

BETH ISRAEL  
CONGREGATION

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Write to Beth Israel at  
bethisrael@bethisrael-om.org  
or call 410-654-0800 for more  
information.



# HIGH HOLIDAYS LIKE NEVER BEFORE *at Beth Israel* BIOMLIVE.ORG

**JOIN US FOR THE DAYS OF AWE-SOME AND WONDER**  
We have been thinking “outside the building” to create meaningful opportunities for prayer, reflection, learning and listening from home.



*Our High Holiday website, BIOMLIVE.org, has been designed specifically for Beth Israel and our friends as we usher in 5781.*

*Look inside* to learn more about our High Holiday offerings. In addition to services tailored for virtual access, you’ll find learning opportunities for all ages, family experiences, a virtual lobby, a High Holiday music playlist, and more. Get started and discover all that Beth Israel has for you during this year’s Days of Awe-some and Wonder.



EACH ITEM IN THIS GUIDE IS CODED WITH ONE OF THESE ICONS.  
The same icons are on BIOMLIVE.org to make navigating our new website as easy as possible.

# Getting Ready for the High Holidays



## Socially Distanced, Spiritually Connected:

### *A Community-Wide Elul Experience*

As we prepare for Rosh Hashanah, synagogues and other Jewish institutions in Greater Baltimore have joined together to create a calendar of daily learning sessions during the month of Elul (August 20 - September 18). Start each day at 8:00 a.m. with Jewish learning on a host of topics related to self-reflection, prayer, and connecting with God. Enjoy a brief Havdalah service with different clergy in the community on Saturday evenings.

Register at [associated.org/elulexperience](http://associated.org/elulexperience)



## Selihot Services

Saturday, September 12 | 7:35 p.m.

Join our clergy on zoom for an evening of services



and memorial plaque dedication. Afterwards, join Selihot Live (8:30 p.m.-2:30 a.m.), the Conservative Movement's night of Selihot

presentations and learning with clergy from across the nation. Pre-registration is required at [cjselichot.org/register.z](http://cjselichot.org/register.z)



## Round Challah Braiding Class

Wednesday, September 16 | 6:45 p.m.

It is customary at this time of the year to eat round challah, which symbolizes the continuity of our year and of the seasons. Join Rabbi Ariel Platt and her mother, Saralee Greenberg, to braid a round challah. Please prepare your dough beforehand. For an ingredients list and instructions on dough preparation, visit [BethIsrael-OM.org/challah-making](http://BethIsrael-OM.org/challah-making).



## Mahzorim

(HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYERBOOKS)

### *Pick-up from the Synagogue Office*

We encourage our congregants to obtain mahzorim from the synagogue for home use. If you have not requested mahzorim through Curbside Pick-up, visit the office at one of the following times:

M-T-W, Sept 14-16, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Wed Sept 16, 6:00-8:00 p.m.



**PLEASE NOTE:** All congregants who borrow physical High Holiday prayer books are asked to please return them to the synagogue by October 5. After that date, your Beth Israel account will be charged \$36 per mahzor borrowed; accounts will be credited when they are returned.

### *Obtain a Digital Mahzor*

We have also purchased licenses to the digital edition of Mahzor Lev Shalem. See [BIOMLIVE.org](http://BIOMLIVE.org) for access instructions.



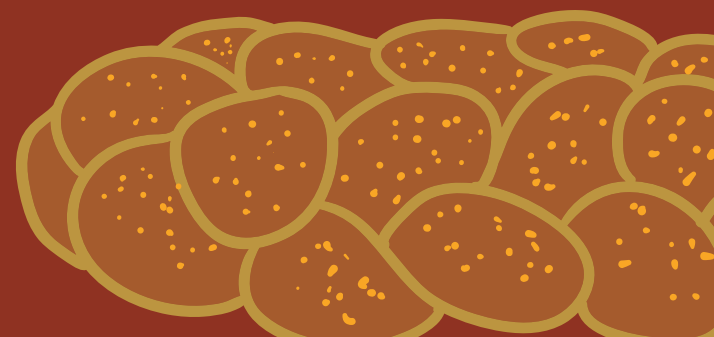
## Curbside Pick-up of High Holiday Items

Thursday, September 17 | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 18 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**BY RESERVATION ONLY**

Pick up your order in Beth Israel's parking lot at your selected time window. Thank you for your support of Beth Israel's Schools, Sisterhood and Brotherhood! A copy of the 5781 Yizkor Book will be included in your order for those who have listings in this year's edition.



# High Holiday Food Drive



This year, we are delighted that we will have an opportunity to donate food to a wonderful organization which has truly made its mark in our local community. Founded in 2015, Weekend Backpacks for Homeless Kids now serves children at 27 different schools in Baltimore City.



The following foods have been requested and can be dropped off in the Beth Israel coatroom during office hours. Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- Canned pasta of any flavor
- Canned beans of any type
- Canned vegetables of all types
- Boxes of Instant oatmeal packets
- Boxes of breakfast bars or cereal bars
- Cans of tuna fish or chicken
- Canned soups: Tomato, Vegetable, Chicken Noodle, Chicken Rice
- Canned chili
- Peanut butter

All food must be unopened and unexpired. The drive ends on September 30.

**No items requiring refrigeration can be accepted.**



## WEEKEND BACKPACKS

Hunger doesn't take the weekend off

# Erev Rosh Hashanah



## Erev Rosh Hashanah Tailgate Service & BYO Picnic

Friday, September 18 | 6:00 p.m.

(Weather permitting)

PLEASE ARRIVE BETWEEN 5:30 – 5:45 P.M.

Join friends in the lower parking lot and enjoy a late summer service outside while the weather is still warm. Afterwards, stay and eat dinner safely by bringing your own picnic. Wish friends a Shanah Tovah in person! Reservations required by September 16 at [tinyurl.com/ErevRoshHashanahTailgate](http://tinyurl.com/ErevRoshHashanahTailgate)

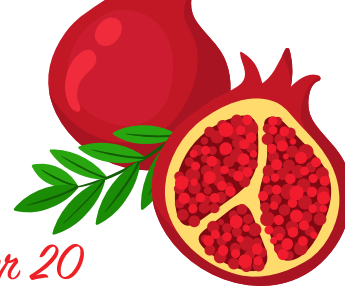


## Rosh Hashanah Seder

Beth Israel's Rosh Hashanah Seder is perfect for you to try at home at a time that works for your whole family. The Rosh Hashanah Seder is a Sephardi and Mizrachi tradition which provides a series of blessings over foods customarily eaten at the start of the Jewish New Year. Like other seders on the Jewish calendar, this ritual invests food with broader symbolism -- in this case, wishes for the year ahead. As you usher in 5781, here's a way to eat what you wish for!



# Rosh Hashanah



*Day 1 – Saturday, September 19*



## Call Stories: What is Your Calling This Year?

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

Join Rabbi Ariel Platt for this session which focuses on the prophets' call stories as inspiration for discovering our own purpose.



## Morning Service

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

LIVESTREAMED FROM THE DAVID PHILLIP GRESSER SANCTUARY.



## Youth and Family Experiences

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Family Experience with Rabbi Ariel Platt



10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Chag for Tots with Morah Marcy Snow  
(AGES 2-5)



10:30 a.m.

Teen Experience with Joe Roberts & Jacob Rosenbaum  
"The World is on Fire, Which Explains Everything!"



10:45 – 11:15 a.m.

Story Time with Morah Riva Schanker

11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Craft with Morah Jodi Sacki

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Game with Morah Tracey Sacks



## Mincha & Ma'ariv Services

6:00 p.m.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.

*Day 2 – Sunday, September 20*



## Justice and Mercy

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

Join Rachel Glaser, Education Director Emerita, for an exploration of the themes of justice and mercy in the High Holiday liturgy.



## Morning Service

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

LIVESTREAMED FROM THE DAVID PHILLIP GRESSER SANCTUARY.



## Youth and Family Experiences

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Family Experience with Rabbi Ariel Platt



10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Chag for Tots with Morah Marcy Snow  
(AGES 2-5)



10:30 a.m.

Teen Experience with Joe Roberts & Jacob Rosenbaum  
"You've Been Called Out – Now What?"



10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Story Time with Morah Riva Schanker

11:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Craft with Morah Jodi Sacki

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Game with Morah Tracey Sacks



## Tashlich Service at the Park School

4:00 p.m.

Beth Israel joins Beth Am Synagogue for a Tashlich Service at the Park School, 2425 Old Court Road, Pikesville. Registration required.



## Mincha & Ma'ariv Services

6:00 p.m.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.



## OUR VIRTUAL LOBBY IS OPEN

8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. & 5:00 – 6:00 P.M.

Just as you would have done in person, visit with friends and meet new people by using our Virtual Lobby software! See page 6 for more about the virtual lobby feature of BIOMLIVE.

# The 10 Days of Repentance



## Personal Reflection and Meditation

September 21 – 27



The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are intended for self-reflection. Under normal circumstances, we would be in our building much of the day with plenty of time to meditate, pray, and contemplate the significance of this moment in the Jewish calendar.

As a safe substitute, we are offering 15-minute slots for individuals or families to visit the ark or Memorial Alcove at Beth Israel. Please refer to our website to sign up.

## Yom Kippur

*Sunday, September 27*



### Kol Nidre Service

6:35 p.m.

LIVE STREAMED FROM THE DAVID PHILLIP GRESSER SANCTUARY.

7:05 p.m.



BEIT-BIOM with Joe Roberts & Jacob Rosenbaum

“You Have to Fix Everything! At Least it’s Not Your Fault” (open to ages 16-23)



10:45 – 11:15 a.m.

Story Time with Morah Riva Schanker

11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Craft with Morah Jodi Sacki

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Game with Morah Tracey Sacks



### Unconscious Bias: From Atonement to Action

with Avi Edelman, Associate Director of Multicultural Affairs and Diversity Education at Columbia College

3:30 p.m.

Explore the factors which shape how you see the world, as well as how the world sees you. This session will help us reflect on inadvertent actions and snap judgments that can negatively impact friends, colleagues, and community members. With a better understanding of our unconscious bias, we will be able to explore strategies for living our Jewish values.

*Monday, September 28*



### The Book of Life: Jewish Perceptions of the Afterlife

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

Join Rabbi Ariel Platt for this session which explores Jewish textual perspectives on this fascinating topic.



### Morning Service

(Yizkor approx. 11:15 a.m.)

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

LIVESTREAMED FROM THE DAVID PHILLIP GRESSER SANCTUARY.



### Youth and Family Experiences

10:00 – 10:45 a.m.

Family Experience with Rabbi Ariel Platt

10:15 – 11:15 a.m.



Chag for Tots with Morah Marcy Snow

(AGES 2-5)



10:30 a.m.

Teen Experience with Joe Roberts & Jacob Rosenbaum

“Being the Pinnacle of Humanity - Humbly”



### Evening Services

5:20 p.m. | Mincha

6:30 p.m. | Neilah

7:20 p.m. | Havdalah

7:30 p.m. | Final Shofar

LIVESTREAMED FROM THE DAVID PHILLIP GRESSER SANCTUARY.



## OUR VIRTUAL LOBBY IS OPEN

8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. & 5:00 – 6:00 P.M.

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# Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah



*October 2 – 1st Day of Sukkot*

## Morning Service

9:15 a.m.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.



*October 3 – 2nd Day of Sukkot*

## Morning Service

9:15 a.m.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.



*October 10 – Shemini Atzeret*

## Morning Service

(Yizkor approx. 11:15 a.m.)

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.



## Erev Simchat Torah Celebration

October 10 at 6:45 p.m.

Take an interactive journey through the Torah from your home.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.



*October 11 – Simchat Torah*

## Simchat Torah Morning Service

9:15 a.m.

ON ZOOM FROM THE HOMES OF OUR CLERGY.

## Special Features of BIOMLIVE

### Live Chat

During Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur mornings, we are pleased to offer visitors to BIOMLIVE assistance with any questions or concerns they may have in real time, through a “live chat” feature. Trouble logging on to services? Just click “Chat” and our virtual assistant will help you out! Hours for live chat will be posted on BIOMLIVE.



### Beth Israel’s High Holiday Playlist

Though our choir can’t sing in-person this year, we’ve put together the best possible alternatives! Cantor Jen Rolnick has assembled short Beit Shira videos to help you learn how to sing 18 favorite tunes. Listen as well to selections from last year’s High Holiday Choir. BIOMLIVE is the place to go for your favorite music of the season.



### Virtual Lobby

BIOMLIVE features an innovative video conferencing technology which will enable you to visit with people as you would have done in our building on the High Holidays. You will be able to see who is “sitting” at various tables, and then enter private chat rooms to schmooze with them! See the bottom of pages 4-5 for Virtual Lobby Hours on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.



### Share a Memory

Our Yizkor Book/ Book of Remembrance will be available digitally this year. BIOMLIVE will also feature a technology that enables you to share memories of loved ones you are thinking of this Yom Kippur. Record your own voice, or write a short post, so that you can celebrate a legacy. At the same time, read or listen to others’ reflections on those they have lost.