



Parashat Nitzavim - September 24, 2022 - 28 Elul 5782

Dear TBE Family and Friends,

As the sun moves towards the horizon, ushering us into the last Shabbat of the current year, we pause to gather our thoughts before moving into a year whose contours are, as yet, undefined. In this space of contemplation preceding the revelry of our New Year's celebrations, I encourage you to take just a moment to reflect on the year we are putting to bed: its highs and lows, the experiences it begot, the opportunities it created – some realized and others squandered, the lessons it imparted.

May we carry the best of these forward with us as we enter the coming year, 5783. May it prove a year of happiness, wholeness and wonder for us and all we care about and may we be privileged to pass the year in health and peace.

There are a few quick reminders that I want to share with those who will be joining us in person for our High Holiday proceedings. First, while I am so looking forward to welcoming you – some for the first time in many years – back into our communal home, I must ask that you respect our morning service quotas and do not show up for our morning services (only) unless you have a confirmed seat. While we would desperately like to be able to accept all-comers at all services, doing so would preclude some members' participation. So, please bide your time and join us for our open-attendance services: Erev Rosh Hashanah, Tashlich and Rosh Hashanah afternoon (first day), Kol Nidrei and Mincha/Neilah on Yom Kippur.

Also, as a courtesy to others and to protect yourself, please do not come to services, even if you have a scheduled honor, if you are feeling unwell. There are, alas, a wide array of viruses, many of the "garden variety" that we would prefer not to have shared among our attendees. We are also asking, as we do on all occasions, that all attendees be masked while in our building.

In addition to masks, we ask that those who are in possession of *machzorim* (High Holiday prayer books, specifically *Machzor Lev Shalem*) please bring them with them to services to ensure that we have enough books for everyone to use. Put your name in your book or, if it is borrowed from the synagogue, please make sure that the identifying paper remains in place.

For those who are planning to join us via Zoom, remember that we will be using a special continuous Zoom link to stream the services. It can be accessed [here](#) (Passcode: HHD5783).

Finally, let me extend my heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers who have pitched in to assemble and deliver our High Holiday gift bags. You should be receiving yours over the weekend, if you have not already. We hope these contribute to your enjoying a joyous, sweet New Year.

Wishing all of you a restful Shabbat in preparation for an enthusiastic embrace of the New Year,  
- Rabbi Rachel Safman