

## **Mi Chamocha Iyyun for Colleyville**

Friday, January 21, 2022

Cantor Danielle Rodnizki

Last week on *Shabbat Shira*,  
we celebrated our people's crossing the sea  
to freedom from slavery in Egypt.  
And on that same Shabbat,  
we watched in horror  
as the hostage situation in Colleyville, Texas unfolded –  
a modern, twisted retelling of our story.

Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker and his congregants  
were held captive by a gunman,  
a stubborn Pharaoh whose heart had been hardened.  
The rabbi and trained negotiators asked the assailant to  
“let my people go,”  
which he refused for 11 long hours.

And, finally, a miracle –  
the rabbi and his congregants escaped to freedom.  
Like Moses raising his staff,  
Rabbi Cytron-Walker threw a chair.  
Instead of walking through a parted sea,  
they ran through a fire door.

*Mi chamocha ba'eilim Adonai?*

“Who is like you, Adonai?

Who is like You,

majestic in holiness,

awesome in splendor,

working wonders?”