

Vaetchanan, Haftarah, August 17, 2024

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 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
אֱלֹהֵיכֶם: (ב) דַּבְּרוּ עַל־לֵב
יְרוּשָׁלַם וְקִרְאוּ אֵלַיָּה כִּי מָלְאָהּ
צָבָאָהּ כִּי נִרְצָה עֲוֹנָהּ כִּי לָקַחְתָּהּ
מִיַּד יְהוָה כָּפְלִים בְּכָל־חַטָּאתֶיהָ:
{ס} (ג) קוֹל קוֹרֵא בַּמִּדְבָּר פָּנוּ דֶרֶךְ
יְהוָה יִשְׂרוּ בַּעֲרָבָה מְסֻלָּה
לְאֵלֵהֵינוּ: (ד) כָּל־גֵּיא יִנְשָׂא
וְכָל־הַר וְגִבְעָה יִשְׁפְּלוּ וְהָיָה הָעֵקֶב
לְמִישׁוֹר וְהָרְכָסִים לְבָקְעָה: (ה)
וְנִגְלָה כְבוֹד יְהוָה וְרָאוּ כָל־בֶּשֶׂר
יַחְדָּו כִּי פִי יְהוָה דִּבֶּר: {פ} (ו) קוֹל
אֹמֵר קְרֵא וְאֹמֵר מָה אֶקְרָא
כָּל־הַבֶּשֶׂר חֲצִיר וְכָל־חֲסֵדוֹ כְּצִיץ
הַשָּׂדֶה: (ז) יִבֶּשׂ חֲצִיר נִבְל־צִיץ כִּי
רוּחַ יְהוָה נִשְׁבָּה בּוֹ אֲכַנּוּ חֲצִיר
הָעֵם: (ח) יִבֶּשׂ חֲצִיר נִבְל צִיץ

the field: (7) Grass withers, flowers fade
 When 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 mountains with a scale And the hills

וּדְבַר־אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְקוּם לְעוֹלָם: {ס} (ט)
 עַל הַר־גְּבוּהָ עָלִי־לָךְ מִבְּשָׂרָת צִיּוֹן
 הֲרִימִי בַכַּח קוֹלְךָ מִבְּשָׂרָת
 יְרוּשָׁלַם הֲרִימִי אֶל־תִּירְאֵי אִמְרֵי
 לְעַרְיִי יְהוּדָה הִנֵּה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם: (י)
 הִנֵּה אֲדַנִּי יְהוָה בְּחֹזֶק יְבוֹא וְזָרְעוּ
 מִשָּׂלָה לּוֹ הִנֵּה שְׂכָרוֹ אִתּוֹ וּפְעֻלָּתוֹ
 לְפָנָיו: (יא) כָּרְעָה עֲדָרוֹ יִרְעָה
 בְּזָרְעוֹ יִקְבֹּץ טְלָאִים וּבְחִיקוֹ יִשָּׂא
 עֲלוֹת יְנֵהֶל: {ס} (יב) מִי־מִדָּד
 בְּשָׁעָלוֹ מַיִם וְשָׁמַיִם בְּיָדָת תִּתֵּן
 וְכֹל בְּשָׁלֵשׁ עֶפְרַר הָאָרֶץ וְשָׁקֶל
 בְּפָלֶס הָרִים וּגְבָעוֹת בְּמֵאזְנַיִם: (יג)
 מִי־תִכֵּן אֶת־רוּחַ יְהוָה וְאִישׁ עֲצָתוֹ
 יוֹדִיעֵנּוּ: (יד) אֶת־מִי נוֹעֵץ וַיְבַיְנֵהוּ
 וַיִּלְמְדֵהוּ בְּאַרְחַ מִשְׁפָּט וַיִּלְמְדֵהוּ
 לְדַעַת וְדָרָךְ תְּבוּנוֹת יוֹדִיעֵנּוּ: (טו) הֵן
 גּוֹיִם כְּמַר מִדְּלִי וּכְשֹׁחַק מֵאֲזַנַּיִם
 נִחְשָׁבוּ הֵן אֵיִם כְּדָק יִטּוֹל: (טז)
 וַיִּלְבְּנוּ אֵין דֵּי בְעֵר וְחִיתוֹ אֵין דֵּי
 עוֹלָה: {פ} (יז) כָּל־הַגּוֹיִם כְּאֵין נִגְדּוּ

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 idol, That will not topple. (21) Do

מֵאָפֶס וְתֵהוּ נִחְשְׁבוּ-לוֹ: (יח)
וְאֶל-מִי תִדְמִיּוּן אֵל וּמֵה-דְּמוּת
תִּעְרְכוּ לוֹ: (יט) הַפֶּסֶל נִסְדָּךְ חָרָשׁ
וְצִרְךָ בְּיָהֵב יִרְקַעְנוּ וּרְתִקוֹת כֶּסֶף
צוּרְךָ: (כ) הַמֶּסְכָּן תְּרוּמָה עֵץ
לֹא-יִרְקַב יִבְחַר חָרָשׁ חָכֵם
יִבְקֹשׁ-לוֹ לְהַכִּין פֶּסֶל לֹא יִמוּט:
{ס} (כא) הֲלוֹא תִדְעוּ הֲלוֹא
תִשְׁמְעוּ הֲלוֹא הִגֵּד מֵרֵאשִׁית לְכֶם
הֲלוֹא הִבְיַנְתֶּם מוֹסְדוֹת הָאָרֶץ:
(כב) הֵיטֵב עַל-חֹג הָאָרֶץ וַיִּשְׁבֶּיהָ
כַּחֲגָבִים הַנוֹטֶה כְּדֹק שָׁמַיִם
וַיִּמְתַּחֵם כָּאֶהָל לְשֹׁבֵת: (כג) הַנּוֹתָן
רוֹזְנִים לְאִין שְׁפִטֵי אֶרֶץ כִּתְהוּ
עָשָׂה: (כד) אֵף בַּל-נִטְעוּ אֵף
בַּל-זָרְעוּ אֵף בַּל-שָׂרַשׁ בָּאָרֶץ גִּזְעָם
וְגַם-נִשְׂף בָּהֶם וַיִּכְשׂוּ וּסְעָרָה כִּקְשׁ
תִּשְׁאַם: {ס} (כה) וְאֶל-מִי תִדְמִיּוּנִי
וְאִשׁוּהָ יֵאמֶר קָדוֹשׁ: (כו)
שְׂאוּ-מָרוֹם עֵינֵיכֶם וּרְאוּ מִי-בָרָא
אֵלֶּה הַמוֹצִיא בְּמִסְפָּר צְבָאִם

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 כְּחַ אִישׁ לֹא נַעֲדָר: {ס}

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