

Vaetchanan, Haftarah, July 29, 2023

Isaiah 40:1-26

(1) Comfort, oh comfort My people, Says your God. (2) Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, And declare to her That her term of service is over, That her iniquity is expiated; For she has received at the hand of GOD's hand Double for all her sins. (3) A voice rings out: "Clear in the desert A road for GOD! Level in the wilderness A highway for our God! (4) Let every valley be raised, Every hill and mount made low. Let the rugged ground become level And the ridges become a plain. (5) The Presence of GOD shall appear, And all flesh, as one, shall behold—For GOD has spoken." (6) A voice rings out: "Proclaim!" Another asks, "What shall I proclaim?" "All flesh is grass, All its goodness like flowers of

ישעיהו מ'א'-כ"ו

(א) נַחֲמוּ נַחֲמוּ עַמִּי יֹאמֶר
יְיָ הַיְיָכֶם: (ב) דַּבְּרוּ עַל־לֵב
יְרוּשָׁלַם וְקִרְאוּ אֵלֶיהָ כִּי מָלְאָה
צָבָאָהּ כִּי נִרְצָה עֲוֹנָהּ כִּי לָקַחְתָּהּ
מִיַּד יְהוָה כַּפְּלִים בְּכָל־חַטָּאתֶיהָ:
{ס} (ג) קוֹל קוֹרֵא בַּמִּדְבָּר פָּנּוּ דְרוֹד
יְהוָה יִשְׂרוּ בַּעֲרֹבָה מְסֻלָּה
לְאֵלֵהֶינוּ: (ד) כָּל־גֵּיא יִנְשָׂא
וְכָל־הָר וְגִבְעָה יִשְׁפְּלוּ וְהָיָה הָעֵקֶב
לְמִישׁוֹר וְהָרְכָסִים לְבִקְעָה: (ה)
וְנִגְלָה כְבוֹד יְהוָה וְרָאוּ כָל־בָּשָׂר
יַחְדָּו כִּי פִי יְהוָה דִּבֶּר: {פ} (ו) קוֹל
אֹמֵר קְרֵא וְאֹמֵר מָה אֶקְרָא
כָּל־הַבָּשָׂר חֲצִיר וְכָל־חֲסֵדוֹ כְּצִיץ
הַשָּׂדֶה: (ז) יִבֶּשׂ חֲצִיר נִבֵּל צִיץ כִּי
רוּחַ יְהוָה נִשְׁבָּה בּוֹ אֲכַנּוּ חֲצִיר
הָעֵם: (ח) יִבֶּשׂ חֲצִיר נִבֵּל צִיץ

the field: (7) Grass withers, flowers fade
 When the breath of GOD's breath blows on them. Indeed, people are but grass: (8) Grass withers, flowers fade—But the word of our God is always fulfilled!" (9) Ascend a lofty mountain, O herald of joy to Zion; Raise your voice with power, O herald of joy to Jerusalem—Raise it, have no fear; Announce to the cities of Judah: Behold your God! (10) Behold, my Sovereign GOD comes in might—Whose arm wins triumph; See, [God] has brought along the reward, The recompense is in view. (11) Like a shepherd who pastures the flock, [God] gathers up the lambs And carries them in the divine bosom, While gently driving the mother sheep. (12) Who measured the waters with a hand's hollow, And gauged the skies with a span, And meted earth's dust with a measure, And weighed the

וּדְבַר־אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְקוּם לְעוֹלָם: {ס} (ט)
 עַל הַר־גְּבוּהָ עָלִי־לָךְ מִבְּשָׂרָת צִיּוֹן
 הֲרִימִי בְכַח קוֹלְךָ מִבְּשָׂרָת
 יְרוּשָׁלַם הֲרִימִי אֶל־תִּירְאֵי אִמְרִי
 לְעַרְיִי יְהוּדָה הַגֵּה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם: (י)
 הַגֵּה אֲדָנִי יְהוָה בְּחֹזֶק יְבוֹא וּזְרַעוּ
 מִשָּׂלָה לֹו הַגֵּה שְׂכָרוֹ אֲתוֹ וּפְעֻלָּתוֹ
 לְפָנָיו: (יא) כְּרַעַה עֲדָרוֹ יִרְעָה
 בְּזֹרְעוֹ יִקְבֹץ טְלָאִים וּבְחִיקוֹ יִשָּׂא
 עֲלוֹת יְנֵהֶל: {ס} (יב) מִי־מִדָּד
 בְּשַׁעְלוֹ מַיִם וְשָׁמַיִם בְּזִרְתָּ תִכֹּן
 וְכֹל בְּשַׁלְשׁ עַפְרֵי הָאָרֶץ וְשִׁקְלָהּ
 בְּפָלְסֵי הָרִים וּגְבָעוֹת בְּמֵאזְנַיִם: (יג)
 מִי־תִכֹּן אֶת־רוּחַ יְהוָה וְאֵי־שׁ עֲצָתוֹ
 יוֹדִיעֵנוּ: (יד) אֶת־מִי נוֹעֵץ וַיְבַיְנֵהוּ
 וַיִּלְמְדֵהוּ בְּאֵרֶחַ מִשְׁפָּט וַיִּלְמְדֵהוּ
 לְדַעַת וְדָרָךְ תְּבוּנוֹת יוֹדִיעֵנוּ: (טו) הֵן
 גּוֹיִם כְּמַר מִדְּלִי וּכְשִׁחַק מֵאֲזַנַיִם
 נִחְשְׁבוּ הֵן אֵיִם כְּדָק יְטוֹל: (טז)
 וְלִבָּנוֹן אֵין דֵּי בָעַר וְחִיתוֹ אֵין דֵּי
 עוֹלָה: {פ} (יז) כָּל־הַגּוֹיִם כְּאֵין נִגְדוּ

mountains with a scale
 And the hills
 with a balance? (13) Who has
 plumbed the mind of GOD?
 Can anyone disclose God's plan? (14)
 Whom did [God] consult, and who
 bestowed understanding,
 Providing guidance in the way of right?
 Who guided [God] in knowledge
 And made known the path of wisdom?
 (15) The nations are but a drop in a
 bucket, Reckoned as dust on a
 balance; The very coastlands are
 lifted like motes. (16) Lebanon is
 not fuel enough, Nor its beasts
 enough for sacrifice. (17) All nations
 are as naught in God's sight, Who
 accounts them as less than nothing.
 (18) To whom, then, can you liken
 God, With what form can you make
 comparison? (19) The idol? A
 woodworker shaped it, And a smith
 overlaid it with gold, Forging links
 of silver. (20) As a gift, someone
 chooses the mulberry — A wood
 that does not rot — Then seeks a
 skillful woodworker To make a firm

מֵאֲפָס וְתָהוּ גִּחְשָׁבוֹ-לוֹ: (יח)
 וְאֶל-מִי תִדְמִיּוּן אֵל וּמֵה־דְמוּת
 תִּעְרְכוּ לוֹ: (יט) הַפֶּסֶל נִסְדָּךְ חָרָשׁ
 וְצִרְיָךְ בְּיָדֶיךָ יִרְקָעֵנוּ וּרְתִקוֹת כֶּסֶף
 צוּרְיָךְ: (כ) הַמֶּסְכָּן תְּרוּמָה עֵץ
 לֹא-יִרְקַב יִבְחַר חָרָשׁ חָכֵם
 יִבְקֹשׁ-לוֹ לְהַכִּין פֶּסֶל לֹא יִמוּט:
 {ס} (כא) הֲלוֹא תִדְעוּ הֲלוֹא
 תִּשְׁמְעוּ הֲלוֹא הִגִּד מֵרֵאשִׁית לְכֶם
 הֲלוֹא הִבְיַנּוּתֶם מוֹסְדוֹת הָאָרֶץ:
 (כב) הֲיִשָּׁב עַל-חֹג הָאָרֶץ וַיִּשְׁבֶּיהָ
 כַּחֲגָבִים הַנוֹטֶה כְּדוֹק שָׁמַיִם
 וַיִּמְתָּחֵם כָּאֶהָל לְשֶׁבֶת: (כג) הַנּוֹתָן
 רוֹזְנִים לְאֵין שְׁפִטֵי אֶרֶץ כִּתְהוּ
 עֲשֵׂה: (כד) אֵף בַּל-נֹטְעוּ אֵף
 בַּל-זֹרְעוּ אֵף בַּל-שָׂרֵשׁ בְּאֶרֶץ גִּזְעָם
 וְגַם-נִשְׂף בָּהֶם וַיִּכְשׁוּ וַיִּסְעָרָה כִּקְשׁ
 תִּשְׁאֵם: {ס} (כה) וְאֶל-מִי תִדְמִיּוּנִי
 וְאֲשׁוּהָ יֹאמֶר קָדוֹשׁ: (כו)
 שְׂאוּ-מָרוֹם עֵינֵיכֶם וּרְאוּ מִי-בָרָא
 אֱלֹהֵי הַמוֹצֵיא בְּמִסְפָּר צְבָאִם

idol, That will not topple. (21) Do you not know? Have you not heard? Have you not been told From the very first? Have you not discerned How the earth was founded? (22) It is [God] who is enthroned above the vault of the earth, So that its inhabitants seem as grasshoppers; Who spread out the skies like gauze, Stretched them out like a tent to dwell in— (23) Bringing potentates to naught, Making rulers of the earth as nothing. (24) Hardly are they planted, Hardly are they sown, Hardly has their stem Taken root in earth, When [God] blows upon them and they dry up, And the storm bears them off like straw. (25) To whom, then, can you liken Me, To whom can I be compared? —says the Holy One. (26) Lift high your eyes and see: Who created these? The One who sends out their host by count, Who calls them each by name: Given such great might

לְכֹלֵם בְּשֵׁם יְקֻרָא מְרַב אֲוִנִים
וְאֲמִיז פְּחַ אִישׁ לֹא נַעֲדָר: {ס}

and vast power, Not a single one
fails to appear.