



2024 ~ High Holy Days ~ 5785

Rabbi's Message

Our creation story teaches us that renewal is an essential part of who we are. Each week alternates between workdays and Shabbat, a day devoted to restorative rest. Similarly, the month of Tishri, the seventh month of the Jewish calendar, provides an extended opportunity for reflection and renewal.

Jewish tradition is fundamentally hopeful. The rabbis believed that while humans are imperfect, we are inherently good. They developed the practice of teshuvah, or "return," to help us address and repair the harm we inevitably cause. This belief underscores the idea that meaning in our lives comes from continuously working to improve ourselves and the world around us. Even if we can't achieve perfection, we can still make a positive difference.

This year, as we navigate our daily concerns, we also face the profound grief, shock, fear, and confusion stemming from the war in Gaza, rising antisemitism, and the growing threat of authoritarianism. While our time together may not solve these issues, I hope it will provide us with greater clarity and resilience. Coming together during this season reminds us that we are not alone in our personal or communal struggles.

May this season be a time for reconnecting with our better selves and with one another. May it renew our sense of purpose and strengthen our commitment to the values of our Jewish tradition. And may we all develop a deeper appreciation for the precious gift of life.

Wishing a Sweet 5785 to All!

Schedule

Rosh Hashanah

Erev Rosh Hashanah evening service	October 2	8:00 p.m.
Rosh Hashanah morning service	October 3	10:00 a.m.
Tashlich	October 3	12:15 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre evening service	October 11	8:00 p.m.
Yom Kippur morning service	October 12	10:00 a.m.
Yom Kippur afternoon workshop	October 12	3:00 p.m.
Yitzkor service	October 12	4:30 p.m.
Yom Kippur closing service	October 12	5:15 p.m.
Break-the-Fast	October 12	6:00 p.m.

Music Sources

“Hinei Mah Tov,” Hebrew adapted from Psalm 133; additional words and music by Elana Arian

“We Return,” Elana Arian and Noah Aronson

“Given,” Dan Nichols and Ellen Dreskin

“Ahavah Rabbah,” Words from the morning service, music by Elana Arian

“Ken Y’hi Ratzon,” Traditional Hebrew, additional lyrics and music by Elana Arian

“Lo Vashamayim,” Hebrew from Deut. 30:12, 14; English words and music by Elana Arian

“Open Up the Gates,” Music adapted from 'Galeh' by Moshe Shur, words by Joseph Berman & Batya Levine

“Pitchu Li,” Hebrew words Psalm 118:19; music by Charlene Sommers

“May the Life I Lead,” Traditional American spiritual

Hinei Mah Tov

// = percussive sound

Hinei mah tov // u'mah na-im
Shevet kulanu gam yachad
Hinei mah tov // u'mah na-im
Shevet kulanu gam yachad

How good it is (how good it is)
How sweet it is (how sweet it is)
To be together on this day
How good it is (how good it is)
How sweet it is (how sweet it is)
To be together on this day

Hinei mah tov // u'mah na-im
Shevet kulanu gam yachad
Hinei mah tov // u'mah na-im
Shevet kulanu gam yachad

Shalom aleichem, Salaam aleykum
Shalom aleichem, Salaam aleykum

How good it is (how good it is) ...

We Return

We return, (we return), we return (we return)

We return, return again

We return, (we return), we return (we return)

We return, return again and again

To love, love, love

We return again to love.

To truth...

To hope...

Given

Every breath, each life, each spark
Every light that emerges from every dark
This body, this voice, this energy
I just opened my eyes it was granted to me.
Given - this space, given - this time
Given to all- uniquely mine
Every first and every last
All of the future, the present, and even the past

I am a wave, a rise and a fall
A singular drop in the ocean connected to all
Given - this space, given - this time
Given to all- uniquely mine
Given - this space, given - this time
Given to all- uniquely mine

There is a love song of taking and giving
A singing and dancing in rhythm with all that is living
It's breathing out and breathing in
A life that is taken and granted again and again
Given - this space, given - this time
Given to all- uniquely mine
Given - this space, given - this time
Given to all- uniquely mine

Ahavah Rabbah

Ahavah rabbah (Ahavah rabbah) } 3x

Ahavtanu

Ahavah rabbah (Ahavah rabbah) } 3x

Ahavtanu

Ahavtanu, ahavtanu

Adonai Eloheinu

Ahavah rabbah (Ahavah rabbah) } 3x

Ahavtanu

Ahavah rabbah (Ahavah rabbah) } 3x

Ahavtanu

Ahavtanu, ahavtanu

Adonai Eloheinu

How deeply you have loved us } 3x

Adonai Eloheinu

How deeply you have loved us } 3x

Adonai Eloheinu

Ahavtanu, ahavtanu, ahavtanu

Adonai Eloheinu

How deeply you have loved us } 3x

Adonai Eloheinu

How deeply you have loved us } 3x

Adonai Eloheinu

Ken Y'hi Ratzon

May I be safe

May I be free

May I find space

Space to just be

Ken y'hi ratzon [may it be so]

Ken y'hi ratzon

May I find my way back home {2x

May you be safe

May you be free

May you find space

Space to just be.

Ken y'hi ratzon

Ken y'hi ratzon

May you find your way back home {2x

May we be safe

May we be free

May we find space

Space to just be.

Ken y'hi ratzon

Ken y'hi ratzon

May we find our way back home {2x

Lo Vashamayim

Lo vashamayim, lo vashamayim, lo vashamayim hi
Lo vashamayim, ki karov lachem me'od
Lo vashamayim, lo vashamayim, lo vashamayim hi
Lo vashamayim, ki karov lachem me'od

In the time of our asking questions beyond words,
In the time of our singing songs that won't be heard,
It is not beyond the sea, it is not a world apart,
It is in your mouth, It is in your heart.

Lo vashamayim...

In a time of thanksgiving, when blessings flow like rain
In a time of our healing, in a time where hope remains
It is not beyond the sea, it is not a world apart,
It is in your mouth, It is in your heart.

Lo vashamayim...

Open Up the Gates

Open, open up the gates for
All who gather here
Open up the gates for
all who seek your presence

Open, open up the gates of
Kindness and compassion
Open up the gates of
Wholeness and peace

Open, open up the gates of
Freedom and justice
Open up the gates of
Liberation, open

Open up the gates of
Change and release
Open up the gates of
Transformation

Open, open up the gates of
Healing and forgiveness
Open up the gates of
Reconciliation, open

Open up the gates of
Listening and patience
Open up the gates of
Humility

Open, open up the gates of
Prayer and wisdom
Open up the gates of
Intuition, open

Open up the gates of
Equity and honor
Open up the gates of
Dignity, open

Open up the gates of
Torah and blessing
Open up the gates of
Gratitude and learning

Open, open up the gates of
Love and connection
Open up the gates of
Giving and receiving

Open, open up the gates of
Trust and pleasure
Open up the gates of
Abundance, open

Open up the gates of
Joy and resilience
Open up the gates for
All who seek your presence

Pitchu Li

זֶה הַשַּׁעַר לַה' צְדִיקִים יָבֹאוּ בוֹ
זֶה הַשַּׁעַר לַה' צְדִיקִים יָבֹאוּ בוֹ
פִּתְחוּ לִי שַׁעַר צְדָק אָבֹא בָם אֲוֹדָה יְהוָה
פִּתְחוּ לִי שַׁעַר צְדָק אָבֹא בָם אֲוֹדָה יְהוָה

Zeh ha-sha-ar la-do-nai, tza-di-kim ya-vo-u vo

Zeh ha-sha-ar la-do-nai, tza-di-kim ya-vo-u vo

Pit-chu li sha-a-rei tze-dek a-vo vam o-deh Yah

Pit-chu li sha-a-rei tze-dek a-vo vam o-deh Yah

This is the gateway to the Eternal

Here the righteous shall enter

This is the gateway to the Eternal

Here the righteous shall enter

Open for me the gates of righteousness, righteousness

As I enter them, I will praise God's name

Open for me the gates of righteousness, righteousness

As I enter them, I will praise God's name

May the Life I Live

May the life I live (may the life I live) speak for me (speak for me)

May the life (may the life I live) speak for me (speak for me)

When I come to the end of the road

And there's nothing more to be told

May the life (may the life I live)

Let it speak for me (speak for me).

May the love I share (may the love I share) speak for me (speak for me)

May the love I share (May the love I share) speak for me (speak for me)

When I come to the end of the road

And there's nothing more to be told

May the love I share (may the love I share)

Let it speak for me (speak for me).

May the work I've done (may the work I've done) speak for me (speak for me)

May the work (may the work I've done) speak for me (speak for me)

When I'm resting in my grave,

When I come to the end of the road

And there's nothing more to be told

May the work I've done (may the work I've done)

Let it speak for me (speak for me).