



Renewal • Courage • Faith



ולא נבוש לעולם ועד

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5781

Who could've imagined a few short months ago the world we'd be living in today?

It's been a time of heartbreak, isolation, struggle, and great fear of the unknown.

It's also been a time of heroism, generosity, ingenuity, and daily testament to the strength and resilience of the human spirit.



Dear Adas family,

This year has been hard. We have certainly felt the highs of our soaring community, but also the lows of a global pandemic. Isolation and loneliness have been close to us — emotions that we have touched daily, and witnessed in our loved ones.

Despite it all, the thread that has held us together is... each other. **Despite it all,** we are finding ways to meaningfully connect. **Despite it all,** we have experienced the full range of Jewish practice together — Torah study, shivas, B'nai mitzvah, weddings, funerals, births, and more. We have seen you laugh, cry, mourn, give comfort, sing, teach, and come together remarkably through this time.

What we have learned through this pandemic is that where there is a will there is a way. **And together we are finding our way.** And so, as these Holy Days approach, we both commit to you, and call upon you.

We commit to believing in you. **We commit** to your potential. **We commit** to your hearts. **We commit** to your journeys. **We commit** to helping you grow and flourish amidst it all. And we call upon you to believe in the transformative power of these days to help us heal, to help us dream, to help us mourn, to help us express joy, to help us forge an old and new path forward, together. Our role as your clergy is to help design the vessel in which all of us — our fullest selves — can find space for connecting with God, Torah, and one another.

Lo Neivosh L'Olam Va'Ed

May we not feel shame or despair about our sorrows, our losses, or our loneliness, and may we never lose hope for the light that is to come.

So join us. Pray with us. Sing with us. Love with us. Be with us.

L'Shana Tova,



Sarah



Maman



Sarah Hersh



Ariana



Rachel



OUR HIGH HOLY DAY THEME, THIS YEAR

ולא נבוש לעולם ועד

Unify our hearts to love and revere your name,
so that we never lose hope.

Siddur, Shabbat Shacharit



SELICHOT

Saturday, September 12



ROSH HASHANAH

Saturday, September 19 & Sunday, September 20



KOL NIDRE

Sunday, September 27



YOM KIPPUR

Monday, September 28

Renewal. Courage. Faith.

For millennia, the Jewish people have marked the profound power of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and the Festival Days that follow with reverence and joy – and often times in circumstances even more unfathomable than the challenges of today.

From the very bottom of our hearts, we pledge to you a singularly powerful & spirited High Holy Day experience with your Adas family.

Whether observed in person as safety permits, or through the airwaves, or some combination thereof, we will join together (in the deepest meaning of the words) to immersively experience the wisdom and sanctity of these awe-inspiring days. This feels more poignant and timely than ever before. This year’s High Holy Day theme, *V’lo Neivosh L’olam Va-ed*, is based upon a verse in our Siddur. This phrase loosely translates as, “unify our hearts to love and revere your name so that we never lose hope.” It is the message of this moment, which we can experience together loud and clear.

While we are not in a position to share precise logistical plans and schedules at this time, we are committed to creating something truly special for our Adas family this Elul. And you will be a part of it.

We all know the joy and meaning we derive from marching proudly into our majestic building, surrounded by thousands of fellow worshipers, hearing the warm “shana tova’s” of our staff and longtime friends of Adas on the security team. For some of us, our sacred moment is in shaking the hand of a fellow community member we haven’t seen in a year. For others, it’s found in the Machzor, or in arriving to that special seat in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Gewirz, or Kay Hall, where your family has worshipped for generations. And while it is likely many of those moments will shift this year in light of world events, the spirit of the holiday endures, and so does our commitment to marking this moment, as our ancestors have done, with great gladness and reverence—come what may.

SELICHOT

EXPERIENCE:

Several days before Rosh Hashanah, Jews around the world gather together to recite Selichot, a beautiful series of penitential prayers and meaningful liturgy. We are introduced to the High Holy Day melodies to come. This tradition invites us to open ourselves up to the essential work of the Days of Awe.

MOOD:
Reflective

*Full Service & Experience
Schedule Coming Soon*



ROSH HASHANAH

EXPERIENCE:

Today is the birthday of the world. We have arrived. It is the day to hear the call of the shofar deep within us all, to be in radical amazement of the world that surrounds us. Our spirits are lifted as friends, family, and community members from all over the world are called together for a day of earnest reflection and renewal.

MOOD:
Determined & Passionate

*Full Service & Experience
Schedule Coming Soon*



KOL NIDRE

EXPERIENCE:

The sun sets, ushering in the holiest day of the year. Kol Nidre gives us permission to pray with each other, with all of our imperfections and longings for healing. The liturgy and age-old melodies speak of our annulment of vows and invite us in to break new ground and create space for something new.

MOOD:
Yearning & Contemplation

*Full Service & Experience
Schedule Coming Soon*



YOM KIPPUR

EXPERIENCE:

This is the day we all pass before God – a God who is merciful, compassionate, abounding in love, and forgiving. We ask to be granted release. We seek to be made whole, to begin anew, to move forward with our lives with all of the potential and promise that lies within each one of us.

MOOD:
Humility & Catharsis

*Full Service & Experience
Schedule Coming Soon*



complete holiday guidance, schedules,
and information coming soon:

**[adasisrael.org/
highholydays](https://adasisrael.org/highholydays)**

