



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Temple Israel, Detroit, 1951.

Dear Friend

1) Whenever life permitted, our people always erected beautiful
sanctuaries to enshrine their Faith.
It is with ~~care and love~~ ^{care and love} that the Bible dwells upon ~~the~~ ^{all the} details, the building, the Tabernacle is the wilderness - ~~and of~~ ^{describes} all
the beautiful things which went into its construction and
furnishings. - It ~~praises~~ ^{praises} the architect ^{on page} and the skilled
craftsmen, ~~but~~ ^{as well} the generous donors among the people who contributed
such as his heart prompted, gold, silver, copper, wood, linen
and oil, spices and precious stones for the adornment, the sanctuary
of God. - ~~with all~~ ^{with all} 3/20/1 - ~~so that it would be a place of~~
impression ~~and~~ beauty

Similarly ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the case, the building, the Temple, Solomon.
The Biblical narrator ~~deals~~ ^{deals} with brick and stone ~~as~~ ^{as} the
design and dimensions of the structure, the materials ~~and~~ ^{and} the furnishings
the ornamentation, the carvings, the altars, the vessels and articles
of worship. For our ancestors' sanctuaries beauty, with
holiness. ~~and~~ ^{they delighted in} worshiped there ~~for~~ ^{for} 1300 years in the
beauty, holiness.

When the Temple was destroyed, the prophet, the exile
kept alive the hope of its early restoration - "When the
day, when would come to these - the oxen, the plow
and the larch - to ~~glorify~~ ^{glorify} the place, my sanctuary"

It was not always given to our people to build
beautiful houses, ~~unlike~~ ^{unlike} the ~~imprisonment~~ ^{imprisonment}, their dwelling
places, ~~rested~~ ^{rested} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~poverty~~ ^{poverty} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~their~~ ^{their} ~~poverty~~ ^{poverty} ~~devised~~ ^{devised} to their place
unlike the massive stonework of medieval churches and
cathedrals. But whenever fortune smiled upon them, ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~did~~ ^{did}
~~what~~ ^{what} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~could~~ ^{could} ~~even~~ ^{even} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~exile~~ ^{exile} ~~build~~ ^{build} ~~lovely~~ ^{lovely} ~~synagogues~~ ^{synagogues} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~sanctuaries~~ ^{sanctuaries}
of peace and joy and thanksgiving, ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~sanctuaries~~ ^{sanctuaries}

to ~~the synagogue~~ beautiful ritual object & adorn
the Bema, for.

1/ It is in keeping with an ancient and noble tradition
that Sinai Temple has built this magnificent Temple.
It is altogether fitting that in this gracious land of
freedom ~~where~~ our faith ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~should~~ ^{should} ~~express~~ ^{express} the glorious
splendor, its ~~sublime~~ ^{divine} life, ~~and~~ ^{and} hope and confidence in the ~~stable~~ ^{stable}
+ Monumental dignity of such a house of prayer & study.

2/ To be sure - as they say in our sacred books, as the dedicatory sermon,
אין אדם יכול להכיל את כל עוצמת ה' - "The ~~power~~ ^{power} of the ~~heaven~~ ^{heaven} and the highest heaven
cannot contain thee, how much less this house
which I have built."

But, I care no Temple ~~is~~ ^{is} built to contain
God - but to ~~summon~~ ^{summon} ~~us~~ ^{us} to intimate and signify
~~His~~ ^{His} ~~presence~~ ^{presence} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~world~~ ^{world} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~direct~~ ^{direct} the attention, men toward Him and through
its physical shells and portals to guide men in prayer,
study and inspiration to the true
dwelling place, for which is in all things
both physical and spiritual, within them and about
them; in time and in eternity.

4/ The essence of our religion is symbolized in the Menorah
which you kindled this evening - the perpetual light - the inner
flame, the light indwelling in the soul, man -
But even that purest symbol of our spiritual faith was

10/ What is needed - not innovation, renovation, reconstruction of
re-conversion / Jew to his faith - this recommitment to social
and personal ethical obligations.

(c) no longer a question / more or less ritual - complexities
claims of orthodoxy - conservative reform - (None of them Scored)
But - setting up dykes -

11/ No longer the issue of Zionism to whip - divide - camp
Life has settled that issue - There is the State.

(a) There remains Basic Judaism - our distinctive rel.
had - now > 3000 yrs old - Covenant - Mission - (inherited)
manifested amazing vitality - produced distinctive
rel. culture + literature - and a way of life (family, ^{distinctive} ^{or} ^{of} ^{the} ^{people})
charity, social resp. - (brotherhood - peace)

(b) Has that historic faith meaning - relevance -
Is it worth preserving - Relevance 2

12/ You have answered - Yes! Remember - not an easy task!

Sp. Rel. not concerned with light and easy tasks
Great religious works - Prophets + Pharisees - stern
summed - renovation - self-sacrifice - More demanding
offered man compensation - in conditions - disadvantages
sacrifice - no-occupations

(a) Synagogue can never be a place for those who seek escape

The hygienists do not challenge man to go in part 18
& "have a mind" but the hygienic, God, the good society
and self-perfection. עוֹלָם בְּיָמֵינוּ - To be
at peace in a corrupt and polluted world - is to
be, ourselves, corrupt & polluted.

(b) It is, have things & books that the hygienists
must speak to-day - and the techniques, the religious
discipline as also not long - they call for life-long
study - ~~learning~~ learning. To know God requires the most
developed mind, the keenest insight, and an uninterrupted
unwavering - and even we can see God, only as then a
slam daily. עוֹלָם בְּיָמֵינוּ

(c) Study, contemplation, prayer & all the disciplines, the
devotional life, religious practices & observances - are required
to keep us attached to that way of life - which
will lead us to seek God & the things of God - the
Jewish way of life.

(d) Your great Temple will seek the people in the
most vital ways, then how - if it will commemorate
on the 3 essential & historic practices - עוֹלָם בְּיָמֵינוּ
עוֹלָם בְּיָמֵינוּ - social education

DEDICATION PROGRAM



TEMPLE
ISRAEL
DETROIT

1951 THE 250th BIRTHDAY YEAR OF THE CITY OF DETROIT 5711



THE ARK OF THE COVENANT



“*This is My Covenant,*” saith the Lord:
*“My spirit which is upon thee . . . shall not depart
 from thee, nor from thy children, nor from thy children’s
 children, henceforth and forever”*

THE DEDICATION SERVICES

THURSDAY NIGHT
April 12, 1951



FRIDAY NIGHT
April 13, 1951

ORGAN PRELUDE	KARL W. HAAS <i>Organist and Music Director</i>
Ma Tovu "How Beautiful" (<i>Bloch</i>)	CANTOR ROBERT S. TULMAN AND CHOIR
INVOCATION	DR. B. BENEDICT GLAZER <i>Temple Beth El, Detroit</i>
Borchu "Praise ye the Lord"	CHOIR AND CONGREGATION
MESSAGE OF WELCOME	GEORGE M. STUTZ <i>Past President</i>
DEDICATION OVERTURE — for trumpets and organ (<i>Binder</i>)	RALPH JEWELL GORDON SMITH <i>Trumpeters of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra</i>

THE PROCESSION OF THE SCROLLS

In the Procession are the members of the Board of Trustees of the congregation.

The bearers of the Scroll and its adornments are Harry C. LeVine, President; Jacob A. Citrin, Vice-President; Arthur J. Hass, Secretary; Louis H. Schostak, Treasurer; Charles L. Goldstein, past President; Harry L. Pliskow, President of the Men's Club; Maurice H. Levin and Charles H. Aller, past Presidents of the Men's Club, and Alvin H. Talberg, President of Temple Israel Youth.

The Flower Bearers are Mrs. William P. Greenberg, President of the Sisterhood, and Mesdames Samuel B. Danto and Samuel Blacher, past Presidents of the Sisterhood.

THE OPENING OF THE ARK	EDWARD ROSE <i>Co-Chairman, Building Committee</i>
Pitchu Li "Open the Gates" (<i>Binder</i>)	TRUMPETS, CHOIR AND ORGAN
The Shema "Hear, O Israel"	CONGREGATION, CANTOR AND CHOIR
ATTENDANCE UPON THE SCROLL	FRED H. GOTTFURCHT ELLIS M. THAL <i>Past Chairmen, Building Campaign</i>
THE TORAH BENEDICTIONS	CHARLES L. GOLDSTEIN <i>Past President</i>
THE READING FROM THE SCROLL (Exodus XIX 1-6)	RABBI SANFORD E. SAPERSTEIN of Pontiac
THE TRANSLATION	JACOB A. CITRIN <i>Vice-President</i>
THE PROPHETIC READING (Micah IV, 1-4)	ARTHUR J. HASS <i>Secretary</i>
THE RETURN OF THE SCROLL	HARRY L. PLISKOW <i>President, Men's Club</i>
"Lift up your Heads" (<i>Hopkins</i>)	SISTERHOOD CHORAL GROUP

RESPONSIVE READING

Led by Rabbi Morton M. Applebaum of Flint

Rabbi: To Thee, O Lord, and to Thy Law,

Congregation: WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

To the Prophets and Seers of Israel, living conscience of the world,

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

To Jews of the past who triumphed over oppression by the inspiration of Thy word,

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

To American Jewry and to its work of rescue and construction in Israel and for our brethren everywhere,

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

To Jewry the world over, united by a heroic history and dreams of a better future,

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

To America, its freedom and its future—hope of a harassed world,

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

To Humanity, all nations, all creeds, all races and their dream of oneness and peace,

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

How lovely are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts!

MY SOUL YEARNETH, YEA, EVEN PINETH FOR THE COURTS OF THE LORD;

My heart and my flesh sing for joy unto the living God.

HAPPY ARE THEY THAT DWELL IN THY HOUSE, THEY ARE EVER PRAISING THEE.

Happy is the man whose strength is in Thee; In whose heart are the highways.

FOR A DAY IN THY COURTS IS BETTER THAN A THOUSAND ELSEWHERE.

I had rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

FOR THE LORD GOD IS A SUN AND A SHIELD; THE LORD GIVETH GRACE AND GLORY;

No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.

O LORD OF HOSTS, HAPPY IS THE MAN THAT TRUSTETH IN THEE.

Mee Chomocho "Who is Like Thee?"

CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the mighty? Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness, awe-inspiring, working wonders? The Lord shall reign forever and ever.

Mee Cho-mo-cho Bo-ay-leem A-do-noy; Mee Ko-mo-cho Ne-dor Ba-ko-desh, No-ro S'hil-los O-say Fe-lay.
A-do-noy Yim-loch L'o-lom Vo-ed.

THE CEREMONIES OF DEDICATION



PRESENTATION OF THE BUILDING LOUIS H. SCHOSTAK
Chairman, Building Committee

ACCEPTANCE OF THE BUILDING HARRY C. LEVINE
President

DEDICATING THE LIGHTS OF THE TEMPLE SOL R. COLTON
Chairman, Building Fund Campaign

DEDICATION PRAYER — Unison Reading THE CONGREGATION RISES

Bo-rooch At-to A-do-noy

E-lo-hai-nu Me-lech Ho-o-lom

She-he-che-yo-nu Ve-ki-ye-mo-nu

Ve-hi-gi-yo-nu Laz-man Ha-zeh

*Praised be Thou, O Lord, Our God,
Ruler of the Universe Who hast given
us life and strength to see this
Glorious Day.*

SHE-HE-CHE-YO-NU (*Karl W. Haas—Dedicated to Rabbi Fram*) THE CHOIRS

PRESENTATION OF THE DEDICATION VOLUME . . . MRS. DAVID B. KEYWELL
Chairman, Dedication Volume Project

ACCEPTANCE OF DEDICATION VOLUME MRS. WILLIAM P. GREENBERG
President, Temple Israel Sisterhood

LIGHTING OF THE DEDICATION CANDLES MRS. SAMUEL B. DANTO
MRS. SAMUEL BLACHER
Past Presidents of the Sisterhood

THE PRAYER FOR PEACE (*Fromm*) Thursday CANTOR

KIDDUSH, THE SABBATH PRAYER (*Binder*) Friday CANTOR

SILENT PRAYER

“May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable unto Thee,
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. Amen”

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

"All the World Shall Come to Serve Thee" CANTOR AND CONGREGATION

All the world shall come to serve Thee,
And bless Thy glorious name,
And Thy righteousness triumphant
The islands shall acclaim.
Yea the peoples shall go seeking,
Who knew Thee not before.
And the ends of earth shall praise Thee,
And tell Thy greatness o'er.

With the coming of Thy kingdom
The hills will shout with song,
And the islands laugh exultant,
That they to God belong.
And through all Thy congregations,
So loud Thy praise shall ring,
That the utmost peoples, hearing,
Shall hail Thee crowned King.

THE DEDICATORY WORD

INTRODUCTION MAX OSNOS
Chairman, Dedication Program

GREETINGS (Thursday) MAYOR ALBERT E. COBO
Mayor of Detroit

GREETINGS (Friday) GOVERNOR G. MENNEN WILLIAMS
Governor of the State of Michigan

"Amen Hallelujah"
(from Handel's "Judas Maccabeus") CHOIR AND SISTERHOOD CHORAL GROUP

THE DEDICATION MESSAGE RABBI LEON FRAM

THE DEDICATION SERMON (Thursday) RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER of Cleveland

THE DEDICATION SERMON (Friday) RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF of Pittsburgh

Presentation of Certificate of membership in the
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

CONCLUSION

ADORATION (Weinberg) CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

Let us adore the ever-living God, and render praise unto Him, who spread out the heavens and established the earth, whose glory is revealed in the heavens above, and whose greatness is manifest throughout the world. He is our God; there is none else.

We bow the head in reverence, and worship the King of Kings, the Holy One, praised be He.

Va-a-nach-nu Ko-r'eem U-mish-ta-cha-veem U-mo-deem Lif-nay Me-lech Mal-chay
Ham-lo-cheem Ha-ko-dosh Bo-ruch Hu.

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