



THE
REALM
OF

Possibility

CONGREGATION EMANU EL
2023/5784

Welcome



DEAR FRIENDS,

As our community approaches the Days of Awe once again, we are entering into a stretch of sacred time which delivers a unique blend of gravity and joy. The High Holy Days present themselves as a realm of renewed possibility, a time to ready ourselves for spiritual renewal and revitalization.

Together, our clergy, staff, and lay leadership teams have worked tirelessly to prepare for this sacred season. We share a deep commitment to make Congregation Emanu El a secure, affirming, and welcoming place where our community will experience spiritual safety and plentiful opportunities for deep reflection. We are so excited to share with you this year's many offerings of prayer, study, and moral introspection.

We are eager to see you within the embrace of our spiritual home once again this year, and to share with you in this holy season's opportunities for inspiration and comfort. We hope that this booklet will be a helpful resource to you in exploring the many offerings of prayer, study, and song that Emanu El will be providing during this year's holidays.

I pray that 5784 will bring blessings of good health, peace and prosperity to our entire community as the new year approaches and we take our first steps together into new realms of exciting and inspiring possibility.

With every blessing to you and those you love,

Rabbi Oren Hayon, Rabbi Pamela Silk,
Rabbi Joshua Fixler & Cantor Rollin Simmons

General Information

ALL INFORMATION IN THIS BOOKLET CAN BE FOUND ONLINE BY VISITING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS SECTION ON OUR WEBSITE - EMANUELHOUSTON.ORG/HHDWORSHIP.

DIGITAL PASSES

Emanu El is excited to announce that we will be using digital passes for High Holy Day services this year. Each adult member of your household will receive one digital pass via email which may be used for all High Holy Day services. If only one member of your household has an email address, passes for all adults will be emailed to that address. You will receive an email from orders@simpletix.com which will be sent to the email address on file in your ShulCloud account in early September. You can print your pass at home or simply save it on your phone to be scanned when you arrive at the building for services. Passes can be saved to your Apple Wallet, Google Wallet, etc. Your name will be on your pass, and passes are NOT transferrable. As a reminder, you must be a member in good standing to receive High Holy Day passes.

As in previous years, members in good standing may request up to two passes for out-of-town guests. Please email jessiec@emanuelhouston.org with the name and email address of your guests so that they can receive the simpletix email with their guest pass.

We also welcome members of the community who have moved to Houston since last High Holy Days. Please ask them to contact Anna Shabtay at 713.529.5771, ext. 261 or annas@emanuelhouston.org to arrange for newcomer passes.

As always, finances are never a barrier to membership at Emanu El, and guest pass options are also available for non-members. If you would like more information about these options, contact Fredi Bleeker Franks at 713.529.5771, ext. 221 or fredif@emanuelhouston.org.

PARKING/ENTRY

Please remember to bring **your cell phones or your printed digital passes!** Only individuals with High Holy Days passes will be permitted entry to the Emanu El campus. Parking on Floors 1 and 2 of the Gaylor Parking Facility will be reserved for handicap-accessible use. The West Lot is reserved for Rabbi's Circle members with a required special pass. Because there is limited garage parking, we encourage you to park off-site. Buses will run continually between satellite parking and Emanu El.

Parking for Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre will be at the Medical Clinic of Houston at 1707 Sunset Blvd. The parking garage entrance is located on Rice Blvd. On Yom Kippur day, parking will be available at Rice University.

For those attending our Tashlich service, parking is available at Bill Coats Bridge. New this year - there will be a bus available for those who wish to attend but not park at the bridge. A map of Bill Coats Bridge and available parking can be found on our website.



UBER TO EMANU EL FOR SERVICES

Emanu El is subsidizing Uber by \$5 on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for worshippers who live within 25 miles of the synagogue.

Links to access the vouchers are available on our website.

CHILDCARE

Childcare for children ages 15 months to 8 years is available during Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur morning services. Advance registration is required. Registration and deadline dates are available on our website.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Our goal is to make your experience as easy as possible in connecting with us during these High Holy Days. Members of the synagogue staff will be available during weekday business hours in addition to during our High Holy Day worship services to provide assistance to our congregants.

Please call 713.529.5771 for support.



ACCESSIBILITY

For wheelchair or disability accessibility, please contact Christian Simmons at 713.529.5771, ext. 262 or christians@emanuhouston.org.

The only reserved seats during the High Holy Days are for those that request this access ahead of time. When contacting Christian, please include the services you plan to attend. Those requesting accessible seating may be granted a maximum of four additional seats for family members. Please note this seating will be released 15 minutes prior to the beginning of services.

The deadline for Rosh HaShanah is Wednesday, September 6, and Yom Kippur is Wednesday, September 13.

LIVE STREAMING

You can watch all High Holy Day services live-streamed four ways:

1. Emanu El website: emanuhouston.org
2. Facebook: facebook.com/emanuhouston
3. Roku: Congregation Emanu El Houston channel
4. YouTube: youtube.com/emanuhoustonvideo

PUBLIC ACCESS TV

Streamed services will also be available on Access TV. Please check our website for details.

HEARING LOOP

The Barish Sanctuary is equipped with an Induction Loop System which transmits audio signals directly to one's telecoil (T-coil)-equipped hearing aid.

CLOSED CAPTIONING

To ensure everyone can enjoy and participate in our beautiful High Holy Day services, Emanu El will be providing closed captioning for all Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur services in the Barish Sanctuary except for the children's services.

For those watching remotely, we intend to use the StreamText platform. Visit our website to access the link.

HUNGER FUND

Last year, your generosity allowed us to contribute \$5,000 each to the Emergency Aid Coalition, Second Servings, the Houston Food Bank and Meals on Wheels. Congregation Emanu El's longstanding commitment to fighting hunger is made possible year after year by our congregants' generous contributions to the High Holy Day Hunger Appeal. Donations will support emergency food needs in the Houston area, our partners in the community helping to fight hunger and our ongoing service projects with Kids' Meals and SEARCH. More than 1 million people in the greater Houston area are food insecure and 1 in 4 kids in our area are hungry every day. Please consider joining our collective efforts to help battle hunger by making a contribution to the High Holy Day Hunger Appeal at emanuhouston.org/hhdhungerappeal or by sending a check in the enclosed envelope.

High Holy Days Services and Special Events

SELICHOT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 9:00 P.M.

ROSH HASHANAH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Kick-Off Reception, 5:00 P.M.

Rosh HaShanah Unplugged, 6:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Children's Service, 9:00 A.M.

Morning Service, 10:30 A.M.

TASHLICH (Bill Coats Bridge)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

following the Rosh HaShanah morning service

OUTDOOR FAMILY EXPERIENCE (Nature Discovery Center)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 9:00 A.M.

CEMETERY SERVICE (Emanu El Memorial Park)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 5:00 P.M.

SHABBAT SHUVAH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 6:00 P.M.

YOM KIPPUR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Kol Nidre Service, 7:30 P.M.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Children's Service, 9:00 A.M.

Morning Service, 10:30 A.M.

Afternoon Experience, 12:30 P.M. – 3:20 P.M.

Healing & Wholeness, 3:30 P.M.

Yizkor & N'ilah, 4:30 P.M.

Break the Fast, 6:30 P.M.

High Holy Days

SELICHOT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

SERVICE | 9:00 P.M.

We begin the season of repentance with the observance of Selichot. Each year we gather on the Saturday evening before Rosh HaShanah to reflect on the past year and the changes we wish to make in the upcoming one. This moving service features intimate and quiet reflection, and culminates with the changing of our Torah scrolls into their special white holiday mantles.

ROSH HASHANAH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

HIGH HOLY DAYS KICK-OFF RECEPTION | 5:00 P.M.

Gather with friends and loved ones before services to celebrate the new year together over refreshments and hors d'oeuvres.

ROSH HASHANAH UNPLUGGED | 6:00 P.M.

SERMON BY RABBI OREN HAYON

This innovative service features a joyful, creative, contemporary prayer experience, suitable for all ages, with unique musical additions to encourage singing and participation.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

CHILDREN'S SERVICE | 9:00 A.M.

Designed for children 8 and under and their families, this lively and fun service highlights the themes and rituals of the holiday.

MORNING SERVICE | 10:30 A.M.

SERMON BY RABBI JOSHUA FIXLER

This intergenerational service combines familiar music and prayers with beautiful liturgical writing and stirring poetry. You will also experience an inspiring and engaging collection of music enhanced by our professional choir and organ.

3rd through 5th grade students are invited to pray with their parents for the first half of the service, then they will be led by our Helfman Religious School staff into their own separate High Holy Days celebration with fun and engaging activities. Pre-registration required: emanuelhouston.org/hhdyouth.

TASHLICH

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OUR MORNING SERVICE
BILL COATS BRIDGE AT HERMANN PARK**

We set aside some time as Rosh HaShanah concludes to gather and symbolically cast our sins into the water while singing and reflecting together. Parking information for Tashlich is available online under High Holy Days.

OUTDOOR HIGH HOLY DAYS FAMILY EXPERIENCE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 | 9:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER, 7112 NEWCASTLE

To complement our High Holy Days Children's Services, families with children in 2nd grade or younger are invited to join Emanu El clergy and staff for an in-person outdoor experience featuring a PJ Library Story Walk™.

We will be gathering at the Nature Discovery Center in Bellaire for this very special event. Arrive at your convenience to enjoy a guided walk with activities, an apples and honey snack, and more! This program is free of charge and open to the community; however, space is limited and advance registration required at emanuelhouston.org/hhdworship.

CEMETERY SERVICE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 | 5:00 P.M.

**EMANU EL MEMORIAL PARK, 8431 BISSONNET ST
MEMORIAL SERMON BY RABBI OREN HAYON**

We invite all to join together in the beautiful, serene surroundings of Emanu El Memorial Park to remember our dear ones during the High Holy Days season.

SHABBAT SHUVAH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 6:00 P.M.

Hear a message of inspiration to deepen your spiritual and moral explorations on this very special Shabbat between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. This year we are pleased to invite Steven J. Frank, MD to share some personal reflections. Dr. Frank is an endowed tenured professor of Radiation Oncology and holds the Bessie McGoldrick Professorship in Clinical Research at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. He and his family are deeply devoted to Jewish life and Jewish learning. He will reflect on the Jewish values that have motivated him during his time in the military, and through his work as a highly respected cancer researcher.

YOM KIPPUR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

KOL NIDRE SERVICE | 7:30 P.M.
SERMON BY RABBI OREN HAYON

This service, on the holiest night of the year, will feature the contemplative prayers and stirring music unique to this holiday. They will be accompanied by Ann Frohbieter on organ and our professional choir and include the poignant setting of Kol Nidre played by Brinton Smith, Principal Cellist of the Houston Symphony.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

CHILDREN'S SERVICE | 9:00 A.M.

Designed for children 8 and under and their families, this service offers engaging music, prayers and stories that will encourage families to reflect on how we can be our best selves.

MORNING SERVICE | 10:30 A.M.
SERMON BY RABBI PAMELA SILK

This service will be led by our clergy, accompanied by Ann Frohbieter on organ and our professional choir. Through stirring music and meaningful prayer, we will reflect on the themes of repentance and forgiveness. 3rd through 5th grade students are invited to pray with their parents for the first half of the service, then they will be led to a unique, age-appropriate Torah experience facilitated by our teen leaders and Helfman staff. Pre-registration is required and available at emanuelhouston.org/hhdyouth.

AFTERNOON EXPERIENCE
12:30 P.M. — 1:20 P.M.

THE APOLOGY VARIETY HOUR
BARISH SANCTUARY

How do we find the words to say *sorry*? How do we find the strength to forgive and let go? We will explore the themes of apology and repair through diverse offerings of music, theater, and art. We will explore ancient texts and modern media to shed new light on the themes of this holy day.

BLOCK 1: 1:30 PM — 2:30 P.M.
BACK IN TIME: CAPTURING MEMORY WITH
COLLAGE AND DRAWING

ELLEN ORSECK AND CANTOR SIMMONS |
OSHMAN MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Using collage materials congregants may explore memories of their childhood holiday celebrations or their family gatherings. Houston-based artist Ellen Orseck will lead participants through the process of drawing, collaging and developing opaque as well as translucent elements in their collage works.

LIFE LESSONS FROM GENERATION
TO GENERATION: THE GIFTS OF AN
ETHICAL WILL

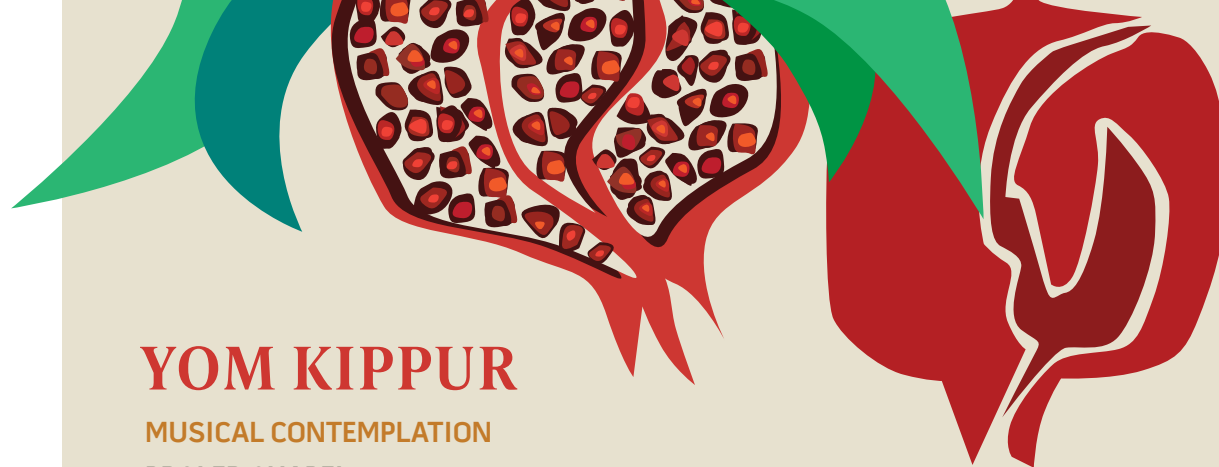
RABBI SILK | STILLMAN-LACK LIBRARY

Spend a bit of Yom Kippur afternoon reflecting on what's most important in your life and consider ways to convey those things to the next generation. In this afternoon session we will learn about ethical wills, explore examples, and have the opportunity to begin crafting our own expressions of our values, achievements, blessings, life lessons, hopes and dreams.

JOINING THE CONVERSATION: EXPANDING
THE REALM OF POSSIBILITY IN JEWISH
TEXT STUDY

STEFANI CARLSON | BOARD ROOM

For more than two millennia, Jews have studied Torah in community, generating lively debates in our search for meaning and relevance. Our texts record these discussions, in a literary tradition that transcends time and space to link thousands of voices into one great conversation. Midrash, a Hebrew word meaning "searching out and exploring sacred scripture," is not just a body of writings, but a creative process that is continually ongoing. Come build connections to our texts and each other as we trace the thread of conversation around one of today's Torah readings.



YOM KIPPUR

MUSICAL CONTEMPLATION

PROLER CHAPEL

A string quartet of Shepherd School musicians will create space for personal contemplation and meditation on the themes of the holiday.

BLOCK 2 2:30 P.M. — 3:20 P.M.
SOCIAL JUSTICE SHOWCASE:
REPAIRING OUR WORLD

RABBI FIXLER | OSHMAN MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

Learn from leaders representing some of our congregation's incredible social justice projects. Hear about our work at a state and local level on healthcare equality, diversity and belonging, civic engagement, and hunger/homelessness. Join the conversation and discover ways that you can lend your own voice to this important work in this new year of 5784.

MEDITATION

ANN FRIEDMAN | BOARD ROOM

Experience a guided journey of mindfulness, utilizing the themes of the Days of Awe.

YOM KIPPUR, THEN AND NOW

RABBI WALTER | PROLER CHAPEL



QUIET SPACE

STILLMAN-LACK LIBRARY

HEALING & WHOLENESS | 3:30 P.M.

CANTOR ROLLIN SIMMONS
& RABBI PAMELA SILK

Find restoration and strength through poetry, song and prayer.

YIZKOR & N'ILAH | 4:30 P.M.

We will bring our holidays to a close with an opportunity to honor and remember our dear ones, the sweetness of Havdalah, and the separation between the penitential season and the promising new year ahead.

BREAK THE FAST | 6:30 P.M.





Congregation Emanu El

emanuelhouston.org/hhdworship
713.529.5771