

Notes: January 22, 2022

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tov
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: Sanctity of Life Shabbat - 2022

Sanctity - the state or quality of being holy, sacred

Sanctity of Life...the state or quality of life that is holy, sacred.

Yeshua conveys to us in Yochanan (John) 10:10

“...I have come so that they may have life, life in its fullest measure.”

In order for us to have life in its fullest measure, we must first have life.

Life is understood as a basic and unalienable right coming directly from God, not from man...

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..."

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript>

Self-evident - not needing to be demonstrated or explained; obvious.

Endowed – provided, given or bequeathed

Unalienable - unable to be taken away from or given away by the possessor

Something that is obvious, given and can not be taken away.

In other words, we as Adonai's creation do not have the authority to take that which has been given. There is a reason why the taking of one's life is regarded extremely highly by Adonai. The taking of one's life is punishable by the price of one's own life in Torah. Thus life is very precious to our Lord and it is not to be taken lightly.

The one who gave us life...

Gen 2:7 Then Adonai, God, formed a person [*Hebrew: adam*] from the dust of the ground [*Hebrew: adamah*] and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, so that he became a living being.

Is the one who gave us the ability to reproduce life.

Everything that Adonai had created that had life, plant, animal and human all have the ability to reproduce from that which was first given...LIFE!!!

The blessing of the fifth day of creation...

Gen 1:21 God created the great sea creatures and every living thing that creeps, so that the water swarmed with all kinds of them, and there was every kind of winged bird; and God saw that it was good.

Gen 1:22 Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful, multiply and fill the water of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

The blessing of the sixth day of creation...

Gen 1:27 So God created humankind in his own image; in the image of God he created him: male and female he created them.

Gen 1:28 God blessed them: God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea, the birds in the air and every living creature that crawls on the earth."

This blessing had to have been to the animals as well created on the sixth day because it was given to the animals created on the fifth day. Thus this blessing, be fruitful and multiply was a blessing for all that was created on that day. How do we know this? We need look no further than the evidence we can see with our very own eyes some six thousand years later.

He made the earth "self-sustaining"

He made the vegetation "self-sustaining" within the environment of the earth He brought forth.

He made the animals "self-sustaining" within the environment of the earth He brought forth.

He made us "self-sustaining" within the environment of the earth He brought forth.

We all function within a "self-sustaining" ecosystem that is the earth.

Yet, in order to do any of this, the self-evident, endowed, unalienable reality of life has to be present.

Without life, the earth would be barren, empty. It is Adonai, through His breath, whether it be as He spoke, as He breathed, both originating through His Ruach that the Creator of Life, brought forth Life. I shared this during Yom Kippur 2021...

http://www.shalommaine.com/sermon_notes_pdf/Life_Blood_and_Torah.pdf

Thus we have been given the ability to bring forth life in order to fill the earth. Not under our own authority but by that which we have been created to do and thus blessed by the Author, the Creator of life to do. Thus if we have been given the ability to bring forth life, no where in Scripture does it say we have the intentional ability to take life. In other words this is one direction.

We see this throughout Torah as it pertains to innocent blood being shed...

Deu 19:8 "If Adonai your God expands your territory, as he swore to your ancestors that he would, and gives you all the land he promised to give to your ancestors—

Deu 19:9 provided you keep and observe all these mitzvot I am giving you today, loving Adonai your God and always following his ways—then you are to add three more cities for yourselves, besides these three;

Deu 19:10 so that innocent blood will not be shed in the land Adonai your God is giving you as an inheritance, and thus blood guilt be on you.

Yet today our focus is on the sanctity of Life and not the transgression that occurs when taking life. Unfortunately, abortion is part of our society today and has been for many years, even before the Roe v. Wade decision of 1973. It ultimately created one standard for the nation rather than what the Constitution affords under the 10th amendment as it pertains to State's rights.

The challenges continue today. The top five leading causes of death in our country today (as of 2020)...

- Heart disease: 696,962 (1902 / day)
- Cancer: 602,350 (1650 / day)
- COVID-19: 350,831 (961 / day)
- Accidents (unintentional injuries): 200,955 (551 / day)
- Stroke (cerebrovascular diseases): 160,264 (439 / day)
- Chronic lower respiratory diseases: 152,657 (418 / day)
- Alzheimer's disease: 134,242 (368 / day)
- Diabetes: 102,188 (280 / day)
- Influenza and pneumonia: 53,544 (147 / day)

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/leading-causes-of-death.htm>

Death is a part of life in this fallen world we live. Shlomo reminds us of just such a reality.

Ecc 3:1 For everything there is a season, a right time for every intention under heaven—

Ecc 3:2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,

There is an appointed time, a moad, to be born. In order to live, we must first be born. Life created within the womb of the woman...

Psa 139:13 For you fashioned my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb.

Psa 139:14 I thank you because I am awesomely made, wonderfully; your works are wonders—I know this

very well.

Psa 139:15 My bones were not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Psa 139:16 Your eyes could see me as an embryo, but in your book all my days were already written; my days had been shaped before any of them existed.

A precious gift that originates from Adonai and thus we have become stewards of that gift. It is unfortunately that not everyone sees this as a gift.

Though we should not lose site that there is a person confronted with this reality. Whatever their circumstances may be, we must be mindful of the woman. What is their situation? What are their circumstances?

"I found myself pregnant, single and scared, full of shame. Then I went to ABBA and saw my baby's heartbeat. I was in awe of this little being. That changed my mind and my heart about life in me. Even though I was unsure of my future, ABBA was there with me all the way. I had feared judgment but I never felt judged by ABBA, only true acceptance and love. ABBA helped me to see myself the way Jesus sees me!"

How many women go through this experience every day?

I can't tell you the number that experience what this woman has in our country, but I can tell you that 2,537 woman decide differently. That is 926,005 women last year who decided differently.

What I can tell you is that in Southern Maine and in relation to ABBA, 57 woman chose as did the woman of the testimony I just shared with you did. That is, 57 woman chose life for their child that ABBA is aware of than the alternative.

They were visited by 523 clients in 2021. That is roughly 11%

As a congregation, we focus on our community. We cannot change the world nor do we have the resources to where we could, yet I have continually emphasized that we are a congregation of communities, not a congregation within a community. The majority of you travel to attend this congregation. Thus you reside in a community we don't and thus are a representative of your community in the congregation. When we pray, you are an intermediary for your community, just as Moshe was an intermediary for the nation before Adonai.

The harsh reality, is that this struggle among women continue today.

"As communities struggle with the ongoing impact of Coronavirus and widespread economic shutdowns, Planned Parenthood continues to expand its life-ending efforts, and more than 2,000 babies are at risk every single day."

The lies of the Adversary continue to emanate throughout the world.

The body of Messiah is not immune to what is transpiring either. From a recent article on Lifeway Research...

<https://lifewayresearch.com/2021/12/03/7-in-10-women-who-have-had-an-abortion-identify-as-a-christian/>

The 70% of women who've had abortions that self-identify as a Christian includes Catholics (27%), Protestants (26%), non-denominational (15%), and Orthodox (2%).

Among Protestants, more identify as Baptists (33%), Methodist (11%), Presbyterian (10%), or Lutheran (9%).

Do not let us lose sight that the challenge is equally real if not more so within the Body. Let me remind you of this testimony...

"I found myself pregnant, single and scared, full of shame. Then I went to ABBA and saw my baby's heartbeat. I was in awe of this little being. That changed my mind and my heart about life in me. Even though I was unsure of my future, ABBA was there with me all the way. I had feared judgment but I never felt judged by ABBA, only true acceptance and love. ABBA helped me to see myself the way Jesus sees me!"

Was this woman a Christian, a part of God's Kingdom?

We don't know her circumstances nor her situation, yet she was confronted and was considering the abortion as an option.

Psa 36:1 [*For the leader. By David, the servant of Adonai.*] Crime speaks to the wicked. I perceive this in my heart; before his eyes there is no fear of God.

Psa 36:2 For, the way he sees it, crime makes his life easy—that is, until his wrongs are discovered; then, he is hated.

Psa 36:3 His words are wrong and deceitful; he has stopped being wise and doing good.

Psa 36:4 He devises trouble as he lies in bed; so set is he on his own bad way that he doesn't hate evil.

Psa 36:5 Adonai, in the heavens is your grace; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

Psa 36:6 Your righteousness is like the mountains of God, your judgments are like the great deep. You save man and beast, Adonai.

Psa 36:7 How precious, God, is your grace! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings,

Psa 36:8 they feast on the rich bounty of your house, and you have them drink from the stream of your delights.

Psa 36:9 **For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.**

Psa 36:10 Continue your grace to those who know you and your righteousness to the upright in heart.

Psa 36:11 Don't let the foot of the proud tread on me or the hands of the wicked drive me away.

Psa 36:12 There they lie fallen, those evildoers, flung down and unable to rise.

Psa 16:1 [*Mikhtam. By David.*] Protect me, God, for you are my refuge.

Psa 16:2 I said to Adonai, "You are my Lord; I have nothing good outside of you."

Psa 16:3 The holy people in the land are the ones who are worthy of honor; all my pleasure is in them.

Psa 16:4 Those who run after another god multiply their sorrows; to such gods I will not offer drink offerings of blood or take their names on my lips.

Psa 16:5 Adonai, my assigned portion, my cup: you safeguard my share.

Psa 16:6 Pleasant places were measured out for me; I am content with my heritage.

Psa 16:7 I bless Adonai, my counselor; at night my inmost being instructs me.

Psa 16:8 I always set Adonai before me; with him at my right hand, I can never be moved;

Psa 16:9 so my heart is glad, my glory rejoices, and my body too rests in safety;

Psa 16:10 for you will not abandon me to Sh'ol, you will not let your faithful one see the Abyss.

Psa 16:11 **You make me know the path of life; in your presence is unbounded joy, in your right hand eternal delight.**

