

Beth Hillel Temple
ANNOUNCEMENTS 5781
September 2020

**L'SHANAH TOVAH TIKATEYVU. MAY YOU BE INSCRIBED FOR A GOOD YEAR
IN GOD'S BOOK OF LIFE!**



HIGH HOLY DAYS- ONLINE- AT BETH HILLEL
Everything you need to know is right here!

BHT leadership, volunteers and staff have been working hard and putting tremendous energy and resources into making our online holiday experience special, accessible and meaningful. We have hired Rabbi Sarah Rosenbaum Jones as a production assistant to assist cantorial soloist Orit Perlman and Rabbi Feingold with the online services



Rabbi Sarah will also lead our Family Services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur!

NEW SCHEDULE! PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF NEW TIMES IN BOLD FOR ALL EVENING SERVICES, FAMILY SERVICES, AND YIZKOR!

(Because our soloist, Orit Perlman, is staying in Israel, some of the services will be pre-recorded and shown on YouTube and some will be live on Zoom and Facebook. Links have been sent to you via email for all services. If you do not have them, please contact Philipp in the BHT office.)

ROSH HASHANAH INFORMATION

Erev Rosh Hashanah -Friday, Sep 18 **RECORDED: 7:30 - 8:30pm** with LIVE Reception following
Rosh Hashanah-Saturday, Sep 19

- *Shacharit (Morning Service) **LIVE: 10am- 12pm**; two 45-minute segments with intermission
- ***Tashlich on your own in afternoon.** (Readings are provided below! No BHT community Tashlich due to COVID restrictions.)
- ***Family Rosh Hashanah LIVE: 4:30pm**

YOM KIPPUR INFORMATION

Kol Nidre -Sunday, Sep 27 **RECORDED: 7:30-8:30pm**

Yom Kippur Monday, Sep 28:

- *Shacharit (Morning Service) **LIVE 10am-12pm**; two 45-minute segments with intermission
- ***Yizkor Memorial Service 12:30pm- 1:15pm LIVE**
- *Afternoon Sessions **LIVE: 1:30pm; 2:30pm** (3 choices per time slot, 45 minutes each- break out rooms)
- *Mincha Service **LIVE 3:30- 4:30pm**
- ***Family Service LIVE 4:30-5:15pm**
- *Ne'ilah Concluding Service **RECORDED: 5:30pm**
- *Break-Fast gathering **LIVE 6:30pm**

Sukkot and Simchat Torah

Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be able to observe these holidays as a community this year. We suggest:

Build your own Sukkah. Numerous do-it-yourself kits are available for purchase online. Many can be done without any tools. Or design your own; be creative. Basics instructions can be found at [myjewishlearning.com-how to build a sukkah](http://myjewishlearning.com-how-to-build-a-sukkah). Decorate it in your own style. Cornstalks or branches from your yard can be used for the top. Or buy "schach" for the top online. Sukkot is, in essence, a home custom, perfect for a year when staying at home is the safest place for us to be!

Erev Sukkot/Shabbat Family Services, Friday, October 2 5:45pm. Rabbi Feingold will lead services **LIVE** in Zoom from her home Sukkah.

Erev Simchat Torah/Shabbat Family Services, Friday, October 9, 5:45pm. We will roll out the Torah (in the form of those adorable mini Torahs our kids have at home!) and read the end and the beginning as we begin the cycle all over again! Details to follow.

As always, we thank Weinstein-Piser Funeral Home of Skokie for supplying Jewish calendars for 5781.

Yom Kippur Afternoon Sessions 5781/2020

Log in to the link sent to you for this program (link will be resent in eNews before Yom Kippur) to be placed in the appropriate breakout room for the session you choose. Each session is 45 minutes. You may log in at 1:30 or 2:30 or both.

1:30 Sessions:

Session #1 **Our Path of Choice: Uvacharta ba'Hayim (Yom Kippur guided meditation)**- with *Orit Perlman*

A session of introspection and meditation as we explore the layers of truth that reside within us. How can we deepen the path of choosing our best selves for this life. Please bring a paper and writing utensil, a comfortable chair or pillow.

Session #2 **Racial Justice and Anti-Racism : "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."** (James Baldwin)- with *Robin Kreines and Annie Sepanski from the BHT Social Action Committee*

Join us for an educational session that kicks off our social action committee's year-long focus on racial justice. This session includes a self-reflection portion, where we examine our own implicit biases, and provides context for beginning to understand structural racism.

Session #3: **Who Chooses Who? A Conversation about Conversion** -with *Laura French*

What does it mean to convert to Judaism? What advice would you give someone considering the choice? What's the hardest thing to learn from the outside in? Laura's conversion narrative, "My People," is available as pdf. email laurafrench113@gmail.com. Reading is not required, but Laura welcomes your questions and comments.

2:30 Sessions:

Session #1 **The Abraham Accords and the Hope for Peace**- with *Ben Goldstein*.

One piece of amazing good news this summer was the peace deal between Israel and the United Arab Emirates. Join in a discussion on the meaning of this momentous accord for Israel and for peace in the whole region, using an article by Israeli writer Yossi Klein Halevi as jumping off point.

Session #2 **Choosing Life Amidst Swirling Uncertainty** -with *Dr. Mimi Snyderman Platt*

A Discussion of Science, Humanity, and Faith during Pandemic(s)

Session #3 **A Holocaust Model for Finding Wholeness in the Face of Adversity**-with *Rabbi Feingold*

Etty Hillesum is one of the martyrs of the Holocaust whose story we will read on Yom Kippur afternoon. She kept diaries that show her continuing passion for life even as she was interned in Nazi camps. We will study her writings for inspiration and hope for our own wholeness as we face a new year.

Here are some suggestions of how you might prepare yourself and your home environment to welcome a New Year:

- Prepare a special space to watch the services. Put out a special table cloth where you will be watching; bring fresh flowers to adorn the space; surround yourself with Jewish ritual objects or art.
- Show services on the TV screen by screen sharing, if possible.
- Dress up for the holiday, as if you were coming to Temple. It will feel much more like the Yamim Nora'im, the Days of Awe, if you are not sitting in sweats or a T-shirt! Bring your tallit and kippah, if you have them.
- Purchase or borrow from the Temple the special High Holy Day prayerbook, [the two-volume Machzor from CCAR Press](#). (Also available as Kindle eBook.)
- Light your own candles when the prayer is recited in the service, if you have not done so already. (Order candles online ahead of time, if you need them.) Have a glass of wine or juice ready for Rosh Hashanah Kiddush and a Havdalah set (or a glass of wine, spices and any candle) for the end of Yom Kippur.
- For the Yizkor Memorial service on Yom Kippur, light a yahrzeit candle (again, purchase online ahead of time if needed) and surround yourself with photos of those you are remembering.

A Personal Tashlich

1 Look for a natural body of water that you can access easily. *Tashlich* requires that you cast your sins into a body of water like a river, spring, lake, pond, or well. Most people prefer natural, flowing bodies of water because it gives the effect of your sins being swept away by the current.

2 Opt for a body of water that has fish living in it if you can. Fish are extremely symbolic for the practice of *Tashlich* for a number of reasons. Most importantly, fish can sometimes be unintentionally caught in nets, which symbolizes the tendency of humans to unknowingly get caught in bad situations.

3 Try performing Tashlich on Rosh Hashanah. *Tashlich* is supposed to be performed on the first or second day of *Rosh Hashanah*. If, however, you're unable to perform the ceremony on *Rosh Hashanah*, *Tashlich* can be done any day during the Days of Awe until *Yom Kippur*.

4 Examine what you've struggled with in the past year before doing Tashlich.

5 Read the passages of Tashlich. The source passage for *Tashlich* comes from the last verses of the prophet Micah (7:18-20). These verses tell why we practice *Tashlich* and will guide your own practice.

Who is a God like You, Forgiving iniquity and remitting transgression; Who has not maintained wrath forever against the remnant of God's own people, Because God loves graciousness, God will take us back in love; God will cover up our iniquities, You will hurl all our sins Into the depths of the sea. You will keep faith with Jacob, loyalty to Abraham, as You promised on oath.

7 Collect your "sins" in your pockets. It can be helpful to visualize the sins being washed away. You can use small stones or pieces of bread.

8 Sing, if you wish:

- **Eili, Eili:** *Eili, Eili shelo yigameri l'olam. Hachol v'hayam, rishrush shel hamayim, b'rak hashamayim, t'filat ha-adam.*
- **Hashiveinu:** *Hashiveinu, hashiveinu adonai eilecha v'nashuvah, v'nashuvah. Chadeish, chadeish yameinu k'kedem.*
- **Avinu Malkeinu:** *Avinu malkeinu, choneinu va-aneinu ki ein banu ma-asim. Asei imanu tzedakah vachessed v'hoshi-einu.*

9 Cast your sins into the body of water. After your prayer, reach into your pockets and grab the metaphorical sins, and throw them into the water. When you let go of them, breathe out and watch them wash away. Only do this when you feel ready. It might take you longer than some other people to prepare for this moment, but don't feel rushed.