

Please join us for Congregation Anshei Israel's



Scholar-in-Residence January 11 - 12, 2019 RABBI DR. SHAI HELD

Rabbi Dr. Shai Held – theologian, scholar, and educator – is President, Dean, and Chair in Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar in New York City, where he also directs the Center for Jewish Leadership and Ideas. Previously, he served for six years as Scholar-in-Residence at Kehilat Hadar in New York City, and taught both theology and

Halakhah at the Jewish Theological Seminary. He also served as Director of Education at Harvard Hillel. A 2011 recipient of the prestigious Covenant Award for excellence in Jewish education, Rabbi Held has been named multiple times to Newsweek's list of the 50 most influential rabbis in America. He holds a doctorate in religion from Harvard; his main academic interests are in modern Jewish and Christian thought, in biblical theology, and in the history of Zionism.

RABBI HELD'S VISIT INCLUDES:

FRIDAY, JAN. 11

- 5:45pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat Service
6:45pm Shabbat Dinner *
- 7:45pm Rabbi Dr. Shai Held presents, *"The Gifts of God Flow Through You: How Grace, Gratitude and Generosity Form the Heart of Jewish Spirituality"*
- Jews are often reluctant to talk about "grace;" they fear it sounds "too Christian." Yet, as we will see, grace is fundamental to Jewish theology and spirituality. In this session, we'll explore the connection between grace, gratitude, and generosity of spirit and think together about how they animate (or should animate) our religious lives. We'll think through the idea that God's gifts are meant to flow through us, and not just to us.

SATURDAY, JAN. 12

- 9:00am Shabbat Service; Rabbi Dr. Shai Held presents the D'var Torah, *"Waiting for God"*
- 3:45pm Rabbi Dr. Shai Held presents, *"Compassion and the Heart of Jewish Spirituality"*
- The Talmud tells us that "the beginning and end of Torah is HESED (love and kindness) and the Sages teach that living with compassion is the highest ideal a person can reach in this lifetime. In this session, we'll explore the idea of "walking in God's ways," trying to understand what compassion really is and how it differs from pity, we'll consider the relationship between emotions and actions in Jewish life, and we'll ask how we could become people of HESED who create communities of HESED.
- 4:45pm Mincha, followed at 5:15pm by Seudah Shlesheet (Third Meal), Ma'ariv and Havdallah

***RSVP & payment needed for Shabbat dinner only.**

Share a traditional Shabbat chicken dinner with sides and dessert.

With RSVP made by Jan. 7

CAI members: adults \$18, children \$12

Guests: adults \$22, children \$15

(\$5 more per person after Jan. 7)

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Congregation Anshei Israel

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