

"The Opening of Eyes"
by David Whyte

That day I saw beneath dark clouds
the passing light over the water
and I heard the voice of the world speak out,
I knew then, as I had before
life is no passing memory of what has been
nor the remaining pages in a great book
waiting to be read.

It is the opening of eyes long closed.
It is the vision of far-off things
seen for the silence they hold.
It is the heart after years
of secret conversing
speaking out loud in the clear air.

It is Moses in the desert
fallen to his knees before the lit bush.
It is the man throwing away his shoes
as if to enter heaven
and finding himself astonished,
opened at last,
fallen in love with solid ground.

Sukkot:

The Sukkah will be open and available for anyone
who would like to eat in it.

Each year, members and guests of Beth Emeth Congregation participate in **Project Isaiah**, a drive focused on helping the needy. This year, Beth Emeth Congregation is partnering with the Valley View Food Bank and the Arizona Kosher Food Pantry. Both organizations prefer online donations, which gives them greater flexibility in achieving their goals. However, Congregants and guests are welcome to fill donation bags with kosher food and bring them to the synagogue before Kol Nidre service.

<https://azkosherpantry.org/>
<https://feedingaz.org/>



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A Good and sweet year שנה טובה ומתוקה

5787 High Holidays 2026

Kol Nidre	Sunday, September 20, 6:00 PM
Yom Kippur	Monday, September 21, 9:00 AM
Yizkor	11:00 AM
Mincha	4:45 PM
Neilah	5:45 PM
Havdalah	7:00 PM (followed by refreshments)
Erev Sukkot	Friday, September 25, 5:45 PM
Sukkot	Sat./Sun., September 26-27, 9:00 AM
Shemini Atzeret	Saturday, October 3, 9:00 AM
Yizkor	Saturday, October 3, 11:00 AM
Erev Simchat Torah	Saturday, October 3, 6:30 PM
Simchat Torah	Sunday, October 4, 9:00 AM

Rabbi Lev Ettelson

Mr. Howard Emmerman - Cantor for Shacharit & Mincha

Mr. Tony Minkoff - Baal Koreh (Torah Reader)

Fellow Congregants,

As we look back at the past year since Rosh Hashanah 5786 and look forward to 5787, we recall many hurdles and our many accomplishments.

We are particularly pleased that Rabbi Ettelson, who recently received his semicha (ordination), will continue to be our spiritual leader at Beth Emeth Congregation.

During the past year, we have experienced significant difficulties with the sewer system at Beth Emeth Congregation. Resolution of these issues required that we remove the large tree in our yard off Meeker Blvd., as well as replace portions of the sewer line from the building to Meeker Blvd. On the positive side, this required us to renovate the area, which resulted in a significantly more positive look for the area off Meeker Blvd.

We continue to recognize our commitment to **your** security by having the services of the Arizona Rangers whenever it is necessary for your protection

As time moves on, we will be celebrating the 62nd year since the Congregation was incorporated and the 40th anniversary the dedication of our synagogue building, our home.

As with any organization, Beth Emeth Congregation's foundation is **you**, its members, and we want to take this opportunity to thank each of **you** who give **your** time, effort and expertise; **you** who attend services to ensure a minyan; **you** who support the Congregation financially; and **you** who support the Congregation in so many other ways.

On behalf of the board we wish you L'Shanah Tovah,

Natalie Morrison and Arnold Becker
Co-Presidents

Dear Friends,

The Baal Shem Tov taught, "A person has the power to renew everything... there is in every single thing the aspect of renewal." At this time of renewal I am feeling a mix of emotions including sadness, confusion, wonder, gratitude and a glimmer of hope. We have lost beloved members and friends of our congregation whose souls touched all of us and will continue to do so in memory and spirit. The ongoing wars and conflicts in the Middle East and other parts of the world tragically continue. We are all impacted by global instability, economic insecurity and social unrest. Numerous manifestations of antisemitism in this past year shake our sense of safety, security and belonging.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks which killed almost 3,000 people and continues to impact millions of lives today. At the beginning of our Erev Rosh Hashanah service we will take a moment to remember and honor those precious lives as we pray for the healing of those who still suffer.

Lately, the word **HaYom** (Today) has been calling to me from the pages of our liturgy and Torah. We chant during the Rosh Hashana Musaf service: "Today the world stands as at birth. Today all creation is called to judgement... be compassionate with us." We pray for the sweetening of judgement as we open ourselves to receive the flow of compassion from *HaRachaman* (The Merciful One).

David Whyte's poem, "The Opening of Eyes" (on the back cover) speaks beautifully to the power of presence and compassion and contains many allusions to the Days of Awe.

There is darkness in our world, but if we open our eyes, we can see a reflection of the Source of Light in the faces of loved ones and in the beauty all around us. By listening carefully, we can hear the still small voice which lives in the human heart. Like Moses, if we can return to a sense of humility and simplicity, we may encounter the Oneness of Life, "astonished, opened at last, fallen in love with solid ground," *HaMakom* (The Ground of Being).

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתְּבוּ וְתִתְחַתְּמוּ לְאַלְתֵּר לַחַיִּים טוֹבִים וּלְשָׁלוֹם

May you be written and sealed immediately for a good year, for a good life, and for peace!

Rabbi Lev Ettelson