

## **Torah Poetry of Congregation B'nai Israel**

*For Atzeret-Simchat Torah Eve 5782 (2021), adult learners at Congregation B'nai Israel were invited to scramble words from selected Torah verses to create their own biblical poetry. The results are magnificent! This project was the brainchild of our guest artist-in-residence (via Zoom), Shira Kline, whose participation was made possible by a generous grant from our Bauman Music Fund.*

### Genesis 1:1-4

Unformed void of darkness...  
A wind sweeping from heaven  
    To create deep water  
        And light  
            And earth.  
God, that was good!

*-Howard Bresnik*

About Darkness  
And God said: Light the chaos!  
God glided over the chaotic waters,  
Divided Heaven and Earth,  
Light and darkness,  
Face from face,  
To create the unformed as God's spirit on earth.

*-Meg Goldenberg Marion*

### Exodus 15:11-13

YOU are holy, People!  
Stretch out your hand to others  
And guide them  
With the strength of your kindness  
To a pasture of love!

*-Lynn Greenberg*

The right hand of the Earth swallowed the Feared-One.  
The People stretched out like You among the Celestials.  
With kindness working in splendor, faithfulness is redeemed.

*-S. Bruce Greenberg*

The celestials lead the earth to swallow the People  
You, O Lord, guide them to Your holy abode  
In awesome splendor  
Your love, Your strength  
Working wonders in the redeemed!

*-Sam Kauffman*

Leviticus 19:32-34

You are born a foreigner among foreigners, in a land native with love.  
Do not fear the foreigner. Rather, treat your presence in the land of God with respect.

*-Susan and Sam Willis*

Numbers 12:10-13

Miriam said to Aaron, “Our mother was snow-white when Moses emerges from her womb.”

She saw the Cloud in the Tent with us and cried out to the one Lord:

“Pray heal my dead, half-eaten flesh stricken with scales!”

So, God committed to her saying, “Let Miriam, Aaron and Moses account, turn toward Us, and withdraw away from that folly – Sin.”

*-Annabelle Imber Tuck*

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

To Israel  
Hear God

Love all.

Short, but really what else is there!

*-Emily Adams and Carmen Arick*

hear, children  
israel is home  
your god, your gates  
impress your heart alone  
o god, your house, your hand  
a symbol on our soul

*-Rose Crow*