



# HAR SINAI

## TEMPLE

August 1, 2023

Dear Har Sinai Temple Family,

We know it's still summer, but it's time for us to start thinking about the upcoming High Holy Days! Please read the enclosed information and return all forms to the Temple Office at your earliest convenience.

- 2023 HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
- LETTER: HIGH HOLY DAYS OVERVIEW
- GREETINGS FROM RABBI JORDAN GOLDSON
- ALIYAH & SERVICE PARTICIPATION
- GUEST TICKET REQUEST FORM
- BOOK OF MEMORY
- HIGH HOLY DAYS WISH LIST

This High Holy Days Packet will also be available on our website: [www.harsinai.org](http://www.harsinai.org).

*L'Shanah Tovah!* Have a Sweet Year!



# HAR SINAI TEMPLE

## HIGH HOLY DAYS 2023/5784

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### Rosh Hashanah

Fri.	September 15	7:30 p.m.	Rosh Hashanah Eve Service
Sat.	September 16	8:45 a.m.	Children's Service
		10:00 a.m.	Morning Service

#### Special Services

Sun.	September 17	9:00 a.m.	Tashlich & Breakfast (at Har Sinai Temple)
Sun.	September 17	2:00 p.m.	Greenwood Cemetery Visit
		3:00 p.m.	Ewing Cemetery Visit
Fri.	September 22	7:00 p.m.	Shabbat Shuvah

#### Yom Kippur

Sun.	September 24	7:30 p.m.	Kol Nidre Service
Mon.	September 25	8:45 a.m.	Children's Service
		10:00 a.m.	Morning Service
		2:00 p.m.	Afternoon Service
		3:30 p.m.	Yizkor Memorial Service
		4:00 p.m.	Neilah Concluding Service
		5:00 p.m.	* Services Conclude *

**\* PLEASE NOTE: ALL SERVICES FOR ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR WILL BE HELD AT  
HAR SINAI TEMPLE  
2421 Pennington Road, Pennington, NJ 08534  
ALL SERVICES WILL BE STREAMED VIA ZOOM, AS WELL.**



Dear Har Sinai Temple members,

This packet of information includes most of the information you will need to prepare for and participate in our High Holy Day services this year.

Har Sinai will be holding **ALL** services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in our Temple. Each service will be offered both in person and live streamed via Zoom.

Our tradition of beautiful music continues, and we know you will find the services exceptionally beautiful and inspiring this year. Choir members have been rehearsing with our pianist, Mark Sobol, and Elana Gleason, our Cantorial Soloist. In addition, Madeleine LeBeau, who sang and provided beautiful musical accompaniment during many of our Shabbat services last year, will be singing again during the Yom Kippur afternoon service.

We will be using the *Mishkan HaNefesh* prayerbooks for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (two books) again. We hope to have enough prayerbooks at the Temple for everyone attending in person. However, if you know you will be watching services from home and will need the books, please contact the Temple Office at (609) 730-8100 or [office@harsinai.org](mailto:office@harsinai.org).

We will need some help before, during, and after the different services — everything from greeting congregants and ushering, helping to efficiently park cars in the lots, assisting with the Rosh Hashanah Oneg/Kiddush in memory of Mike Rein, and more. If you can help in any way, please contact the Temple office, or email me at [jillschwartz18@gmail.com](mailto:jillschwartz18@gmail.com).

Please look at the information in this packet, and complete and return any forms that apply to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Temple office or Rabbi Goldson. We look forward to celebrating the upcoming High Holy Days with you in person and/or online.

In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy the rest of the summer!

All the best,

*Jill Schwartz*  
High Holy Days Committee Chair



Dear friends,

There is a rabbinic teaching that when we build a home, we should leave a little bit of the house unfinished. This was to be a reminder of the destruction of the Temple. More broadly, it captures the reality that life is unfinished, that all good things are incomplete.

Shabbat is another reminder that things are never finished. Rabbi Tarfon's famous saying is, "You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it." Interestingly, while there are several words for "work" in Hebrew, the word that he chose for "work" is the precise term that the Torah uses for the tasks that we are not allowed to do on Shabbat. Since Shabbat is one of the Ten Commandments, it is a big mitzvah to leave our work unfinished once a week. Whether or not there is something major on our to-do list, it can wait a day. Think of it as a practice of knowing we can't and shouldn't try to do it all.

I was brought up to believe that you should finish what you start, no matter how long it takes. But, in an existential sense, life is all about unfinished business. The fact is that life is finite, and we need to let go of the illusion that productivity or even prioritization will somehow enable us to accomplish everything we dream of or that society expects of us.

The High Holy Days, too, remind us that our life is limited. Prayers like *Unetaneh Tokef* remind us that human life is fleeting and much is beyond our control. But, to paraphrase a saying from the technological world: our inability to complete everything in our lifetimes is not a bug in the system; it's a feature. Let me suggest that the very fact that we can't do it all, that we hand over the world to other people after us, is the thing that gives our lives meaning.

Each of us has a lot to consider during the coming holidays. May your time in thought and prayer bring you insight, inspiration, and a renewed sense of purpose as we enter the Jewish New Year.

L'Shana Tova! May God bless you and yours in 5784.

Rabbi Jordan Goldson

# ALIYAH & SERVICE PARTICIPATION

Har Sinai Temple provides opportunities for its members to participate in services during the High Holy Days. We will be assigning readings in English and Hebrew for the various services. Members who return this form to the Temple Office **by Friday, August 18th** will be contacted and offered an opportunity to participate. We will try to accommodate preferences of services to the greatest extent possible, but parts at evening services are limited. Please check all the services that you plan to attend.

**NAME OF MEMBER**

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**PHONE NUMBER**

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**I will be present at the following services (please check):**

All Services

**Rosh Hashanah**

Friday evening, September 15

Saturday morning, September 16

**Yom Kippur**

Sunday evening, September 24

Monday morning, September 25

Monday afternoon, September 25

**I would prefer the following honor:**

I would like to read an English part.

I would like to read a Hebrew part.

I would like to have a Torah Aliyah.

I would like to blow the Shofar.

I would like to chant from the Torah or Haftarah.

I will participate in the Past Presidents' Torah Processional on Kol Nidre.

I am willing to serve as an usher for 30 minutes during services.

**Please return this form to the Temple Office by Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.**

Email: [rabbijg@harsinai.org](mailto:rabbijg@harsinai.org)

Mail to: Har Sinai Temple, 2421 Pennington Road, Pennington, NJ 08534

**HIGH HOLY DAYS  
GUEST TICKET REQUEST FORM**

Members of Har Sinai Temple will not need tickets in order to attend services during the High Holy Days. We recognize that this is a time when friends and family visit and wish to attend as guests. **Guests who are friends or family of members are asked to purchase tickets** in advance for a reasonable fee. There is a separate rate for other guests who are attending services during the holidays.

To purchase tickets, please complete this form and return it to the Temple Office by **Friday, September 1st.**

I wish to purchase tickets for the High Holy Days:

	<u>One Holiday</u>	<u>Both Holidays</u>
Member's Guest	\$100	\$200
Non-member Guest	\$250	\$500

Children, Students with ID, and Military Personnel do not need tickets.  
Members of other URJ congregations can arrange for courtesy tickets at no charge.

**Please note: Har Sinai Temple does not turn anyone away who would like to pray with us during the High Holy Days but cannot afford a ticket. Please call the Temple Office to make arrangements for any of the above.**

     **I am a Temple member** purchasing a ticket(s) for family or friends.

Number of tickets needed for:      Rosh Hashanah \_\_\_\_\_      Yom Kippur \_\_\_\_\_

     **I am not a Temple member** purchasing a ticket(s).

Number of tickets needed for:      Rosh Hashanah \_\_\_\_\_      Yom Kippur \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Guests planning to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests Address, City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_ for tickets to attend High Holy Days services at Har Sinai Temple.  
I understand that the cost of these tickets may be applied toward my membership if arrangements are made with the Temple office prior to November 1, 2023.

Payments by Credit Card can be made online at [www.harsinai.org](http://www.harsinai.org).

# BOOK OF MEMORY

High Holy Days will soon be here, and once again, we will offer a special Book of Memory with tributes to our beloved family and friends whose memories are consecrated at our Yizkor Memorial Service on Yom Kippur. This booklet, a fitting expression of devotion and respect, will be available at the Yizkor Service. This custom combines the *mitzvot* (sacred acts) of *Zikaron*, "loving memory" and *Tzedakah*, "helpful giving."

Return this form with the names of those you wish to commemorate, and please indicate those who have died since last Yom Kippur. The names of those we have lost during the past year are recorded in the Book of Memory and read at the Yizkor Memorial Service.

In addition to the standard listing of names option, we are offering you the opportunity to purchase either a half-page or full-page remembrance. All you need to do is provide the names of those you wish to honor, and we will design the page for you.

Check One of the Following:

- Individual Names            \$ 50.00 for up to 5 names, and \$6.00 for each additional name.  
 Half-Page                     \$136.00  
 Full-Page                     \$236.00

Check here if you would like to use the same listing as last year.

We wish to memorialize our loved ones in the Book of Memory  
Names:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

REMEMBERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*IF DEATH HAS OCCURRED SINCE LAST YOM KIPPUR, PLEASE PLACE A CHECK BY THE NAME,  
FOLLOWED BY THE DATE OF DEATH.*

Our gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is made in memory of our dear relatives and friends.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this completed form with your payment **to arrive no later than MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023**, to:  
Har Sinai Temple, 2421 Pennington Road, Pennington, NJ 08534 **Attn: Book of Memory**

# HIGH HOLY DAYS WISH LIST

The High Holy Days season is a time when many people want to make special donations to our Temple. It is also a season in which our Temple has many extraordinary expenses. This year, we thought we would help potential donors by providing a list of some of the specific expenses incurred during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. You can make the donation in honor or memory of a loved one, and, if you so wish, your donation will be acknowledged during services on the High Holy Days.

If you would like to assist Har Sinai Temple with any of these expenses, please contact the Temple office at (609) 730-8100. Please do not interpret this list as a limitation; if you would like to honor this season with a donation but for something not on the list, please let us know.

## WISH LIST

**Musicians:** \$650 — We hire professionals to sing in the choir for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Our total cost is \$2,600.

**Flowers:** \$300 per holiday — We purchase fresh flowers for each holiday to beautify the bimah.

**Rosh Hashanah Oneg/ Kiddush (In memory of Mike Rein):** \$250 — We will gather for a festive Oneg/Kiddush following services on Rosh Hashanah morning.

**Security:** \$500/service — We hire security for each of our services.  
Our total budget for the holidays is \$2,500.

**Technology:** \$200 — We hire a technician to livestream each service. The total cost is \$1,000.

**Tashlich:** \$250 — This covers the cost of the food we provide when we gather for Tashlich.

**Printing of the Yizkor Book of Memory:** \$1,500 — Donate the cost of publishing our Book of Memory as a way of paying tribute to your deceased loved ones.