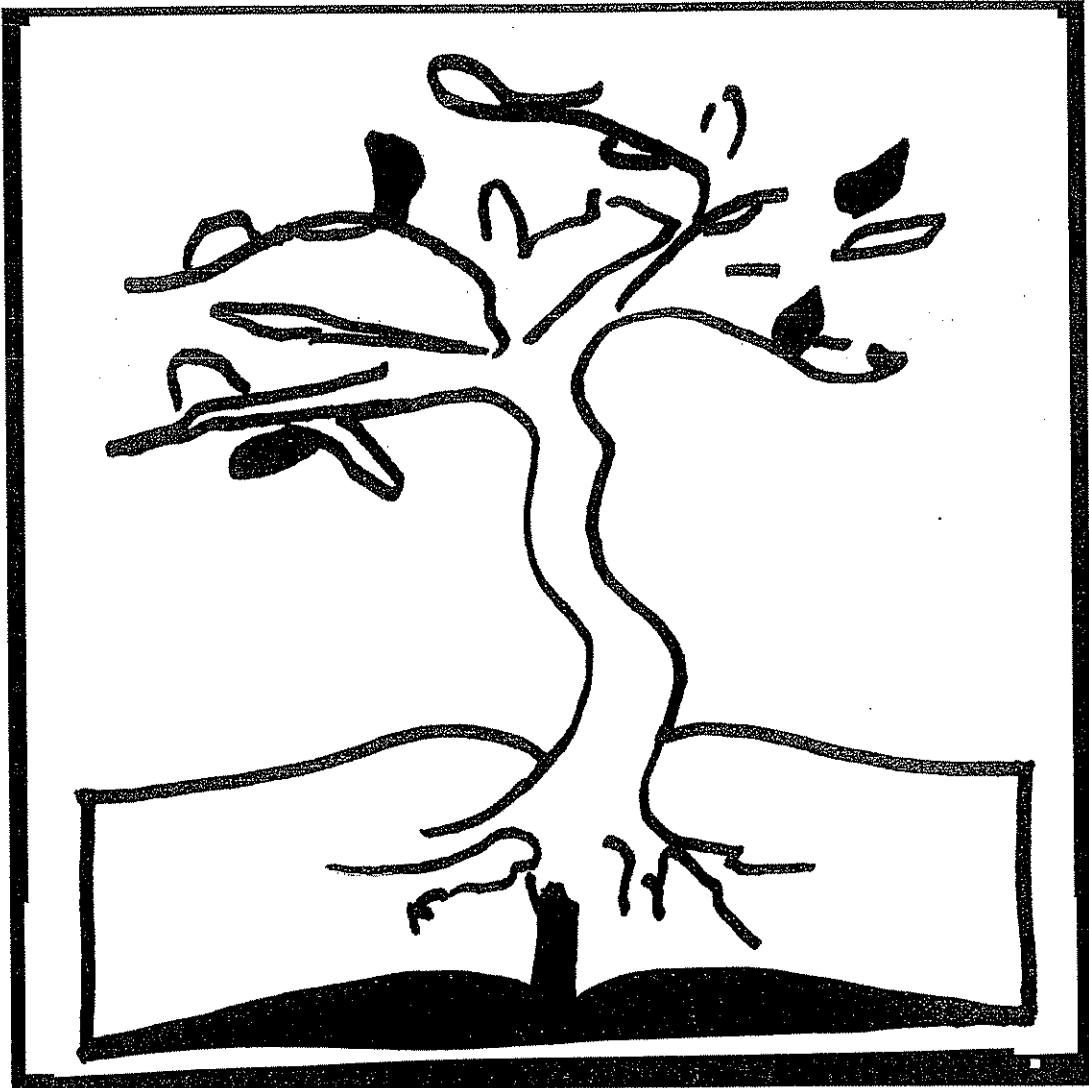


Temple Emanu-El Dallas, TX  
Geniza Ceremony  
October 5, 2008/ 6 Tishri



Temple Emanu-El Cemetery  
3430 Howell St  
Dallas TX 75204



AL SH'LOSHAH D'VARIM

Al sh'loshah d'varim haolam omeid: על שלשה דברים העולם עומד:  
al HaTorah, v'al haavodah על התורה, ועל העבודה  
v'al g'milut chasadim. ועל גמילות חסדים.

The world is sustained by three things: Torah, worship and loving deeds.

(Pirkei Avot 1:2)

“A book is the most delightful companion. There is in the world no friend more faithful, no teacher more proficient, no message more enduring. It will join you in solitude, accompany you in exile, serve as a candle in the dark, and entertain you in your loneliness. It will do you good yet ask no favor in return. It gives and does not take.”

These words, written at the beginning of the twelfth century by Moses ben Ezra, a Spanish Hebrew poet and philosopher, explain how a person can never be alone when surrounded by books. The Jewish people value learning as a highest priority and learning is symbolized by the study of books. We bestow respect on this primary source of knowledge during a book's usable days, and we show respect when it deteriorates beyond use. Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon, one of our greatest rabbinic authorities, states, “A scroll of Torah which has become old or unfit for use is to be laid in an earthen vessel and buried beside a scholar.”

In our congregation's cemetery, there is a sacred place where worn-out books are buried. Because these books contain God's name, they are called *Shemot*, or names, and their burial place is indicated with the words *Sifre Kodesh*, Sacred Books.

WISDOM AND WONDER,

passion and instruction,  
story and symbol.

All these things  
Your Torah gives to us.

And the more we devote ourselves to it,  
the more it grows and gives.

What could be a truer token  
of Your abiding love

than this holiest of Your works,  
and the living language  
that gives it form?

בָּרַךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, אוֹהֵב עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל.

Baruch atah, Adonai, ohev amo Yisrael.

These words in the Torah from Deuteronomy 6:15-9 and Numbers 15:40-41 remind us every time we use the prayer book to always be teachers and students of Torah every day and throughout our lives. When we read them together today, we affirm they endure not only in books and scrolls, but on our hearts and in our souls.

V'AHAVTA et Adonai Elohecha,  
 b'chol l'vav'cha uv'chol nafsh'cha uv'chol  
 m'odecha. V'hayu had'varim ha-eileh  
 asher anochi m'tzavcha hayom al  
 l'vavecha. V'shinantam l'vanecha v'dibarta  
 bam b'shivt'cha b'veitecha uv'lecht'cha  
 vaderech uv'shochb'cha uv'kumecha.  
 Ukshartam l'ot al yadecha v'hayu  
 l'totafot bein einecha. Uch'tavtam  
 al m'zuzot beitecha uvish'arecha.

וְאָהַבְתָּ אֶת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ  
 בְּכָל-לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל-נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל-  
 מְאֹדְךָ: וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה  
 אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם עַל-  
 לִבְבְּךָ: וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ וְדִבַּרְתָּ  
 בָּם בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבְלֶקְתְּךָ  
 בְּדַרְךָ וּבְשֹׁכְבְךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ:  
 וְקָשַׁרְתָּם לְאוֹת עַל-יָדֶיךָ וְהָיוּ  
 לְטֹטְפוֹת בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ: וְכָתַבְתָּם  
 עַל-מְזוֹזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ:

YOU SHALL LOVE Adonai your God with all your heart,  
 with all your soul, and with all your might.  
 Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day.  
 Impress them upon your children.  
 Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away,  
 when you lie down and when you get up.  
 Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them serve as a symbol on your forehead;  
 inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

U'maan tizk'ru, vaasitem et  
 kol mitzvotai vih'yitem k'doshim  
 l'Eloheichem. Ani Adonai Eloheichem asher  
 hotzeitni et-chem mei-eretz  
 Mitzrayim lih'yot lachem l'Elohim  
 ani Adonai Eloheichem.

לִמְעַן תִּזְכְּרוּ וְנַעֲשִׂיתֶם אֶת-  
 כָּל-מִצְוֹתַי וְהָיִיתֶם קְדוֹשִׁים  
 לֵאלֹהֵיכֶם: אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם אֲשֶׁר  
 הוֹצֵאתִי אֶתְכֶם מֵאֶרֶץ  
 מִצְרַיִם לְהָיוֹת לְכֶם לֵאלֹהִים  
 אֲנִי יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם:

Thus you shall remember to observe all My commandments  
 and to be holy to your God.  
 I am Adonai, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God:  
 I am Adonai your God.

### Burial of sacred books and Torah scroll.

*Kaddish D'rabbanan*, the Rabbis Kaddish is recited by students and teachers at the conclusion of a unit of study. We recite it together to conclude the use of these sacred books in our congregation.

YITGADAL v'yitkadesh sh'meih raba

b'alma di v'ra chiruteih,  
v'yamlich malchuteih  
b'chayeichon uv'yomeichon  
uv'chayei d'chol beit Yisrael,  
baagala uviz'man kariv,  
v'imru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'meih raba m'varach

l'alma ul'almei almaya.

Yitbarach v'yishtabach v'yitpaar  
v'yitromam v'yitnasei,  
v'yit'hadar v'yitaleh v'yit'halal  
sh'meih d'kud'sha b'rich hu,  
l'eila min kol birchata v'shirata,  
tushb'chata v'nechemata,  
daamiran b'alma, v'imru: Amen.

Al Yisrael v'al rabanan,

v'al talmideihon  
v'al kol talmidei talmideihon,  
v'al kol man d'askin b'oraita,  
di v'atra hadein v'di  
v'chol atar vaatar.

Y'hei l'hon ul'chon sh'lama raba,

china v'chisda v'rachamin,  
v'chayin arichin,  
um'zonei r'vichei, ufurkana,  
min kadam avuhon  
di vish'maya v'ara v'imru: Amen.

Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya,

v'chayim tovim aleinu v'al kol  
Yisrael v'imru: Amen.

Oseh shalom bimromav

hu b'rachamav yaaseh shalom  
aleinu v'al kol Yisrael, v'al kol  
yoshvei teiveil, v'imru: Amen.

יִתְגַּדֵּל וַיִּתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא  
בְּעֵלְמָא דִּי בְרָא כְרַעוּתְהָ,  
וַיְמַלִּיךְ מַלְכוּתְהָ  
בְּחַיֵּיכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן  
וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
בְּעֵגְלָא וּבְזִמְן קָרִיב,  
וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ

לְעָלַם וּלְעֵלְמֵי עֲלַמְיָא.

יִתְבָּרַךְ וַיִּשְׁתַּבַּח וַיִּתְפָּאֵר

וַיִּתְרֹמֵם וַיִּתְנַשֵּׂא,

וַיִּתְהַדָּר וַיִּתְעַלֶּה וַיִּתְהַלַּל

שְׁמֵהּ דְּקֻדְשָׁא בְּרִיךְ הוּא,

לְעֵלְא מִן כָּל בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא,

תְּשֻׁבְחָתָא וְנַחֲמָתָא,

דְּאָמִירוּן בְּעֵלְמָא, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל רַבָּנָן,

וְעַל תַּלְמִידֵיהוֹן

וְעַל כָּל תַּלְמִידֵי תַלְמִידֵיהוֹן,

וְעַל כָּל מִן דְּעִסְקִין בְּאוֹרֵיתָא,

דִּי בְּאַתְרָא הָדִין וְדִי

בְּכָל אֶתְר וְאֶתְר.

יְהֵא לְהוֹן וּלְכוּן שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא,

חַנּוּא וְחַסְדָּא וְרַחֲמִין,

וְחַיִּין אַרְיִכִין,

וּמְזוּנֵי רוּיְחֵי, וּפְרַקְנָא,

מִן קָדָם אַבוּהוֹן

דִּי בְּשִׁמְיָא וְאַרְעָא וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא,

וְחַיִּים טוֹבִים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל

יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוַמֵי

הוּא בְּרַחֲמֵי יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם

עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְעַל כָּל

יוֹשְׁבֵי תֵבֵל, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

EXALTED and hallowed be God's great name,  
in the world which God created, according to plan.  
May God's majesty be revealed in the days of our lifetime  
and the life of all Israel —  
speedily, imminently.  
To which we say: Amen.

Blessed be God's great name to all eternity.

Blessed, praised, honored, exalted,  
extolled, glorified, adored, and lauded  
be the name of the Holy Blessed One,  
beyond all earthly words and songs of blessing, praise, and comfort.  
To which we say: Amen.

GOD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, grant abundant peace  
to our people Israel and their rabbis, to our teachers and their disciples,  
and to all who engage in the study of Torah here and everywhere.

Let there be for them and for us all, grace, love, and compassion,  
a full life, ample sustenance, and salvation from God, and let us respond: Amen.

For us and all Israel, may the blessing of peace and the promise of life come true,  
and let us respond: Amen.

May the One who causes peace to reign in the high heavens,  
let peace descend on us, and on all Israel, and on all the world,  
and let us respond: Amen.

## PASUL

Say goodbye  
To this scroll, worn thin  
By generations seeking  
Stories of our people, verse by verse:  
Words that reveal joy, yearning,  
Envy and anger--  
In all time

Lie in peace  
Frayed, tattered siddur  
That no longer has a home  
In the bins where we store our handbags,  
Announcements, *hippot*, crayons  
And tissues for when  
We must cry

Remember  
Torah is alive  
The soul of prayer never dies  
Though the texts of our Jewish journeys  
Are buried beneath the ground  
They are part of us  
Forever...

As a child  
I stroked the ribbon  
That divided the pages  
Of the much loved old Union Prayer Book  
With care I tucked it inside  
Until Shabbat came  
The next week  
I'm at camp  
Mesmerized by song  
Drawn by the guitar, to dance;  
Realization dawns, through the voices  
Of hundreds strong, and yet one  
This too, is prayer  
Reaching God

My child squirms  
I sing a *niggun*  
Holding her close and praying  
While my spouse points out the Hebrew words  
Hoping that one day she'll know  
Their awesome power  
To change lives

It is time  
To say our goodbyes:  
To books that need sacred rest  
To a Torah excused from duty--  
We mourn them and yet rejoice  
As they, swathed in love  
Return home.

Connie Dufner  
September 2008

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OSEH SHALOM

Oseh shalom bimromav,  
hu yaaseh shalom aleinu  
v'al kol Yisrael, v'imru: Amen.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְמֵי,׃  
הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ  
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

May the One who causes peace to reign in the high heavens let peace  
descend on us and on all Israel, and let us say: Amen.

*Thank you to the following for making this project a reality.*

- *Connie Dufner for composing "Pasul" in honor of this occasion.*
- *Louise Rosenfield, Lisa Erich, and Jan Haig for creating the earthenware vessel to hold our pasul Torah.*
- *Spradling Monument Inc. for donating the headstone.*
- *The Leaders of DAFTY and Youth Mitzvah Corps Volunteers for participating in this sacred moment.*
- *The Temple in Nashville, TN for sharing their liturgy with us.*

*Note: All prayers and translations are from Mishkan T'filah published by CCAR Press.*