

Dear Rodeph Family,

Below please find more detailed information on our plans for High Holidays during this unusual time. Please expect personal calls from the Board of Directors over the next few weeks to check in with you, answer any questions about the High Holiday plans, and ask for your support with this year's Kol Nidre appeal. We look forward to speaking with you soon!

As always, tickets for High Holiday services are issued to members in good standing. Members who will be attending services virtually this year will get a code to access our streaming services instead of a physical ticket. We do not want to deny services to anyone due to financial problems during this pandemic, so please reach out to Ken at director@rsholom.org now if there are reasons that you need dues reduction.

As we mentioned previously, we will be offering 3 different kinds of services for the High Holidays, outlined below:

- 1) We will have live services in person at Rodeph but with only about 20 families per service. For Rosh Hashanah Day 1, Day 2, and Yom Kippur Day, the people invited to those services will be the ones with honors. Most of these people have already been called, but we are looking for Torah readers. If you would like to read Torah at one of these services, please reach out to Rabbi-Cantor Kornworcel ASAP. Please contact me at president@rsholom.org if you would like to attend Erev Rosh Hashanah or Kol Nidre services and are not already signed up to attend another service. It is our intention to try to get everyone at one live service if they so choose. If you have lost a loved one this year, please reach out to me if you would like to attend Yizkor in person.
- 2) We will be streaming all our services live through the Rodeph Sholom website www.rsholom.org. As mentioned above, members in good standing will be given an access code to see this stream.
- 3) We will be sending out a link to a YouTube video that we will be making in advance with a shortened First Day Rosh Hashana service and a shortened Yom Kippur service to members in good standing. This will be service "highlights" and will have many members participating. We will send this out a day or two before the holiday so that you can watch it on the day or in advance if you do not want to use electronics on the holidays.

We will have our Tashlikh service and Shofar blowing on Sunday, September 20th immediately after morning services outside in our parking lot. All are welcome! Please note that masks must be worn and social distancing will be maintained. Please tune in to the live stream Rosh Hashanah service that morning for updates on when that service will begin, as the exact time will depend on when the morning services are completed.

Additionally, Rabbi-Cantor Kornworcel is offering 15-minute slots for individual families to have time with him in front of the Ark before the High Holidays. Please see the Rodeph website for details.

In the week before Rosh Hashanah, we will be delivering baskets to all members. They will have a The Book of Remembrance, plus some other goodies from Rodeph.

There will be a digital Machzor (High Holiday prayer book) that will be made available. We will be sending a code for the Machzor to those who wish to use the digital format. If you want to borrow one

of our Machzors, you can do so for a \$36 deposit that will be refunded when you return the Machzor, or you may choose to give it as a donation. Please reach out to Ken at director@rsholom.org if you would like to borrow a Machzor.

For everyone's safety, masks will be required at all times during in-person services and must cover your nose and mouth. We will be limiting the number of people on the Bimah and therefore we will have no honors for ark openings like we have in the past. Rabbi-Cantor Kornworcel will not wear a mask on the Bimah when others are not going to be on the Bimah, but we will not sit people in the first three rows. Ushers will walk you to your seats and we ask that you leave your seats as little as possible. *Please DO NOT come to in-person services if you are sick at all, have any symptoms, have had a known COVID exposure in the last 14 days, are currently awaiting the result of a COVID test, or if anyone in your house is awaiting a COVID test result.*

Finally, we ask that you do not come to in-person services unless you have been confirmed to go to that service in person, other than our outdoor Taslikh. We know this is hard over the High Holidays, but we must protect the safety of our congregation. We have worked hard to balance safety while still offering some in-person opportunities for everyone who wants them.

Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to create a safe and meaningful High Holiday experience for our Rodeph Sholom community.

Ketivah V'Chatimah Tovah (May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year).

L'Shalom,

Marcy Solomon Baker, MD President

Andres Kornworcel, Rabbi-Cantor

Ken Kahn, Executive Director

High Holidays Committee

Congregation Rodeph Sholom