

Musically Speaking

An Installation

Created by
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Temple Beth-El Sisterhood
Poughkeepsie, New York

Description: This installation features a number of familiar songs that the audience is asked to join in singing as officers are installed.

The music listed below may be found in the following collections, from

Tara Publications
P.O. Box 707
Owings Mills, MD 21117
Fax: 1-800-827-2403
Email: orders@jewishmusic.com

Favorite Songs of Israel – Velvel Pasternak

Vibuda L'olam Teshev

Israel in Song – Velvel Pasternak

*Heiveinu Shalom Aleichem; Hinei Ma Tov
V'ha'eir Eineinu; Eretz Zavot Chalav
Oseh Shalom; Hava Nashira; Artsa Alinu*

Great Songs of Israel – Velvel Pasternak

Hashiveinu

Manginot: 201 Songs for Jewish Schools – ed. By Stephen Richards

Al Sh'losha Devarim; Lo Alekha

Blessings – Debbie Friedman

Lechi Lach; May We Be Blessed

For the music to *Ma Tovv*, see *More of the Songs We Sing* – Harry Coopersmith

United Synagogue Book Service
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Reproduce the enclosed song sheet for those attending the installation so that they can join in the singing.

MUSICALLY SPEAKING ...

AN INSTALLATION

It is my honor and privilege to welcome you to the Installation of Officers of the Sisterhood of Temple_____. The title of this year's ceremony is "Musically Speaking..." and I will invite all of you to assist me in punctuating this evening's festivities with certain musical selections. I have distributed a sing-along program with the words to all of the songs we will do, and I now ask you to join in as we welcome everyone here this evening. (Sing "*Heiveinu Shalom Aleichem.*")

As Jewish women who are eager to work for and support our Sisterhood, we center our efforts on perpetuating the ideals as outlined in the *Torah*. We are continually learning, teaching, and performing *mitzvot* which link us to our ancestors and provide us with an underlying motivation to order our lives according to the laws which Moses transmitted to us. Please join me in singing "*Ve-heir Eineinu.*"

Ve-haeir eineinu be-toratekha

Ve-deabeik libeinu

Be-mitzvotekha

Ve-yacheid le-vaveinu le-abava

ul-yira et shemekha

Shelo neivosh ve-lo nikaleim

Ve-lo nikashel le-olam va'ed.

Enlighten our eyes in Your Torah;
Attach our heart to Your commandments;
United our heart to love and revere Your name
So that we may never be put to shame.

As installing officer, my first task will be to acknowledge members of our outgoing Board who will not be remaining on the board next year. We thank them for their dedicated service and wish them well, inviting them to rejoin in the future. Will the following please rise. (Read names of outgoing board members.) I now formally discharge you from your duties. Thank you.

To our outgoing officers we owe a debt of gratitude. As a team, they have been bound together with the central purpose of insuring the smooth-running of our organization for the past term of office. Their efforts, both individually and collectively, have enabled us to plan and experience a successful year. Along with our gratitude to them, we send them the blessing of peace as we sing, “*Oseh Shalom.*” Please join me.

Oseh shalom bimromav

Hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu

Ve-al kol Yisreal, ve-imru

amen.

May He who makes peace in the high places make peace for us
and for all the people of Israel, and say Amen.

I ask (name of **Secretary**) to rise. You have lovingly recorded our activities and we appreciate your dedicated service to this office. You are now discharged with our thanks.

I invite (name of **Treasurer**) to rise. You have handled the finances of our Sisterhood with accuracy and attention to detail, and we are grateful to you for your clarity in keeping our finances in order. You are now discharged from office with our thanks.

Would (names of **Vice Presidents**) please rise. You have been there not only to assist our President, but also to create and oversee the programs which fall under your leadership. You may very well possess the most intimate knowledge of the workings of these offices and because of that, we may be turning to you in the future to tap your deep resources of knowledge and expertise. May you not be far from our future endeavors, even as you are dismissed from office at this time. Thank you.

My next task is to discharge our current **President** (read name). Although she will remain on the Board, her duties will certainly change. Our President has led us valiantly through the years of her tenure, and we are indebted to her for her untiring dedication. She has worked hard and has led us with energy and commitment. To our President we dedicate the Song of the Pioneers, “*Artsa Alinu.*” (Sing “*Artsa Alinu.*”)

Artza alinu

K'var charashnu

Ve-gam zaranu

Aval od lo katzarnu.

*We have plowed and planted
But we have not yet harvested our crop.*

I ask (name of President) to rise. I now formally discharge you, (name of President), from your duties. Thank you.

It is now time to install the incoming **Sisterhood Board of Directors** for Temple _____. Each position is an important part of our Board and carries with it special duties and responsibilities. The women who are assuming these duties are volunteering to nurture the fruits and flowers of the seeds planted by past generations. They deeply feel the responsibility of carrying on the ideals which their parents planted within them as they were

being raised in Jewish homes and were taught the basic tenets of our *Torah*. The world is based on three things: *Torah*, work, and deeds of loving kindness. We embody these as we dedicate ourselves to this Sisterhood and sing together, “*Al Shloscha D’varim*.” (Sing “*Al Shloscha D’varim*.”)

Al sh’loscha devarim ha-olam

Omeid:

Al ha-Torah, ve-al ha-avodah

Veal gemilut hasadim.

*The world stands on three things:
On the Torah, on divine service and on deeds
Of loving kindness.*

We now install the new Sisterhood Board of Directors for the coming year. Please rise as I read your name. (Read names and positions on the Board for all officers except Executive Board members and President.) You are now installed as Sisterhood Board members for the coming year. Congratulations and thank you.

At this time we will turn our attention to the **Executive Board**, which consists of the Secretaries, the Vice Presidents and the Treasurer. The Recording Secretary keeps careful records the minutes of all of our meetings, thus continuing the chain of continuity across the generations of women who have been recording our history. Just as Jerusalem lives forever from generation to generation, so does our Sisterhood, and we shall sing about this with “*Vibuda L’olam Teshev*.” (Sing “*Vibuda L’olam Teshev*.”)

Vi-buda le-’olam teishev

Virushalayim lechol dor

Vador

Virushalayim ledor vador.

*Judah shall abide forever
And Jerusalem from generation to generation.*

Will the incoming **Recording Secretary** (read names) please rise to be formally installed as our new Recording Secretary. Thank you.

The **Corresponding Secretary** will facilitate communications among our members, linking us all together throughout the year. Let us sing “*Hinei Ma Tov*,” since it is so good to be together and part of a cohesive group with a unity of purpose. (Sing “*Hinei Ma Tov*.”)

Hinei ma tov uma na-im

Shevet achim gam yachad.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brothers to dwell together in unity.

I invite the incoming **Corresponding Secretary** (read name) to please rise. You are now formally installed as our new Corresponding Secretary. Thank you.

The third of our secretaries is the **Financial Secretary**. Your efforts to manage the billing and dues collection will help to keep our organization financially healthy, like the land of the milk and honey which we shall sing about now in “*Eretz Zavot Chalav*.” (Sing “*Eretz Zavot Chalav*.”)

Eretz zavot chalav ud'vash!

The land flowing with milk and honey.

Will the incoming **Financial Secretary** (read name) please rise to be formally installed as our new Financial Secretary. Thank you.

The **Treasurer** is responsible for competently managing the funds of our Sisterhood. She will keep our financial status on course throughout the year, as has been done since the creation of this temple's Sisterhood. Let us remember the heritage we are perpetuating in this organization as we sing the lovely round, “*Hashiveinu*.” (Sing “*Hashiveinu*.”)

Hashiveinu Ha-shem

Eilekha ve-nashuva

Hadesh yameinu ke-kedem.

Turn us to Thee. O Lord, and let us return;
Renew our days as of old.

I ask the incoming Treasurer (read name) to please rise. I now install you as our new Treasurer. Thank you.

Let us now turn our attention to the three **Vice Presidents**. First, our **Vice President for Membership** will work on strengthening the growth and vitality of our Sisterhood by involving new and old members in a variety of interesting activities. New members are particularly essential to the attainment of our goals. Let us sing “*Hava Nashira*,” another beautiful round, which underscores the ongoing nature of growth and expansion through increased membership. (Sing “*Hava Nashira*.”)

Hava nasira shir

Halleluyah.

Let us sing a song of praise. Praise the Lord!

Will the incoming Vice President for Membership (read name) please rise to be installed as our new Vice President for Membership. Thank you.

Next, our **Vice President for Ways and Means** will be creating new ways to provide systems of support for our organization. She will offer programs which will bring us together and generate funds necessary for the maintenance of our Sisterhood home here at the temple. We will now sing about our own dwelling place, our temple. Please join me in singing “*Ma Tovv*”. (Sing “*Ma Tovv*.”)

Ma tovu ohalecha Ya-akov

Mishkenotekha Yisrael.

*How goodly are your tents, O Jacob,
your dwelling places, O Israel.*

I invite the incoming Vice President for Ways and Means (read name) to please rise. I now formally install you as Vice President for Ways and Means. Thank you.

The **Vice President for Education** is an important link in this organization. She will bring us together through programs of learning on many topics and increase our knowledge of issues which are germane to all of us as Jewish women. She will facilitate teaching and learning, a process in which we are all involved. None of us is responsible for it all, but we all need to expand our knowledge continually, as it says in the song which we shall sing now, “*Lo Alecha.*” (Sing “*Lo Alecha.*”)

Lo alekha ham'lakha ligmor

Ve-lo atah ven chorin

Lehibateil mi-menah.

Sheyibaneh beit hamikdash

Bimheira beyameinu.

*It is not for you to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it.
May the Temple be speedily rebuilt in our days.*

Will the incoming Vice President for Education (read name) please rise. You are now installed as our new Vice President for Education. Thank you.

It is now my distinct privilege to install the next **President** of our Sisterhood. To (name of new President), we dedicate the song, “*L'chi Lach.*” It is my wish that you indeed go forth as a blessing as you take on the responsibilities of President of our Sisterhood. (Sing “*L'chi Lach.*”)

Lechi lach, to a land that I will show you
Lechi lch, to a place you do not know
Lechi lach, on your journey I will bless you
And (you shall be a blessing) (3x) *lechi lach*

Lechi lach, and I shall make your name great
Lechi lach, and all shall praise your name
Lechi lach, to the place that I will show you
Lesimbat hayyim (3x) *lechi lach*

At this point I would like to share some remarks about our new President and the example she has shown with the work she has done over the past few years, which has prepared her for this position. (The installing officer may now expound upon the particular experiences and background of the new President.)

I now ask (name of new President) to please rise. I formally install you (name of new President) as our new President of Sisterhood. Congratulations and thank you. (The installing officer may now invite newly appointed President to make an acceptance speech if she desires.)

As we close this installation ceremony, I would like to offer a song of blessing to all of us as we embark on the coming year. The members of our Sisterhood are a very precious group and our leaders on the Board are special both individually and together. To all I extend a hearty “thank you” and congratulations. Please join me in our final prayer and song, “*May We Be Blessed.*” (Sing “*May We Be Blessed.*”)

May we be blessed as we go on our way
May we be guided in peace
May we be blessed with health and joy
May this be our blessing, Amen
May we be sheltered by the wings of peace
May we be kept in safety and in love

*May grace and compassion find their way to every soul
May this be our blessing, Amen.*