CLIMATE ACTION / PRESERVATION SHABBAT

DAYENU X REPAIR THE WORLD 2022

Dayenu is building a dynamic, multi-generational movement of American Jews courageously confronting the climate crisis. Repair the World, in our efforts to mobilize Jews and their communities to take action to pursue a just world. Together, we are proud to partner and advance our collective efforts to address climate change and serve to support water access across the country.

SHABBAT IS CREATING A "SACRED SPACE" IN TIME AND IN OUR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES



Rabbi Jill Jacobs
@rabbijilljacobs

It's a completely brilliant (IMHO) innovation on the part of Judaism/Torah/God to suggest that for 25 hrs/week we put aside our everyday work & take a break. "Day of rest" doesn't exactly capture what Shabbat is about. I prefer to think of it as one day to enjoy the world as it is/not to create or destroy. It's not that the world was complete after day 6 of creation-- but it was time to take a break from trying to perfect it.

- **Shabbat is a time for rest, reflection, conversation and community building to lead to future action.**
- **During Shabbat it can be easy to imagine the world as it should be, can we do the same for our climate and precious resources like water?**
- **Sacred ecological spaces and access to water also deserve the same reverence and commitment as water plays a necessary role in our entire life:**

From Sacred Waters - National Geographic by Cathy Newman

> *"From our worldly entrance in a burst of amniotic fluid to the ritual washing of the dead (taharah in Judaism; ghusl al-mayyit in Islam), water flows through our lives, scribing a line between sacred and profane, life and death. We are doused, dunked, dipped, sprinkled—and blessings flow, deep and wide as the River Jordan of Scripture, wondrous as the spring at Lourdes, cathartic as tears."*

ESTABLISHING STANDARDS IN YOUR HOME AND COMMUNITY

- **How do you create space for other opinions?** One of Repair's guiding values Elu v'elu, both/and, perspective There is a fundamental value in Jewish tradition that multiple truths exist in the world. We are encouraged to engage in civil discourse, to strive to live in a space of " both or yes/and", and to see other's perspectives. We reflect and grapple with complexity, listening to those who think differently than others with kindness and compassion. This value of multiple perspectives and opinions, even when they are in tension, is essential in our pursuit of a more just and equitable society.
- Dayenu teaches that in a passage that is part of the Sh'ma (literally translated to 'listen' a prayer traditionally said at least 3 times a day), we are exhorted to love God with all our heart, all our soul, and all our might.

To avert the most harmful impacts of the climate crisis and live l'dor v'dor, from generation to generation, we need to not only invest in clean energy solutions, but rapidly slash greenhouse gas emissions. This includes stopping the drilling, mining, and burning of oil, gas, and coal, and keeping these fossil fuels in the ground and unburned. Dayenu asks that you commit to confronting the climate crisis, in their newest campaign, with "All Our Might"

A CLIMATE SABBATH

Many people set aside time each week to observe shabbat or a sabbath, how can we do the same to learn and take action for climate and water justice?

Excerpt from Healing Waters at the time of COVID-19 by Rabbi Rachel Gartner

> *"We cannot overstate how central water has been to maintaining our health. Nor can we adequately lament the fact that not everyone in this world has ready access to good, clean water. What should be the most basic human right, has quite unthinkably, become an unequally accessible privilege. With tremendous gratitude, we give thanks for the water we are able to tap into freely in our lives. With great determination, we consider how more equitably to share it. May healing waters pour forth over us all. Every one of us. Everywhere, speedily and in our days.*

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- **How do we create space/observance around water during the week?**
- **When can we set aside additional time for action?**
- **How do we think about action for climate change for; ourselves, our extended family, our neighbors and other communities?**
- **What happens if we don't take action?**
- **Can an individual affect change by themselves? What will joining with others in collective action lead to?**



THE INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE

Many of the communities facing the biggest impact of climate change belong to Indigenous nations. Their land and waterways are threatened by pollutants and oil runoff.

In Minnesota, proposed pipeline Line 3 would cross more than 200 water ecosystems and tunnel under 20 rivers, including the Mississippi River—twice—the source of drinking water for millions of people. New Line 3 would threaten many pristine lakes, rivers and streams, including where wild rice grows, a foundation for the Objbwe people's traditional way of life and spiritual practices.

Winona LaDuke, Economist & Environmentalist, on behalf of Water Protectors:

> *"We have an inherent right to be on the very land which we belong!"*

Dave Archambault: The indigenous perspective on water: A source of life, not a resource

> *"Is it possible to run out of water on a planet whose surface is 71% water? The Earth has a way of recycling water, giving the impression that we will have enough water forever. However, when you observe the changes happening with our water supplies and climate, it is obvious that nothing is guaranteed. We must be mindful of how we sustain water."*

- **How does a threat to indigenous waterways and wetlands affect the entire country?**
- **How does our obligation and connection to indigenous water relate to national climate action?**

ACTION

- Learn from Dayenu how you can confront the climate crisis with "All Our Might"
- Donate supplies to Clean Wave (hair/fur/fleece donations for storm drain mats & river cleanups)