

High Holy Days 2020 - 5781

- YOUR GUIDE TO SERVICES AND PROGRAMS FOR THE 5781 HIGH HOLY DAYS 2020
- HOW TO REGISTER FOR ALL OF OUR SERVICES AND EVENTS
- SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES
- MESSAGES FROM YOUR RABBI, CANTOR, EDUCATOR & LEADERS

Selichot

Saturday, September 12th

Rosh HaShanah Day 2

Sunday, September 20th

Erev Rosh HaShanah

Friday, September 18th

Erev Yom Kippur

Sunday, September 27th

Rosh HaShanah Day 1

Saturday, September 19th

Yom Kippur

Monday, September 28th

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Rabbi's Message

Let's just say it: when we gathered together in our Sanctuary last September to welcome in the New Year 5780, we never could have imagined that, just six months later, the world would be engulfed in a pandemic and our lives would be transformed in inexplicable ways. All of synagogue life has moved online and the essential values of health, wellbeing and *pikuach nefesh* – the saving of life – have taken precedent over ritual matters and communal gatherings. And yet, while we cannot gather in community, we remain connected to community more than ever. We are a resilient and creative people who have abundant experience "pivoting" in response to adversity.

This is not the first time in Jewish history that we have had to transfer our sacred moments from the sanctuary to the home. Millennia ago, as Jewish life extended beyond the walls of Jerusalem, bonfires were lit from hilltop to hilltop, conveying timely notification of the New Moon and Festivals to the outlying Jewish communities. I am sure that seeing the signal fire on your local hilltop did not feel nearly the same as actually congregating at the Temple in Jerusalem to witness the eternal flame upon the Altar of God. But it was certainly a creative alternative that effectively served to spread the light, maintaining connections and provide meaning to far-flung Jewish communities.

Later, when the Second Temple was destroyed and Jews were dispersed throughout the world, once again Jewish life had to be reinvented. Prayer replaced sacrifice as the central form of Jewish worship and local *Batei Knesset* – synagogues – became the worship centres of every Jewish community. What we take for granted as the norm today, was then new and radical. Many did not like it. It wasn't what God intended. It wasn't what they were used to.

With time, sacrifice did give way to prayer, and extemporaneous prayer gave way to composed liturgy and fixed orders of prayer – *Siddurim*. Papyrus gave way to parchment, and parchment gave way to paper, which gave way to Visual T'filah – the slides we use on the screen in our Chapel. And now, to keep our community safe and healthy, for the High Holy Days of 5781, the Visual T'filah on our Chapel screen will become the Visual T'filah on your home computer or tablet, and we will adjust once again to the needs of our time, assuring that, despite the virus that keeps us apart, we can remain as a community Jewishly connected and engaged.

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Rabbi's Message

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These High Holy Days 5781 will be unlike anything we have experienced before. That is not a bad thing. We just need to be prepared. Within this High Holy Day Supplement and throughout the month of Elul we will offer a variety of suggestions about how you can remain connected and get the most out of this year's wide range of virtual services and programs. Try not to wallow in how this year's services, "won't be the same." Consider instead the new meaning and creative spirit this opportunity affords us as a community. In so many ways, the New Year of 5781 represents the fresh new start that we all badly need. Cantor Baruch and I look forward to welcoming this New Year with you online. From our home to yours, until we can gather together again, I wish you and your dear ones a *shana tova u'm'tukah* – a happy, healthy and sweet new year.

RABBI JORDAN COHEN



Cantor's Message

Ma nishtanah haShana hazeh mi kol haShanot? What makes this year different from all other years?

While usually reserved for *Pesach*, this question comes to mind as we prepare for our High Holy Days. Never before have we entered our Days of Awe with social isolation and physical distancing, health monitoring, quarantine and virus testing. It raises our consciousness and our compassion as fall approaches.

How will our Holy Days be the same as always to comfort us? How will we gather and support each other in the important process of *Teshuvah*, return? How will we inspire the next generation with innovations and creativity? How will we assure everyone can participate and be safe? We need our gatherings to be all these things.

From a Cantor's perspective our music provides much of the solution. The familiar and beloved melodies of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur are balms to the soul and reassurances for our memory. The challenge of this year is the inability to safely gather to sing. This will be a restriction in place for our foreseeable future. To bring the powerful music of High Holy Days this fall we are using technology to record our choir's individual voices and join them together. I've been amazed at the results. These recordings truly are unique and they are US, perhaps at our most resolute and finest!



CANTOR PAULA BARUCH

Director of Religious Education Message

Singing, Food, Dancing and Learning with Friends: these are the activities that make Holy Day services and learning at Temple Anshe Sholom fun, keep children excited to attend, and create lasting memories that become a piece of a child's Jewish Identity. This year we will continue to make family connections and explore Jewish learning in a virtual space, from the safety and comfort of our homes. I am especially excited about our new *Erev Rosh Hashanah* Prayers & Blessings and *Erev Yom Kippur* PJ's & Prayers, both for families with young children to prepare for the Holy Days together! After the holidays, I hope your children will continue to learn, celebrate and explore Judaism with us, when Religious School classes begin on September 30. Our students and teachers will be meeting in virtual classrooms to learn together and families will be provided with monthly learning packages (containing art materials, resources and fun surprises) to bring our classroom right into their homes. We will continue to welcome students to learn together on Shabbat mornings and Wednesday afternoons. This year has brought much uncertainty and many changes, but at Temple Anshe Sholom our engaging programs and style of learning will continue, though our space has changed. Our space has opened into our homes, engaging families together in learning, and bringing us closer together. I invite you to look for our Family programs on the Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur calendars and join in the programs together.

Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison

TAS Leadership Message

We look forward to welcoming you online during the High Holy Days 5781. In the midst of this unusual year, we have a full schedule of beautiful worship services, programs and events planned for all ages and interests. The tremendous amount of work, preparation and creativity that have gone into migrating our High Holy Day experience online has been outstanding and we are appreciative of the efforts of our clergy, staff and incredible volunteers. We encourage you to take part in as many of our offerings as you are able. Seeing your faces in our Virtual Sanctuary will be inspiring for us all. We also look forward to celebrating with you at our Virtual Gala on October 4th and at many Temple functions throughout the New Year.

Our Temple is facing many weighty issues. These are discussed in detail in the reports that accompany the Annual General Meeting. They can be found on the Temple website and we value your feedback.

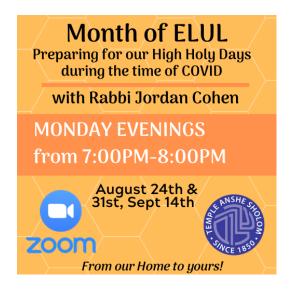
May 5781 be a year of health, happiness and prosperity for us all. May we be blessed with the time soon when we can once again share in the joy of congregation life together, in-person.

L'Shana Tovah,

Mark Levine & Yves Apel, *Co-Presidents*Marla Frank Davis & Haim Goldstein, *Vice Presidents*Liora Malka, *Treasurer* & Gillian Burman, *Secretary*Ginny Levine, Joshua Rauchwerger & Bill Shugar, *Members-at-Large*

Preparing for the High Holy Days

Study Opportunities in the Month of ELUL







Rabbi Cohen & Cantor Baruch are delighted to be on the organizing committee of this important and meaningful evening. **Reform Jewish** congregations and. clergy from across Canada are taking part in offering stimulating learning and a beautiful worship service. You will enjoy hearing the Shofar blown from coast to coast and a moving look inside all of our sanctuaries as the Torah covers are changed to white for the Days of Awe.



DSH HASHANAH





FRIDAY, SEPT 18TH FRIDAY, SEPT 18TH

5:15 PM TO 5:45 PM

YOFI FUN & FOOD - GET READY FOR DINNER TOGETHER WITH SHABBAT & ROSH HASHANAH **BLESSINGS!**



ROSH HASHANAH SEDER 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM



SATURDAY, SEPT 19TH

9:00 AM TO 9:30 AM

ROSH HASHANAH BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, SEPT 19TI ROSH HASHANAH FAMILY 9:30 AM TO 10:15 AM SERVICE

WITH EDUCATOR DORA-ANN

SATURDAY, SEPT 19TH SATURDAY, SEPT 19TH SATURDAY, SEPT 19TH SATURDAY, SEPT 19TH

10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

ROSH HASHANAH DAY 1 MORNING SERVICE

WITH RABBI COHEN & CANTOR BARUCH

12:00 PM TO 12:45 PM

TORAH SERVICE & D'VAR TORAH

COMMUNITY MEMBERS TAS CLERGY &

2:00 PM TO 2:45 PM

FROM THE LEFT SIDE OF THE READINGS & MEDITATIONS

WITH LAURA CATTARI

4:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

TASHLICH EXPERIENCE

VAN WAGNER'S BEACH. PLEASE WEAR A MASK AND OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING.

CLERGY ON SITE LEADING

Fridge friendly schedule!



ROSH HASHANAH

Worship, Learning, Community



SUNDAY, SEPT 20TH
0:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

MUSIC &
MEDITATION FOR
SECOND DAY ROSH
HASHANAH

WITH CANTOR BARUCH

SUNDAY, SEPT 20TH

4:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

'HEAR THE SHOFAR' DRIVE BY EVENT

ROSH HASHANAH GIFT BAGS FOR THE FIRST 100 CARS TAS 215 CLINE AVE NORTH HAMILTON, ONT L8S 4A1

Drive-by SHOFAR EVENT



https:// anshe sholom.ca

- For Links to Connect
- To Support our Efforts
 - To See More Details



Fridge friendly schedule!



YOM KIPPUR



Worship, Learning, Community

SUNDAY, SEPT 27TH

1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM

TAS CEMETERY VISIT

VISIT THE GRAVESTONE OF YOUR BELOVED FAMILY MEMBERS & FRIENDS

WITH CLERGY & SUPPORT

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH

SUNDAY, SEPT 27TH SUND

7:00 PM TO 7:30 PM

PJS & PRAYERS - A STORY & QUIET REFLECTION BEFORE BED FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



WITH EDUCATOR DORA -ANN

SUNDAY, SEPT 27TH

7:30 PM TO 8:30 PM

KOL NIDREI SERVICE WITH RABBI COHEN & CANTOR BARUCH

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH 9:00 AM TO 9:30 AM

YOGA TO STRETCH YOUR SOUL

WITH TASHA ROMM

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH | MONDAY, SEPT 28TH

12:00 PM TO 12:45 PM

10:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

TORAH SERVICE & DVAR TORAH

MORNING SERVICE

YOM KIPPUR

YOM KIPPUR FAMILY

SERVICE

9:30 AM TO 10:15 AM

WITH RABBI COHEN & CANTOR BARUCH & COMMUNITY MEMBERS

WITH RABBI COHEN &

CANTOR BARUCH

WITH EDUCATOR DORA-ANN

https:// anshe

For Links to Connect

sholom.ca

- To Support our Efforts
- To See More Details

Fridge friendly schedule!



YOM KIPPUR



Worship, Learning, Community

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH 1:00 PM TO 1:45 PM

RABBI'S YOM KIPPUR STUDY

WITH RABBI COHEN

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH

6:30 PM TO 7:30 PM

NEILAH SERVICE

WITH RABBI COHEN & CANTOR BARUCH

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH | MONDAY, SEPT 28TH

2:00 PM TO 2:45 PM

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM &

SHA'AREI BETH EL INVITE YOU TO

A MUSICAL HEALING SERVICE with RABBI NOAM KATZ

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH

8:00 PM TO 8:30 PM

BREAK THE FAST SHMOOZE

WITH RABBI COHEN & CANTOR BARUCH

MONDAY, SEPT 28TH

4:00 PM TO 5:00 PM

3:00 PM TO 3:45 PM

READING OF THE **BOOK OF JONAH**

YIZKOR SERVICE

ARNOLD ROSE 7"7 IN MEMORY OF

HOSTED BY ROY G. POLLINGTON

G'MAR

CHATIMAH

TOVAH

WITH RABBI COHEN & CANTOR BARUCH <u>https://</u>

sholom.ca anshe

- For Links to Connect
- To Support our Efforts
- To See More Details

Fridge friendly schedule!

PREPARING FOR AN UNPRECEDENTED HIGH HOLY DAYS

וְעָשׂוּ לִּי מִקְדָּשׁ וְשָׁכַנְתִּי בְּתוֹכָם Make me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them.

-Exodus 25:8

This year's High Holy Day experience will be unlike any other. Covid-19 has forced us to shut down our synagogue home and move synagogue life online. The *Aseret Yemei Teshuvah* – the Ten Days of Repentance – is familiar to all of us as something of a homecoming; the time when the community gathers in its fullest configuration to celebrate the New Year and engage collectively in the difficult work of atonement. The very language of repentance speaks of our unity and togetherness: *Al chet sh'chatanu l'fanecha* - "for the sin WE have committed against you". We rejoice in marking these most sacred of days together.

Alas, this year it is not safe for us to be physically together as a community at the Temple. None-the-less, as Jews we have learned from 2000 years of exile and six months of Shabbat and Festival services on Zoom, that adversity does not mean surrender. While these Days of Awe will, indeed, be different, moving from in-person services in our Sanctuary to online services in our homes provides us with great opportunities for creativity and spiritual meaning. All it takes is a little preparation for you to make your home into a *Mikdash Me'at* - a Small Sanctuary – to help maximize your home High Holy Day experience. Here are some suggestions to help you make the most of Anshe Sholom's online services and programs for the High Holy Days 5781:

1. Know What to Expect

This year's High Holy Day experience is going to be very different, not just because services will be online, but the format of all services and other programs will be reconfigured. This organizational paradigm is necessary to suit the new platform and avoid "Zoom Fatigue". All offerings will be packaged in one-hour blocks, with time for a break in between. "Services" will include only the key liturgical elements (prayers and music) while other elements (Torah service, sermons and other addresses) will be included in a separate block. This arrangement gives you more control over your own participation. It will, however, be helpful for you to understand what events will be presented in advance. You can **review the full schedule of offerings** now on the Temple Anshe Sholom web site and here in our High Holy Day Supplement.

You will also need to **prepare your technology**. Over the past months many of us have become familiar with Zoom on our preferred devices, while others have had little or no experience. Regardless of your level of expertise, it will help to consider elevating your experience for the High Holy Days, so that you are not

distracted by the technology at the time. How is my sound quality? What screen will I be watching? If you are using Zoom on a smaller screen (cell phone or tablet) you might want to learn how to connect the device to a TV or other larger screen so you can better see all that is going on. Also learn how to configure your Zoom controls and gallery on your screen. You can find online Zoom tutorials or contact the Temple for assistance. If you do not have online access at all, telephone access and other alternatives are also available. Contact the Temple for more information.

Consider, **who will be with you**? Prepare for the ease of access and comfort of all in your "bubble" who will be participating in the services together. It is probably not best to have the whole family huddled around the screen of a laptop. Will younger and older members of your household want to participate in different events at the same time? Prepare together as a family. And also consider who in your household will not be joining you? What can be done to respect each other's space and avoid interruptions?

2. Prepare Your Space

The Torah teaches us that sacred space does not just happen by itself: it takes thought, intention and advance planning. Therefore, **choose your prayer space well in advance** and spend some time setting it up for celebration and contemplation. Ask yourself: what space in my home can best support the High Holy Day experience I am hoping to have? Then set a *kavanna* - an intention - that frames that experience. **Organize the room and fill it with your** *Klei Kodesh* - ritual objects - that will support your specific worship experience: Kippot, Tallitot, Candles, Kiddush Cup and Wine, a round Challah, Apples and Honey, a Shofar, a Yizkor Candle and perhaps some flowers. Cover a table with a white tablecloth and consider adding some special photos or a few family treasures to enhance the space and create meaning.

When not in the presence of an Ark, in North America it is the tradition to face east when we pray – towards Jerusalem. In your designated prayer space, **identify east in advance and mark that direction for when you participate in services**. You can download numerous pictures of a *Mizrach* - a sign designating the direction of Jerusalem to post up on your eastern wall, or for a sense of your congregational home, you can download a photo of the High Holy Day banners from our TAS Sanctuary from our Temple web site.

And always remember: on Zoom we can see into your home. Enhance the space behind you as well as in front of you. You are part of our community sanctuary.

3. Be an Active Participant

Most things that take place on a screen are passive experiences. You don't have do much to enjoy a movie of a television show. Even Zoom meetings allow for a greater level of informality. But a meaningful worship experience, particularly a virtual one, demands a greater degree of focus and intention. Therefore, to get the most out of your online High Holy Day experience be an active participant.

<u>Get dressed up!</u> Consider how you want to dress for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. The clothes we choose can support the intentions we are setting and help sustain our efforts to make these Holy Days distinctive. And, of course, don your *kippah* and *tallit* as you would normally wear in the synagogue.

Be on time. Our Services and other programs are all going to be short and start on time. If you come in late, you will miss a lot. Better yet, log on well in advance to be ready when the service begins.

Bring your Machzor. Our Mishkan HaNefesh High Holy Day Prayer book is filled with beautiful readings and meditations that go well beyond what we will be able to share during our online services. Even though the prayers will be on the screen, just having the Machzor in your hand will connect you with High Holy Days past and provide you with a framework for personal reflection in the midst of communal prayer. And while it may feel awkward to pray at a computer screen, don't be afraid to make noise. Sing along with a beloved melody, join aloud with the communal readings and respond with Amen. Stand up and be seated at the appropriate times and engage in all the usual choreography of the service as you would in the Sanctuary.

And please consider leaving your cellphones and other devices turned off (or, even better, in another room) during services, to remove the temptation to check email or texts and other distractions.

4. Be Open to the Possibilities

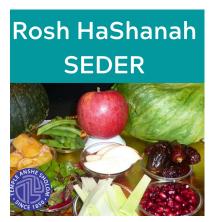
Health, safety and well-being are our highest priorities. While online High Holy Day services may not be what we want, it is the right thing for us to do this year. So, let's take advantage of these unusual circumstances to be creative and experience something new. Sitting in your home, alone or surrounded by family, with all of your familiar possessions about, remember, you are in a sacred space. You have created a *Mikdash Me'at*, a place set apart from the troubles of the world to be safe and embracing. A place where the haunting words of the *Unetaneh Tokef* about the fragility of life can take on a whole new meaning. A place for reflection on the trials of the year just ended and the challenges of the year ahead. This is a unique opportunity to understand and appreciate the messages of the Days of Awe in a way unlike ever before. We give thanks that, while we may deeply miss greeting one another with a New Year embrace, we are able to remain connected through the blessing of our online technology. From our sanctuary to yours, we welcome the divine into our homes, in fulfillment of the promise:

"In every place where My name is mentioned,
I will come to you and bless you."

(Exodus 20:21)

In your Mikdash Me'at, may you be blessed with a New Year of health and all good things.

Learn more about our NEW TRADITIONS



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

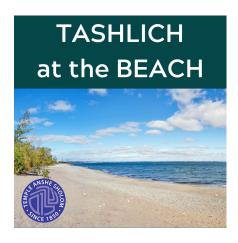
A new way to celebrate Erev Rosh HaShanah! Based on a Sephardic tradition, we invite you to connect with us online to join our tables together to celebrate the New Year. This short pre-dinner Seder will feature songs, meditations and special symbolic foods that symbolize the sweetness and blessings we yearn for in the coming year. Set your table for a celebration and bring your connected device for a wonderful Seder experience.

<u>REGISTER</u> and you will be sent instructions for preparing your Rosh HaShanah Seder Plate.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

TASHLICH is a symbolic act of ridding yourself of your worst behaviours and habits by tossing them into the sea. This year we are meeting at Van Wagner's Beach. You can park in Hutch's Restaurant parking lot and join our group (physically distanced with masks on) on the walking path. Rabbi Cohen & Cantor Baruch will be there to provide you with a talk about the purpose of this moving ritual and your own baggie of birdseed to cast out into the sea.

NO NEED TO REGISTER! Just show up with your family and please wear masks.





SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

One of the primary mitzvot of Rosh HaShanah is to hear the sound of the Shofar. Join us on the afternoon of Second Day Rosh HaShanah for a special, joyous and safe opportunity to Drive-by the Temple to hear the live Shofar stylings of Rabbi Cohen and Dr. Oren Levine, have your photo taken, and receive a special Rosh HaShanah Gift Bag. Decorate your vehicle, bring everyone in your bubble and join us for our exciting Rosh HaShanah convoy. Bring a canned or packaged good for the food bank so everyone can celebrate the New Year.

NO NEED TO REGISTER! Drive by Temple Anshe Sholom - 215 Cline Avenue North, Westdale - between 4:00 and 5:00 PM.

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM 5781 YEAR 2020



HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

This year, because of the COVID pandemic, we need your help and support more than ever. Please help to support our efforts to reach out and provide the services and programs that mean the world to the Jewish people. Your contribution allows us to practice of our values of offering worship, learning and community to all who want to join us.

Thank you for your generous caring and commitment!

CALL: 905-528-0121 ext 22