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**Chanukah:  
Celebrating in Darkness**  
**Rabbi Tali Adler**  
*Class of 2018*

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**Abstract**

It feels, this Hanukkah, like there is not enough light.

While the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer, it feels, sometimes, like hope is seeping away along with the daylight. There are moments when it feels like order is collapsing around us. There are days—or more accurately, perhaps, nights—when it feels the the world we thought we knew is devolving, leaving something unrecognizable in its stead. And in the midst of this feeling there are moments, perhaps, when the story of Hanukkah, the story of miraculous victory, of a tiny cask of oil that burns longer than it should, giving hope to a people, feels too far away.



*Rabbi Tali Adler serves as faculty for Hadar. She holds bachelors degrees in political science and Jewish studies from Stern College for Women, where she graduated summa cum laude and won an award for her senior theses for excellence in Jewish history. Rabbi Tali has studied in a number of Jewish settings, including Midreshet Harova, Drisha, and Hadar, and has worked as a Jewish educator at BBYO and the Jewish Journey Project. A Wexner Graduate Fellow, during her time at Maharat, Rabbi Tali served as the clergy intern at Kehilat Rayim Ahuvim and Harvard Hillel. Rabbi Tali lives in Washington Heights where she runs Kol B'Rama, a monthly partnership minyan.*