



## A Message From Our Leadership



Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks is credited with saying, “The Jewish people is a living Sefer Torah [Torah scroll], and each of us is one of its letters.”

The Talmud (Kid. 30a) teaches that the earliest Jewish scholars were called Soferim, from the root for “count,” because of the way they meticulously counted all the letters of the Torah. According to most accounts, there are 304,805 words in a Torah scroll. In order for a scroll to be kosher (acceptable to use), it must contain every single letter.

Similarly, this community needs each person—your insights and ideas, your involvement, your commitment—in order to thrive. And, just as each letter must be complete and fully formed, each one of our members is valued for all that you bring, and all that you are.

Simply put, Rodef Shalom Congregation is not complete without you.

As we contemplate the new year, we are optimistic that together we will do great things. We will celebrate one another’s joys, stand alongside each other in times of challenge and grief; we will learn, sing, and pray together.

All of us, together, make our community whole and holy. Shanah Tovah u’metukah—wishing each one of us a healthy and joyful 5783.

Rabbi Sharyn Henry                      Rabbi Jessica Locketz  
Bill Battistone, President  
Barb Feige, Interim Executive Director

## What You Need To Know

For the latest information, please visit the website:  
[www.RSCHighHolyDays.org](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org)

- **Services:** All adult services will be in the Sanctuary this year.
- **Safety and Covid Policy:** Rodef Shalom will use the color-coding of infection rates from the Allegheny County Health Department to guide masking requirements. If the status is green/low, mask-wearing in the Rodef Shalom building is optional. If the status is yellow/medium, masks are required in services and strongly encouraged throughout the building. If the status rises to orange/high, masks are required. Our High Holiday website will be updated when there is a status change and a post will be made on Rodef Shalom’s Facebook page. Please check for updates.
- **Tickets:** We will not be mailing out paper tickets this year. While all members are welcome to services without needing to register, due to health and safety, we strongly encourage you to register and use the tickets you’ll receive with your registration confirmation. Registration is available at [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org). If you prefer to register by phone, please contact Kristin Karsh at 412-621-6566 ext 120 or [karsh@rodefshalom.org](mailto:karsh@rodefshalom.org).
- **Childcare:** Childcare is available and registration will be required. For more information, visit [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org/childcare](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org/childcare)
- **Comfort Station:** If at any point you need a place to rest or grab a snack, stop by Kamin Dining Room near the reception desk and across from the Gift Shop. If you need medical attention, a nurse will be present in Kamin Dining Room.
- **Hearing Devices:** Hearing enhancement devices are available in the Sanctuary, please see an usher as you enter. If you have a T-Coil in your hearing aid, talk to your audiologist to ensure it is activated and on to receive the benefit of the hearing-aid loop in the Sanctuary.



**High Holy Days 2022**

Erev Rosh Hashanah • Sunday, September 25 at 7:00PM  
Rosh Hashanah • Monday, September 26 at 10:00AM  
Kol Nidre • Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00PM  
Yom Kippur • Wednesday, October 5 at 10:00AM  
Yizkor and N’ilah / Concluding Service • Wednesday, October 5 at 4:30PM

Services will be in person and online.  
Visit [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org) for event details.

## Service Schedule

### EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, September 25 at 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

### ROSH HASHANAH

Monday, September 26 at 10 am, Sanctuary

### ROSH HASHANAH, 2nd Day

Tuesday, September 27 at 10 am, Location TBD

### KOL NIDRE

Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

### YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, October 5 at 10 am, Sanctuary

### YIZKOR AND N'ILAH / CONCLUDING SERVICE

Wednesday, October 5 at 4:30 pm, Sanctuary

## Youth and Family

### TOT SERVICES AND CHILDCARE

#### ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE (Birth - 5 Years)

Monday, September 26 at 9 am

#### YOM KIPPUR SERVICE (Birth - 5 Years)

Wednesday, October 5 at 9 am

Child care will be provided on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur mornings during congregational services for children birth-5 not yet enrolled in kindergarten. Child-care registration is required. Walk-ins will not be accepted. Register at [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org/childcare](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org/childcare)

### HIGH HOLY DAY FOOD DRIVE

The High Holy Day food drive will be happening this year in collaboration with the Squirrel Hill JFCS food pantry. Please look to upcoming congregational emails and/or website updates for more details pertaining to drop offs and accepted donations.

### FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN AGES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIFTH GRADE

#### ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE

Monday, September 26 at 10 am

#### YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, October 5 at 10 am

*Registration is required for both events. Please visit [www.rschighholydays.org](http://www.rschighholydays.org) for more information and registration.*

#### J-JEP

J-JEP will count up to Rosh Hashanah during the month of Elul. Follow on Instagram (@jjeppgh) or on Facebook [www.facebook.com/JointJewishEducationProgram](http://www.facebook.com/JointJewishEducationProgram) for family friendly activities each day.

### TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are in 7th-12th grade and would like to volunteer at either or both of the youth services, please contact Yael Eads at [eads@rodefshalom.org](mailto:eads@rodefshalom.org). Volunteer requests must be sent to Yael by Friday, September 16th. No volunteers will be accepted the day of.

## Additional Events and Opportunities

### ELUL

#### TORAH STUDY Saturday mornings, 8:45 am - September 3, 10, 17, 24

Throughout the month of Elul, we will focus on Psalm 27 (typically recited during this time) and prayers from the High Holiday liturgy.

### ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

Tuesdays, 7:30 pm - September 6, 13, 20

This three session series will explore some of the major themes of the High Holidays and help us to understand our connection to them.

#### SELICHOT Saturday evening, September 17

Community Programing, More information will be available at [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org)

#### SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE Sunday, October 2 at 11am

West View Cemetery

#### TASHLICH Sunday, October 2 at 5:00pm

At Tashlich, we begin the new year symbolically casting off last year's sins by tossing pebbles or bread crumbs into a body of water. This year, we are taking part in "Reverse Tashlich," and will be cleaning up stream beds in Frick Park, thereby removing human "sins" from the water. *Meeting point TBD*

For more information: <https://www.repairthesea.org/rt2022>

#### YOM KIPPUR EVENTS Wednesday, October 5 - All Day

- **12:30pm:** Dr. Walter Jacob's annual Yom Kippur lecture
- **1:30pm:** Yom Kippur Reflective Walk: This is an opportunity to get outside and reflect on the themes of Yom Kippur. The entire walk is about an hour, split roughly in half between walking and sitting/reflecting. Wear comfortable shoes and meet Rabbi Sharyn Henry in the Commons Area.
- **1:30pm:** Jewish Music in the UK with High Holiday Cantor Gershon Silins
- **2:30pm:** What Does Judaism Say About...? Join in a discussion about the intersection between contemporary issues and Jewish thought with Rabbi Jessica Locketz
- **3:30pm:** How can the stories of our martyrs help us with our own teshuvah? We will explore the "Eileh Ezk'ra--Martyrology" section of the Yom Kippur liturgy.

SUKKOT and SIMCHAT TORAH events can be found on [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org) as more information is available.

## High Holy Days Recommended Reading

The Lippman Library offers books for children and adults alike to help learn and reflect on the season of renewal. Here are two adult books and a new children's book that may be of interest...although unlike apples and honey, books and honey are not a good combo!

#### WAITING FOR RAIN: REFLECTIONS AT THE TURNING OF THE YEAR By Bryna Jocheved Levy

This collection of meditations looks at biblical texts combined with modern scholarship. Divided into two parts, Part One is focused on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, while Part Two discusses Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah. The author is a senior lecturer at The Matan Women's Institute for Torah Studies and the founder of the graduate program in Bible. This book is based on lectures she has given in Jerusalem.

#### HAPPY 'ROO YEAR: IT'S ROSH HASHANAH By Jessica Hickman, Illustrated by Elissambura

Just published in the past year, this book for preschool-aged children is a 2021 Association of Jewish Libraries recommended recent release children's picture book. Taking place in the Australian Outback, it tells the story of a family of kangaroos as they celebrate Rosh Hashanah. The book discusses holiday traditions while offering a rhyming text.

### JOIN THE RSC USHER CORPS

With the High Holy Days approaching, we are recruiting ushers to help welcome members and assist with congregational needs throughout the High Holy Days.

Two training sessions will be held on Sunday, September 18th from 2-3 pm and again from 6-7 pm in the Sanctuary.

For more information, visit the website at [www.RSCHighHolyDays.org](http://www.RSCHighHolyDays.org) or contact Kristin Karsh at [karsh@rodefshalom.org](mailto:karsh@rodefshalom.org)