Notes: December 30, 2017

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

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

Three weeks ago, I asked...How often have we asked the question... God, where are you?

And conveyed that this question is usually asked when we are in the midst of trials, whether it is an illness, grieving, struggles, that whatever the situation, we as believers have likely, at one time asked, GOD, WHERE ARE YOU.

And concluded that it isn't Adonai who has moved but us.

Yet, today, I want to turn this dynamic around to where God is asking you...xxx, where are you?

What is your response?

In that still small voice, Adonai asks - xxx where are you?

I believe the first time this occurs is when He opens our eyes and circumcise our hearts, ultimately leading us to T'shuvah, and turning to Him.

Keeping in mind we may not always respond immediately. In looking back on my life, I can see several times where Adonai was calling out to me, yet, it would be at one time when I finally started listening When God calls, how do you answer?

Avraham...

Gen 22:1 After these things, God tested Avraham. He said to him, "Avraham!" and he answered, "Here I am."

Gen 22:11 But the angel of Adonai called to him out of heaven: "Avraham? Avraham!" He answered, "Here I am."

Adonai was testing Avraham's trust in Him.

Ya'akov...

Gen 46:1 Isra'el took everything he owned with him on his journey. He arrived at Be'er-Sheva and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Yitz'chak.

Gen 46:2 In a vision at night God called to Isra'el, "Ya`akov! Ya`akov!" He answered, "Here I am."

- Gen 46:3 He said, "I am God, the God of your father. Don't be afraid to go down to Egypt. It is there that I will make you into a great nation.
- Gen 46:4 Not only will I go down with you to Egypt; but I will also bring you back here again, after Yosef has closed your eyes."

Moshe...

Exo 3:1 Now Moshe was tending the sheep of Yitro his father-in-law, the priest of Midyan. Leading the flock to the far side of the desert, he came to the mountain of God, to Horev.

- Exo 3:2 The angel of Adonai appeared to him in a fire blazing from the middle of a bush. He looked and saw that although the bush was flaming with fire, yet the bush was not being burned up.
- Exo 3:3 Moshe said, "I'm going to go over and see this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn't being burned up."
- Exo 3:4 When Adonai saw that he had gone over to see, God called to him from the middle of the bush, "Moshe!" Moshe!" He answered, "Here I am."
- Exo 3:5 He said, "Don't come any closer! Take your sandals off your feet, because the place where you are standing is holy ground.
- Exo 3:6 I am the God of your father," he continued, "the God of Avraham, the God of Yitz'chak and the God of Ya`akov." Moshe covered his face, because he was afraid to look at God.
- Exo 3:7 Adonai said, "I have seen how my people are being oppressed in Egypt and heard their cry for release from their slavemasters, because I know their pain.

Exo 3:10 Therefore, now, come; and I will send you to Pharaoh; so that you can lead my people, the descendants of Isra'el, out of Egypt."

Exo 3:11 Moshe said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and lead the people of Isra'el out of Egypt?"

Exo 3:12 He replied, "I will surely be with you. Your sign that I have sent you will be that when you have led the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

After much apprehension and doubt, Adonai reassured Moshe...I will surely be with you.

Hananyah...

Act 9:10 There was a talmid in Dammesek, Hananyah by name; and in a vision the Lord said to him, "Hananyah!" He said, "Here I am, Lord."

Act 9:11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to Straight Street, to Y'hudah's house; and ask for a man from Tarsus named Sha'ul; for he is praying,

Act 9:12 and in a vision he has seen a man named Hananyah coming in and placing his hands on him to restore his sight."

- Act 9:13 But Hananyah answered, "Lord, many have told me about this man, how much harm he has done to your people in Yerushalayim;
- Act 9:14 and here he has a warrant from the head cohanim to arrest everyone who calls on your name."
- Act 9:15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name to the Goyim, even to their kings, and to the sons of Isra'el as well.
- Act 9:16 For I myself will show him how much he will have to suffer on account of my name."

- Act 9:17 So Hananyah left and went into the house. Placing his hands on him, he said, "Brother Sha'ul, the Lord Yeshua, the one who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Ruach HaKodesh."
- Act 9:18 In that moment, something like scales fell away from Sha'ul's eyes; and he could see again. He got up and was immersed;

Even Adonai conveys Hineni to His people...hineni...Here I AM...

Isa 52:1 Awake! Awake, Tziyon! Clothe yourself with your strength! Dress in your splendid garments,

Yerushalayim, the holy city! For the uncircumcised and the unclean will enter you no more.

- Isa 52:2 Shake off the dust! Arise! Be enthroned, Yerushalayim! Loosen the chains on your neck, captive daughter of Tziyon!
- Isa 52:3 For thus says Adonai: "You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money."
- Isa 52:4 For thus says Adonai Elohim: "Long ago my people went down to Egypt to live there as aliens, and Ashur oppressed them for no reason.
- Isa 52:5 So now, what should I do here," asks Adonai, "since my people were carried off for nothing? Their oppressors are howling," says Adonai, "and my name is always being insulted, daily.
- Isa 52:6 Therefore my people will know my name; therefore on that day they will know that I, the one speaking here I am!"

and to the nations...

Isa 65:1 "I made myself accessible to those who didn't ask for me, I let myself be found by those who didn't seek me. I said, 'Here I am! Here I am!' to a nation not called by my name.

Psa 40:1 [For the leader. A psalm of David:] I waited patiently for Adonai, till he turned toward me and heard my cry.

- Psa 40:2 He brought me up from the roaring pit, up from the muddy ooze, and set my feet on a rock, making my footing firm.
- Psa 40:3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will look on in awe and put their trust in Adonai.
- Psa 40:4 How blessed the man who trusts in Adonai and does not look to the arrogant or to those who rely on things that are false.
- Psa 40:5 How much you have done, Adonai my God! Your wonders and your thoughts toward us none can compare with you! I would proclaim them, I would speak about them; but there's too much to tell!
- Psa 40:6 Sacrifices and grain offerings you don't want; burnt offerings and sin offerings you don't demand. Instead, you have given me open ears;
- Psa 40:7 so then I said, "Here I am! I'm coming! In the scroll of a book it is written about me.
- Psa 40:8 Doing your will, my God, is my joy; your Torah is in my inmost being.
- Psa 40:9 I have proclaimed what is right in the great assembly; I did not restrain my lips, Adonai, as you know.
- Psa 40:10 I did not hide your righteousness in my heart but declared your faithfulness and salvation; I did not conceal your grace and truth from the great assembly."
- Psa 40:11 Adonai, don't withhold your mercy from me. Let your grace and truth preserve me always.
- **Psa 40:12** For numberless evils surround me; my iniquities engulf me I can't even see; there are more of them than hairs on my head, so that my courage fails me.
- Psa 40:13 Be pleased, Adonai, to rescue me! Adonai, hurry and help me!
- Psa 40:14 May those who seek to sweep me away be disgraced and humiliated together. May those who take pleasure in doing me harm be turned back and put to confusion.
- Psa 40:15 May those who jeer at me, "Aha! Aha!" be aghast because of their shame.
- Psa 40:16 But may all those who seek you be glad and take joy in you. May those who love your salvation say always, "Adonai is great and glorious!"
- Psa 40:17 But I am poor and needy; may Adonai think of me. You are my helper and rescuer; my God, don't delay!