.

COMMUNITY NEWS

We wish a warm Mazel Tov to:

- Telemaque Argyriou on his Adult Bar Mitzvah.
- Philip Raperport and Georgia Krell on their Auf Ruf.

אוֹיְבָרְךָ אֱלֹהִים אֶת־נֶחַח וְאֶת־בְּנֵי וַיֹּאמֶר לָהֶם פָּרוּ וּרְבוּ וּמְלֵאוּ אֶת־הָאָרֶץ: בּוֹמוֹרְאֲכֶם וַחֲתֻכְכֶם יִהְיֶה עַל כָּל־חַיַּת הָאָרֶץ וְעַל כָּל־עוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר תִּרְמַשׁ הָאָדָמָה וּבְכָל־דָּגֵי הַיָּם בַּיַּדְכֶם נִתְּנוּ: ג כָּל־רֶמֶשׂ אֲשֶׁר הוּא־חַי לָכֶם יִהְיֶה לְאֹכְלָהּ כִּי־רָק עֵשֶׂב נִתַּתִּי לָכֶם אֶת־כָּל־דַּבְּאֵי הַשָּׂדֶה בְּנִפְשׁוֹ דָּמוֹ לֹא תֹאכְלוּ: הוּאֹדְ אֶת־דַּמְכֶם לְנַפְשֹׁתֵיכֶם אֲדַרְשׁ מִיַּד כָּל־חַיָּה אֲדַרְשְׁנוּ וּמִיַּד הָאָדָם מִיַּד אִישׁ אָחִיו אֲדַרְשׁ אֶת־נַפְשׁ הָאָדָם: ו שִׁפְדָּן דָּם הָאָדָם בְּאָדָם דָּמוֹ יִשְׁפֹּךְ כִּי בַצֶּלֶם אֱלֹהִים עָשָׂה אֶת־הָאָדָם: ז וְאַתֶּם פָּרוּ וּרְבוּ שִׂרְצוּ בָאָרֶץ וּרְבוּ־בָהּ:

ח וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־נֶחַח וְאֶל־בְּנֵי אִתּוֹ לֵאמֹר: ט וַאֲנִי הִנְנִי מִקְיָם אֶת־בְּרִיתִי אִתְּכֶם וְאֶת־זֶרְעְכֶם אַחֲרֵיכֶם: י וְאֵת כָּל־נַפְשׁ הַחַיָּה אֲשֶׁר אִתְּכֶם בְּעוֹף בַּהֲמָה וּבְכָל־חַיַּת הָאָרֶץ אִתְּכֶם מִכָּל יֹצְאֵי הַתְּבֹהַ לְכָל חַיַּת הָאָרֶץ: יא וְהִקְמַתִּי אֶת־בְּרִיתִי אִתְּכֶם וְלֹא־יִכָּרֵת כָּל־בָּשָׂר עוֹד מִמֶּנִּי הַמִּבּוּל וְלֹא־יִהְיֶה עוֹד מִבּוּל לְשַׁחַת הָאָרֶץ:

יב וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים זֹאת אוֹת־הַבְּרִית אֲשֶׁר־אַנִּי נֹתֵן בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם וּבֵין כָּל־נַפְשׁ חַיָּה אֲשֶׁר אִתְּכֶם לְדֹרֹת עוֹלָם: יג אֶת־קַשְׁתִּי נִתַּתִּי בְּעַנְן וְהִיִּתְהָ לְאוֹת בְּרִית בֵּינִי וּבֵין הָאָרֶץ: יד וְהָלָה בְּעַנְנִי עָנָן עַל־הָאָרֶץ וּנְרָאֲתָה הַקַּשֶׁת בְּעַנְנוֹ: טו וְזָכַרְתִּי אֶת־בְּרִיתִי אֲשֶׁר בֵּינִי וּבֵינֵיכֶם וּבֵין כָּל־נַפְשׁ חַיָּה בְּכָל־בָּשָׂר וְלֹא־יִהְיֶה עוֹד הַמִּבּוּל לְשַׁחַת כָּל־בָּשָׂר: טז וְהִיִּתְהָ הַקַּשֶׁת בְּעַנְן וּרְאִיתֶיהָ לְזָכוֹר בְּרִית עוֹלָם בֵּין אֱלֹהִים וּבֵין כָּל־נַפְשׁ חַיָּה בְּכָל־בָּשָׂר אֲשֶׁר עַל־הָאָרֶץ: יז וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל־נֶחַח זֹאת אוֹת־הַבְּרִית אֲשֶׁר הִקְמַתִּי בֵּינִי וּבֵין כָּל־בָּשָׂר אֲשֶׁר עַל־הָאָרֶץ:

GENESIS 9:1-17

9 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. 2 The fear and dread of you will fall on all the beasts of the earth, and on all the birds in the sky, on every creature that moves along the ground, and on all the fish in the sea; they are given into your hands. 3 Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. 4 'But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it. 5 And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each human being, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of another human being.6 'Whoever sheds human blood,by humans shall their blood be shed;for in the image of God has God made mankind.7 As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it.

8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: 9 'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you 10 and with every living creature that was with you – the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you – every living creature on earth. 11 I establish my covenant with you: never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.

12 And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: 13 I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. 14 Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, 15 I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. 16 Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.' 17 So God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.'

ISAIAH 54:1-10

1 Shout, O barren one, You who bore no child! Shout aloud for joy, You who did not travail! For the children of the wife forlorn Shall outnumber those of the espoused —said Adonai. 2 Enlarge the site of your tent, Extend the size of your dwelling, Do not stint! Lengthen the ropes, and drive the pegs firm. 3 For you shall spread out to the right and the left; Your offspring shall dispossess nations And shall people the desolate towns. 4 Fear not, you shall not be shamed; Do not cringe, you shall not be disgraced. For you shall forget The reproach of your youth, And remember no more The shame of your widowhood. 5 For God who made you will espouse you—God's name is "Adonai of Hosts." "The Holy One of Israel will redeem you—God is called "God of all the Earth." 6 Adonai has called you back As a wife forlorn and forsaken. Can one cast off the wife of his youth?—said your God. 7 For a little while I forsook you, But with vast love I will bring you back. 8 In slight anger, for a moment, I hid My face from you; But with kindness everlasting I will take you back in love — said Adonai your Redeemer. 9 For this to Me is like the waters of Noah: As I swore that the waters of Noah Nevermore would flood the earth, So I swear that I will not Be angry with you or rebuke you. 10 For the mountains may move And the hills be shaken, But my loyalty shall never move from you, Nor My covenant of friendship be shaken—said Adonai, who takes you back in love.

RABBI SYBIL'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'This will happen if you listen to my commands which I give you today.... I shall then give your land rain at the right time, the autumn rain and the spring rain.'

These are words from the second paragraph of the Shema that are said every morning and evening. They are not words that sit comfortably with everyone. From time to time they have been excised from Reform prayer books on the basis that they are simply not true. God does not reward us by changing weather patterns. It is impracticable and plain stupid.

But I once mentioned this to an Orthodox Rabbi who was genuinely surprised. 'Do you really believe that our actions have no effect on climate?' And of course, put that way, how could I disagree with him? My mistake had been to take the passage, which comes from Deuteronomy 11, as referring to individual action, while it was clearly meant for the Israelite nation as a whole. Every seven years and in the fiftieth year, the Torah instructs them to leave the land fallow, every year, tithes allowed for the provision of food for the priests and for the poor. It was a system that ensured that no one got too rich, that farmers respected the land, and that everyone recognised others in their society rather than exploit it all to receive maximum gain.

We read this week of the flood that God caused to engulf the world to destroy the corruption God saw within it. Greed, violence, - everyone acting for themselves alone, led to wholesale destruction. God 'sent' the flood, but it was those living in the world that caused it through their reckless living.

In the portion, we will read in Synagogue, God promises never to send such a flood again. Yet, in the world in which we live, with rising sea levels and global warming, the reality of flood is very much with us. Consider the Islanders of Vanuatu, whose soil is degraded from over use, and whose islands are shrinking through the encroaching sea. In the last sixty years, five of the Solomon Islands have completely disappeared underwater. More will follow. All this, the result of our pumping carbon into the atmosphere through over use of fossil fuels. God does not need to send us a flood again to punish us for our excesses. We are managing to do that very well, by ourselves.

SEE YOU THERE

Saturday 2 November

3.30pm: Pet Loss Havdalah

As we conclude Shabbat Noah, the Shabbat for acknowledging the special relationship between humans and animals, we come together for our annual memorial Havdalah to remember our beloved animal companions. Join Rabbi David for a gentle service filled with prayer, music and the opportunity to light a memorial candle for each of your pets. All welcome

Tuesday 5 November

6.00pm: CBT Café

"Finding the Words" - Talking about Mental Health

The CBT Café is a partnership between WLS and Sophie and Emma, who founded their company, 'Unravelling Minds', in order to help lessen the stigma surrounding mental health.

RSVP appreciated but not essential. Cake donations welcomed! For more details or to RSVP, contact Tirza on 020 7535 0278.

Saturday 9 November

11.00am: Remembrance Shabbat Morning Service

This beautiful and meaningful service includes a list of West London members who died in the First and Second World Wars, the Last Post played on the bugle and the lowering and raising of the AJEX flag. It allows us to honour those who gave their lives for their country and the participation of those who were in the services.

Servicemen and women please wear your medals. Descendants are also invited to bring along medals.

The Rabbis and Wardens look forward to welcoming families to this special service and Kiddush.

Sunday 10 November

6.30pm: Ultimate Egghead Challenge – Supper Quiz

Doors Open: 6.30pm | Quiz & Supper (BYOB) 7.00pm

Would you believe it – for the fourth year running Jeremy Paxman and Jeremy Vine send their apologies as they have previous engagements, so we will be supplying our very own Quiz Master.

Join us for an evening of fun, food and an opportunity to display your extensive range of general knowledge.

The Annual Raffle will be drawn. Extra tickets can be bought on the night. SUGGESTED VOLUNTARY DONATION: £25 per person. Tables of 10 available.

Contact: Vivien Rose on 07831 094 202 or email vrose@lptuk.net