

LET US HAVE SONGS

An Installation Script

Ellen Leonard
Congregation B'nai Sholom
Newington, CT 06111

Description: Lyrics and themes of Hebrew songs highlight our lives as Jews, women, and officers of Sisterhood.

LET US HAVE SONGS

(Music: *Ilu Finu*)

Let us have songs to fill our mouths as full as the sea. Where would we be without the beauty of music? The songs of Israel and the Jewish people, old and new, reflect our desires, hopes and dreams. We sing in the synagogue; we sing at home. We sing on Shabbat, on holidays, and every day. In Judaism, songs and prayers are inseparable. This evening we sing in thanks to our outgoing officers and Board of Directors, and to wish success to their successors.

(Music: *Erev Ba*)

Will (Names of outgoing Board Members), members of the outgoing Board of Directors, please rise.

“*Erev ba*” means “evening comes.” To some, the coming of events signals the end of the day. In Judaism, however, evening is the beginning of the new day. How appropriate, therefore, to use this song to thank you for the years of service you have given and for your accomplishments during your term. I look forward to new beginnings, new challenges, and discharge you from your responsibilities with gratitude. Please be seated.

(Music: *Not By Might*)

Will (Names of Secretaries and Treasurer) please rise.

“Not by might”, not by power, but with love you have served. You are the women who made our Sisterhood run. You sent the meeting notices and dues statements, took minutes, paid the bills and much more. Without your dedicated efforts this past year, our Sisterhood could not have carried on.

Todah Rabbah for your service to the Sisterhood of Congregation_____. I discharge you from office with thanks. You may now be seated.

(Music: *Migdalim*)

Will (Names of Vice Presidents) please stand:

“*Midgalim*” means “towers.” You are the towers of strength of our Sisterhood. You stand tall and strong and support our Sisterhood through your work. You coordinated the activities in your respective domains and saw to it that we had programs, fundraisers, and members to attend them. I thank you for your strength and persistence and discharge you from office. You may take your seats.

(Music: *Ve-Ha-er Eineinu*)

Will the outgoing President (or Co-presidents) (names) please rise.

In this prayer, we ask God to open our eyes with *Torah*. As the *Torah* continually guides us, so too did you guide us this past year with your wisdom, your many talents, and your patience. We would be lost without the *Torah*, so also would our Sisterhood have been lost without your leadership. *Todah Rabbah* for giving of yourselves so generously in all you have done. You are hereby discharged from office. You may be seated.

(Music: *Heiveinu Shalom Aleikhem*)

We now welcome our incoming officers and Board members.

Will (Names of incoming Board of Directors) please rise.

The words of this song mean “We have brought greetings.” We welcome you and wish you the strength and wisdom to serve in the coming year. With great pleasure, I install you as the

Board of Directors of the Sisterhood of Congregation _____ for the coming year. Please be seated.

(Music: *Ba-Shanah Ha-Ba'a*)

Will (Names of incoming Secretaries/Treasurer) please stand.

The title of this song means “In the coming years.” In this year of _____, you will face many challenges. As in this song, may you find the coming year a good one. With sincere pleasures I install you in your respective offices. You may be seated.

(Music: *Yevarekhekhah*)

Will (Names of incoming Vice Presidents) please stand.

“*Yevarekhekhah*” – may you be blessed. May you be blessed this year with the courage and vision to undertake and complete your tasks. With great joy, I install you as the Vice Presidents of the Sisterhood of Congregation _____. Please take your seats.

(Music: *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*)

Will incoming President (Co-presidents) (names) please rise.

Yerushalayim Shel Zahav, Jerusalem, the city of gold, is the crowning glory of *Eretz Yisrael*. Jerusalem is the city of David, where the Temple once stood. It is in Jerusalem, at the Western Wall, where we offer our prayers to God, somehow expecting that they would be listened to a little more closely there than they would be here in _____. May your leadership this year be blessed with the spirit of peace we pray for in Jerusalem, the wisdom of our matriarchs and patriarchs, and the strength that has allowed the Western Wall to endure for all these centuries. It is with utmost pride and pleasure that I install you as President(s) of the Sisterhood of Congregation _____. You may be seated.

I wish a hearty *yisbar kobakhen* and *mazal yov* to all who have served or will serve our Sisterhood, and extend my personal wishes for a year of health, strength, good programming, and fun to our entire Sisterhood membership.

MUSIC CREDITS

Linda Hirschhorn, Gather Round

Ilu Finu

Linda Hirschhorn, Roots and Wings

Not By Might

El Al, Songs of Israel

BaShanah Ha-Ba'a

Heiveinu Shalom Aleikhem

Veha'er Eineinu

Yevarekhekha

The Feenjon Group, Jerusalem of Gold

Erev Ba

Migdalim

Yerushalayim Shel Zahav

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