

HHD.I.Y TOGETHER

Making Days of Awe

As we enter Elul, the Hebrew month preceding Rosh Hashanah, we take this opportunity to think about what it means to sanctify time. In Judaism, each week we have a holy, set aside time, Shabbat, as well as festivals throughout the year. But holy (separate, distinct, special) time is not simply 'appointed'. It does not just happen. We have to create it.



CULTIVATING HOLY TIME

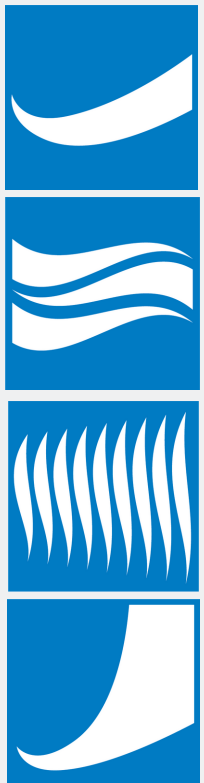
Leviticus 23:2-4, 24-25

דְּבַר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם מוֹעֲדֵי יְהוָה
אֲשֶׁר-תִּקְרְאוּ אֹתָם מִקְרָאֵי קֹדֶשׁ אֵלֶּה הֵם מוֹעֲדֵי: שֵׁשֶׁת
יָמִים תַּעֲשֶׂה מְלָאכָה וּבַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי שַׁבַּת שַׁבְּתוֹן
מִקְרָא-קֹדֶשׁ כָּל-מְלָאכָה לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ שַׁבַּת הוּא לַיהוָה בְּכָל
מוֹשְׁבֹתֵיכֶם: אֵלֶּה מוֹעֲדֵי יְהוָה מִקְרָאֵי קֹדֶשׁ אֲשֶׁר-תִּקְרְאוּ
אֹתָם בְּמוֹעֲדָם:

דְּבַר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר בְּחֹדֶשׁ הַשְּׁבִיעִי בְּאֶתֶד לְחֹדֶשׁ
יְהִי לָכֶם שַׁבְּתוֹן זְכוֹרוֹן תְּרוּעָה מִקְרָא-קֹדֶשׁ: כָּל-מְלָאכָת
עֲבֹדָה לֹא תַעֲשׂוּ וְהִקְרַבְתֶּם אִשָּׁה לַיהוָה:

Speak to the Israelite people and say to them: These are My fixed times, the fixed times of the Eternal, which you shall proclaim as holy occasions. On six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there shall be a shabbat of complete rest, a holy occasion. You shall do no work; it shall be a shabbat of the Eternal throughout your settlements. These are the set times of the Eternal, the holy occasions, which you shall celebrate each at its appointed time...

Speak to the Israelite people and say: In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall observe complete rest, a holy occasion commemorated with loud blasts. You shall not work at your occupations, and shall bring an offering by fire to the Eternal.



A Sanctuary in Time

By Abraham Joshua Heschel

Judaism is a religion of time aiming at the sanctification of time. Unlike the space-minded man to whom time is unvaried, iterative, homogeneous, to whom all hours are alike, quality-less, empty shells, the Bible senses the diversified character of time. There are no two hours alike. Every hour is unique and the only one given at the moment, exclusive and endlessly precious. Judaism teaches us to be attached to holiness in time, to be attached to sacred events, to learn how to consecrate sanctuaries that emerge from the magnificent stream of a year.

Read more at:

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/sabbat-as-a-sanctuary-in-time/>

QUESTIONS TO CONTEMPLATE

What does it mean to make time sacred?

How might you designate holy time in your life?

What would you do? Who would you spend it with?

What kinds of activities would be on or off limits?



ACTIVITIES TO DO AT HOME

Make an **Elul calendar** or plan. Use the readings in the High Holyday *machzor*, from page 3 onwards. Set a specific time to read a reflection, or take a moment to pause each day of Elul.

Download a shofar phone alarm ringtone:
for [iPhone](#)
for [Android](#)

Check out #BlogElul / #ElulGram on social media or [here](#)

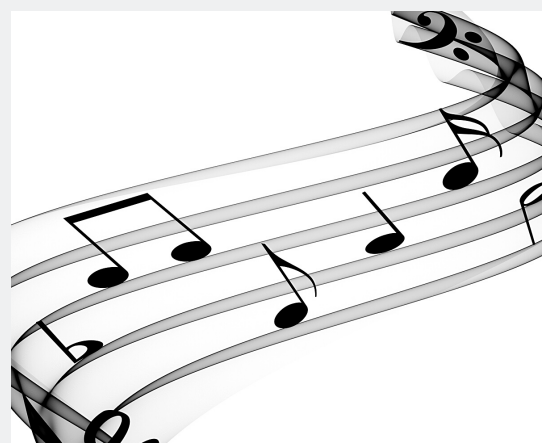


OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER

Sunday 23rd August, 11am
Clergy Coffee Connect:

Elul Launch Party

Join us on [Zoom](#) (Meeting ID: 815 8166 7310, Passcode: coffee) to begin the month of Elul together, and for an introduction to the upcoming resources and opportunities to prepare for the *chaggim*.



LISTEN TO THE CHOIR SINGING
"[ACHAT SHA'ALTI](#)" FROM
PSALM 27, THE PSALM FOR ELUL.