

THE THIRD SEDER

For decades, thousands of Workers Circle members gathered annually during or near Passover for a Third Seder (*Drite Seyder*). It was a grand event, featuring the full Workers Circle Chorus, a children's chorus from the Workers Circle New York City area *shuls* (schools), a Workers Circle orchestra, professional dancers and actors from the Yiddish stage, conducting a fully-staged gala Yiddish seder reflecting the Workers Circle's dedication to social justice and secular *Yiddishkayt*. Especially moving were the songs and recitations about the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, a revolt ignited on the first night of Passover on April 19, 1943. The evening always closed with everyone rising to sing the Partisan Hymn/*Zog Nit Keynmol* and a modern ballet enacting the traditional Passover song, *Khad Gadyo* (One Young Goat).



THE TEN PLAGUES: THEN AND NOW

Our celebration of freedom is tempered by our empathy for the Egyptians who endured ten horrific plagues in the divine campaign to secure our liberation from bondage. As we recite those ten plagues we drip a bit of wine for each plague, diminishing the sweet wine drop by drop. Let us read the plagues in English, Hebrew, and Yiddish together:

BLOOD

FROGS

LICE

WILD ANIMALS

PESTILENCE

BOILS

HAIL

LOCUSTS

DARKNESS

DEATH OF THE FIRST BORN

DAM

TS'FARDEYAH

KINIM

AROV

DEVER

SH'KHIN

BARAD

ARBEH

KHOSHEKH

MAKAT BEKHOROT

BLUT

ZHABES

LAYZ

VILDE

MAGEYFE

GESHVIRN

HOGL

HEYSHERIK

KHOYSHEKH

MAKES P'KHOYRES



Jewish culture for a just world



PASSOVER SUPPLEMENT

THE TEN PLAGUES: THEN AND NOW

In 2023, we also recite the plagues that threaten our freedom and democracy today. These plagues are the result of the concerted effort of lawmakers, judges, and political leaders who seek to reverse hard-won gains in freedom, equality, and justice. As we recite these modern plagues, we resolve to take action to reverse these evils and strengthen our democracy.

RACISM
VOTER SUPPRESSION
MONEY IN POLITICS
GENDER DISCRIMINATION
INHUMANE IMMIGRATION POLICIES
DENIAL OF REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM
RESTRICTIONS ON LABOR ORGANIZING
SUPPRESSION OF FREE SPEECH
AND EDUCATION
ANTISEMITISM
GUN VIOLENCE

*DER RASIZM
DERSHTIKN DOS SHTIMREKHT
DI ROLE FUN GELT IN POLITIK
DI MIN-DISKRIMINATSYE
DI UMMENTSHLEKHE IMIGRATSYE-POLITIKN
OPSHTELN DOS KINDLREKHT
BAGRENETSN DOS ARBETER-REKHT
DERSHTIKN REYD
UN BILDUNG
DER ANTISEMITIZM
DI GEVALD FUN GEVER*

Each of these plagues attacks our fundamental freedom and equality. Is there one plague that particularly resonates with you? Why? Take a moment to reflect and share with one another.

TAKE ACTION

Our tradition teaches us that while we are not obligated to complete the work of perfecting the world, neither are we free to desist from it.

What is one action you can commit to taking right now to combat one of these modern plagues? Not sure where to begin? Visit www.circle.org/demanddemocracy or www.circle.org/racialjustice for some ideas. Also consider forming a Democracy Circle and build community while taking action together at www.circle.org/democracycircles.