

HEALING SERVICE

FOR ALL AFFECTED BY AIDS

Welcome From Temple Beth Avodah

Harvey Weiner

Temple Beth Avodah

Bambi Good and Susan Horwitz

Co-Chairmen of Social Action Committee

Welcome From The Task Force

Bill Rollings

Attorney-Ecumenical Task Force on Aids

Music

"Hiney Ma Tov"

Julie Silver

*For persons with AIDS
For their families and friends
For those in the healing professions
For those who are afraid and angry
For those who wish it would go away
For all who seek God's healing power*

Reader:

How sweet it is to gather, women and men together, in the house of a God who transcends human limits and categories.

How pleasant it is to gather, Jews and Christians together, in the house of a God who hears the prayers of all people.

TEMPLE BETH AVODAH

NEWTON

in the house of a God who values deeds of caring and justice far beyond the boundaries of creeds.

From the Shabbat Siddur of Congregation She'ar Zahav, San Francisco

A Chassidic Tale

Rabbi Robert Miller

Part I

The Pain We Bear

Co-sponsored by the Ecumenical Task Force on AIDS, Inc.

Supported by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies/American Jewish Congress Joint Task Force on AIDS in cooperation with the Union Of American Hebrew Congregations Northeast Region Task Force
Peter Daniel Clark Memorial Fund

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Reader:

How good it is to gather, in a rainbow of affections
and orientations. In the house of a God who loves each
of us as we are created, who loves without limit and forever.

How sweet it is to gather, women and men together. In the
house of a God who transcends human limits and categories.

How pleasant it is to gather, Jews and Christians together,
in the house of a God who hears the prayers of all people.

How fine it is to gather, people with firm beliefs
together with people with questions in their hearts,
in the house of a God who values deeds of caring and
justice far above the recitation of creeds.

From the Shabbat Siddur of Congregation
Sha'ar Zahav, San Francisco

A Chassidic Tale

Rabbi Robert Miller

Part I

The Pain We Bear

Congregation:

THIS WE ACKNOWLEDGE

AIDS is like another world -

A world of disease,

A world of fear,

A world of death.

But AIDS is not of another world.

AIDS touches our lives -

Our families

Our community

Our world.

We dedicate ourselves

To those AIDS has taken from us:

To their memories,

To their courage,

To their lives.

Barry Block and Rabbi Daniel Freeland

Reader:

AIDS

We are stretched to meet a new dimension

Of love, a more demanding range

Where despair and hope must intertwine.

How grow to meet it? Intention

Here can neither move nor change

The raw truth. Death is on the line.

It comes to separate and estrange

Lover from lover in some reckless design.

Where do we go from here?

Fear. Fear. Fear. Fear.

Our world has never been more stark

Or more in peril.

It is very lonely now in the dark.

Lonely and sterile.

And yet in the simple turn of a head

Mercy lives. I heard it when someone said

"I must go now to a dying friend

Every night at nine I tuck him into bed,

And give him a shot of morphine,"

And added, "I go where I have never been."

I saw he meant into a new discipline

He had not imagined before, and a new grace.

Every day now we meet it face to face.

Every day now devotion is the test.

Through the long hours, the hard, caring nights
We are forging a new union. We are blessed.

As closed hands open to each other
Closed lives open to strange tenderness.
We are learning the hard way how to mother.
Who says it is easy? But we have the power.
I watch the faces deepen all around me.
It is the time of change, the saving hour.
The word is not fear, the word we live,
But an old word suddenly made new,
And we learn it again, as we bring it alive:

Love. Love. Love. Love.

May Sarton, In Silence Now

Responsively By Paragraph:

HOW TO WATCH YOUR BROTHER DIE

When the call comes, be calm.
Say to your wife, "My brother is dying. I have to fly
to California."
Try not to be shocked that he already looks like
a cadaver.
Say to the young man sitting by your brother's side,
"I'm his brother."
Try not to be shocked when the young man says,
"I'm his lover. Thanks for coming."

Listen to the doctor with a steel face on.
Sign the necessary forms.
Tell the doctor you will take care of everything.
Wonder why doctors are so remote.

Watch the lover's eyes as they stare into
your brother's eyes as they stare into
space.
Wonder what they see there.
Remember the time he was jealous and
opened your eyebrow with a sharp stick.
Forgive him out loud
even if he can't understand you.
Realize the scar will be
all that's left of him.

Over coffee in the hospital cafeteria
say to the lover, "You're an extremely
good-looking young man."

Hear him say,

"I never thought I was good enough looking to
deserve your brother."

Watch the tears well up in his eyes. Say,

"I'm sorry. I don't know what it means to be
the lover of another man."

Hear him say, "it's just like a wife, only the commitment
is deeper because the odds against you are so much greater."

Say nothing, but

take his hand like a brother's.

Stand beside a casket covered in flowers,
white flowers. Say,

"Thank you for coming" to each of several hundred men

who file past in tears, some of them

holding hands. Know that your brother's life

was not what you imagined. Overhear two mourners say,

"I wonder who'll be next."

Michael Lassel from "Poems For Lost and Unlost Boys"

MUSIC "Walk With Me"

Julie Silver

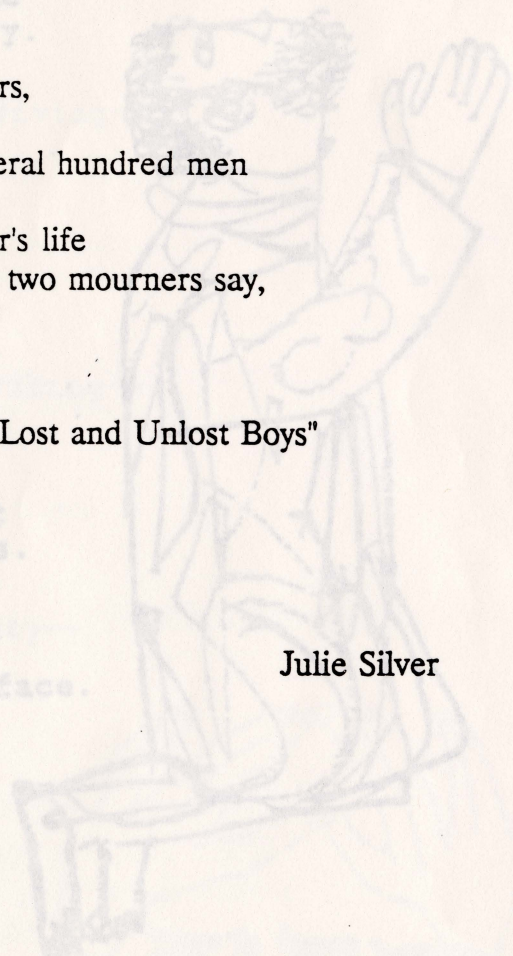
PART II The Prayers We Offer
The Challenge We Face

SILENT PRAYER

MUSIC

"ESA AYNAP"

JULIE SILVER



PSALMS:

Psalm 15

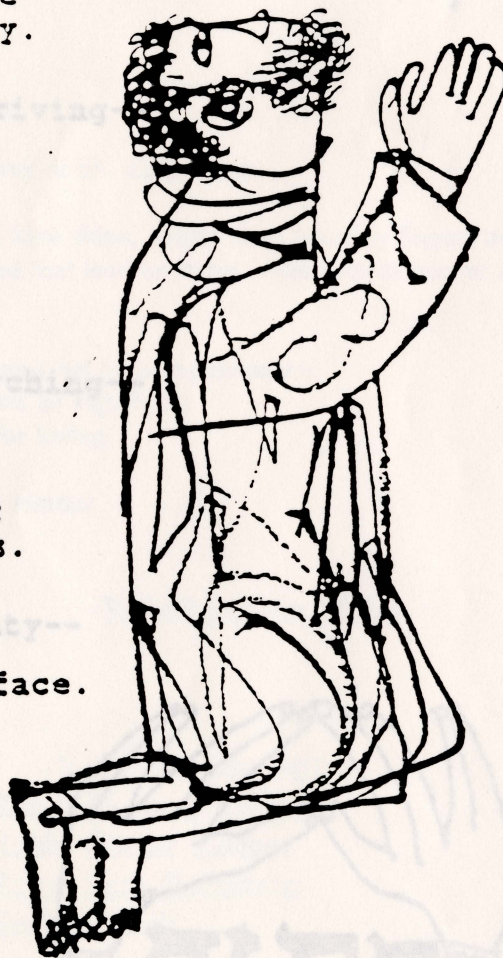
How long will this pain go on, Lord,
this grief I can hardly bear?
How long will anguish grip me
and agony wring my mind?
Light up my eyes with your presence;
let me feel your love in my bones.
Keep me from losing myself
in ignorance and despair.
Teach me to be patient, Lord;
teach me to be endlessly patient.
Let me trust that your love enfolds me
when my heart feels desolate and dry.
I will sing to the Lord at all times,
even from the depths of pain.

Psalm 17

Lord, listen to my prayer;
hear me in my hour of need.
I am overwhelmed by my troubles
and terrified by my thoughts.
Guide my feet on your path;
don't let me stop or falter.
Teach me how powerful your love is
and how insubstantial my fears.
Like the pupil of the eye protect me;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.
Cover me with your mercy;
rock me to sleep in the dark.
And let me, when I awaken,
see nothing but the light of your face.

Psalm 133

How wonderful it is to live
in harmony with all people;
like stepping out of the bath,
your whole body fresh and vibrant;
like the morning dew, glistening
on the tiniest blade of grass.
It is God's infinite blessing,
a taste of eternal life.



SILENT PRAYER

MUSIC

"ESA AYNAI"

JULIE SILVER

READER:

When Miriam was sick, her brother Moses prayed:
"Oh God, I pray, heal her please!"

We join in a prayer like Moses prayed, for those afflicted--
With illness,
With anguish,
With pain.

O God, we pray, heal them.

Their bodies, creations You called "good", are violated--
By illness,
By pain,
By AIDS.

O God, we pray, encourage them.

Their families, their friends, are striving--
To care,
To support,
To love.

O God, we pray, strengthen them.

(cont'd...)

Their doctors, their nurses, are searching--
For prevention,
For treatment,
For cures.

O God, we pray, inspire them.

Our leaders, our officials, have a duty--
To act justly,
To show compassion,
To dispel fear.

O God, we pray, guide them.

O God, we too are struggling--
To prolong life,
To make life worth living,
To accept death when it comes.

O God, we pray, bless us all!
Amen.



There are those who juxtapose AIDS with SIN; affliction with punishment. Indeed this category does exist. Yes there is SIN.

The sin of indifference;
The sin of steeling ourselves to cries of pain.

The sin of complacency;
The sin of thinking ourselves untouched by AIDS.

The sin of passing judgement without knowledge of the facts;
The sin of running away from truths we do not wish to hear.

The sin of neglecting those who need us;
The sin of abdicating responsibility.

The sin of homophobia;
The sin of turning our backs on those whose way of life disturbs us.

God of justice and mercy, help us to recognize the wrongs we have done, rather than pointing fingers at our neighbors. Help us to turn away from the anger, fear and laziness that lead us to sin. And help us now to fulfill the words of our rabbis:

As the Holy One is called compassionate, so must we be compassionate;
As the Holy One is called righteous, so must we be righteous;
As the Holy One is called loving, so must we be loving.

Rabbi Janet Marder

SERMONETTE

Rabbi Robert Miller

TIME FOR CONNECTIONS

LEADERS:

Rabbi Robert Miller
Rabbi Howard Kummer
Rabbi Elaine Zecher
Rabbi Seth Bernstein
Evelyn Clark

PRAYER FOR THE LIVING.....

Misha B'erach - Julie Silver

PRAYER FOR THOSE GONE:

In the rising of the sun and in its going down, we remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter, we remember them.

In the opening buds and in the rebirth of spring, we remember them.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer, we remember them.

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn, we remember them.

In the beginning of the year and when it ends, we remember them.

When we are weary and in need of strength, we remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart, we remember them.

When we have joys we yearn to share, we remember them.

So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

"L'VRACHA"

JULIE SILVER

KADDISH:

MOURNER'S KADDISH

קדיש יתום

יְתַדְלֵל וְיַתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא בְּעַלְמָא דְרַבְרָא כִּרְעוּתָהּ.

Yit-ga-dal ve-yit-ka-dash she-mei ra-ba be-al-ma di-ve-ra chil-re-u-tel.

וְיַסְלִיד מְלֻכוּתָהּ בְּתַיְכוּן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוּן וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל בֵּית

ve-yam-lid mal-chu-tel be-cha-yei-choh u-ve-yo-mei-choh u-ve-cha-yei de-choi beit

יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֻזָּא וּבְזַמַּן קָרִיב, וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yis-ra-eil, ba-a-ga-ia u-vi-ze-man ka-riv, ve-i-me-nu: a-mein.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעַלְמֵי וּלְעַלְמֵי עַלְמַיָּא.

Ye-hei she-mei ra-ba me-va-rach le-a-lam u-le-af-mei al-ma-ya.

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמַם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא, וְיִתְהַדָּד

Yit-ba-rach ve-yish-ta-bach, ve-yit-pa-ar ve-yit-ro-mam ve-yit-na-sei, ve-yit-ha-dar

וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלֵּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקוּדְשָׁא, בְּרִיד הוּא, לְעַלְמָא מְרַבְל

ve-yit-a-leh ve-yit-ha-lal she-mei de-ku-de-sha, be-rich hu, le-ei-ia min kol

בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירָתָא, תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא וְתַחֲמַתָּא דְאַמְיָרָן בְּעַלְמָא,

bi-re-cha-ta ve-shi-ra-ta, tush-be-cha-ta ve-ne-che-ma-ta, da-a-mi-ran be-al-ma,

וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

ve-i-me-nu: a-mein.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מְרַשְׁמֵיָא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל,

Ye-hei she-is-ma ra-ba min she-ma-ya ve-cha-yim a-lei-nu ve-el kol Yis-ra-eil.

וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

ve-i-me-nu: a-mein.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל

O-seh sha-lom bi-me-ro-mav, hu ya-a-seh sha-lom a-lei-nu ve-el kol

יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yis-ra-eil, ve-i-me-nu: a-mein.

Let the glory of God be extolled, let His great name be hallowed, in the world whose creation He willed. May His kingdom soon prevail.

MUSIC

"SH'CHINA"

JULIE SILVER

Offerings received tonight will be used for the work of the Ecumenical Task Force On Aids.

**TEMPLE BETH AVODAH
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ECUMENICAL TASK FORCE ON AIDS**

**PORTIONS OF THIS SERVICE WERE TAKEN FROM THE
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AND THE FALMOUTH JEWISH CONGREGATION.
WE ARE MOST APPRECIATIVE.**