



Bat Mitzvah

Of

Amelia Elizabeth Merchant

עמילה אלישבע בת אסתר לאה

Amila Elisheva bat Esther Leah

August 12, 2023 | 25 Av 5783
4:30 p.m.

Rabbi Joel Simon
Cantor Deborrah Cannizzaro
Rabbi Michael Weiss
Rabbi Emeritus Richard Birnholz



Please turn off all cell phones while in the sanctuary.

PRESENTATION OF TALLIT: Mother – Heidi Dingfelder

ARK OPENING BEFORE Father and Step-mother – Bill and Melissa Merchant

TORAH READING: Step-sister – Annabelle Salveson

Step-brother – Sam Salveson

PASSING OF TORAH: Grandparents – Claire and Steven Dingfelder

Parents – Heidi Dingfelder and Bill Merchant

PRESENTATION OF YAD: Grandparents – Claire and Steven Dingfelder

TORAH SERVICE: Shoftim

Amelia will read from Deuteronomy 16:18-17:7

TORAH ALIYOT: 1. Aunt – Jennifer Stokley

Cousin – Kate Stokley

Grandparents – Claire and Steven Dingfelder

2. Mother – Heidi Dingfelder

Cousin – Jack Stokley

Father and Step-mother – Bill and Melissa Merchant

3. Bat Mitzvah – Amelia Elizabeth Merchant

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DRESSING THE TORAH: Family Friends – Agnes Simon, Zane and Lily Greene

HAFTARAH SERVICE: Amelia will read from Isaiah 51:12-16

BAT MITZVAH SPEECH: Amelia Elizabeth Merchant

ARK OPENING AFTER THE Friends – CC Dickerson, Leyla Elveren, Tommy Mena,

TORAH SERVICE: and Remy Holt

PRESENTATION OF BAT Karen Greene, Board of Trustees

MITZVAH CERTIFICATE AND Congregation Schaarai Zedek

GIFTS:

ARK OPENING BEFORE Friends – Savannah Baker and Livy Eichberg

ALEINU:

HAVDALAH SERVICE: Mother – Heidi Dingfelder

Father – Bill Merchant

Bat Mitzvah – Amelia Merchant

Deuteronomy 16:18-17:7

¹⁸ You must appoint judges and officers in all your gates, which Adonai your God gives you, throughout your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment. ¹⁹ You must not pervert judgment nor show partiality. You must not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous. ²⁰ You must follow that which is altogether just, so that you may live and inherit the land which Adonai your God is giving you. ²¹ You must not plant for yourself an Asherah of any trees near the altar of Adonai your God, which you make for yourself. ²² You shall not set up for yourself any image, which Adonai your God detests. ¹ You must not sacrifice to Adonai your God any bull or sheep that has a blemish or any defect, for that is detestable to Adonai your God. ² If there be found among you, within any of your gates which Adonai your God gives you, man or woman, who has acted wickedly in the sight of Adonai your God, by transgressing God's covenant, ³ and has gone and served other gods and worshipped them, either the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven, which I have not commanded, ⁴ and if it is told to you, and you have heard of it, and investigated diligently, and it is true, and the matter is certain that such a detestable thing has happened in Israel, ⁵ then you must bring forth that man or that woman who has committed that wicked thing to your gates, that very man or woman, and stone them with stones until they die. ⁶ On the testimony of two or three witnesses he that is to die must be put to death, but on the testimony of one witness he cannot be put to death. ⁷ The hands of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hands of all the people. So you shall purge the evil from among you.

Isaiah 51:12-16

¹² I, I am the One who comforts you: what is wrong with you, that you are afraid of mortals, of human beings who become like grass, ¹³ that you forget Adonai your Maker, who spread out the heavens and established the earth? All day long you are in terror of the fury of an oppressor intent on your destruction. Yet, where is the oppressor's fury? ¹⁴ The exile shall soon be freed, and shall not die in the dungeon, nor will his bread be lacking. ¹⁵ For I am Adonai your God; who divided the sea whose waves roared - God of heaven's hosts by name.

Amelia and her family welcome you!

Welcome to Congregation Schaarai Zedek's Saturday afternoon Shabbat service. Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath, begins on Friday evening at dusk and concludes when there are three stars in the sky on Saturday evening. While Shabbat is a day of rest, our community joins in worship celebrating the themes of creation and God's original redemption of the Israelites from Egypt. A reading from the Torah (The Five Books of Moses) and a Haftarah from the Books of the Prophets are part of the Shabbat service.

In addition, at this service, Amelia will become a Bat Mitzvah. This Jewish celebration of one's thirteenth birthday is much more than a party. The Bat Mitzvah, (literally child of the commandment), takes on a new understanding of responsibility and obligation, in their lives and in the Jewish community. This is not the end of their Jewish studies, but rather a commitment to continue to study and embrace their Judaism not only through Confirmation, but throughout their lives and with their future families.

Amelia has worked very hard to get to this day, and on behalf of her parents, Heidi and Bill, we want to thank you for joining us for this special occasion.

Shabbat Shalom – Wishing you all a Shabbat filled with peace.

Rabbi Joel Simon
Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro
Rabbi Michael Weiss
Rabbi Emeritus Richard Birnholz

Ushers:
Cousins: Maddox and Amiah Dingfelder

