



## Guide to High Holidays Services via Zoom at Temple Beth Shalom

*Please read and consider the following before attending our High Holidays services this year, which will be held both in-person and via Zoom (some items are common sense, while others may require some thought and action):*

### **Mahzorim / High Holiday Prayer Books**

All religious services are more meaningful when each attendee, including you, participate with elevated *Ruach* (spirit). We have all experienced it before: We get the most out of a prayer service when we bring forth our prayers (voiced internally and externally), regardless of whether they are the words on the page or those from our heart.

Obviously, for those attending any services in-person by reserving a place(s) AND if you received an email confirming your reservation to attend a specific High Holidays service in-person, High Holidays prayer books (*Mahzorim*) will be available in the synagogue.

For those attending services via Zoom: We strongly encourage you to have our High Holidays *Mahzor* for the services as we will NOT be displaying any text on the screen. You may have a copy of another *Mahzor*, but in order to make the most of your participation and to elevate your prayer experience, you will need the same prayerbook that we are using (each *Mahzor* has different English translations and variations in Hebrew text). If you were unable to pick up a prayerbook, please let us know ASAP and we will do our best to get you a copy.

### **Virtual Services via Zoom**

In keeping with the decisions on Jewish Law made by the Conservative Movement's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards, Zoom has graciously agreed to allow Conservative Movement affiliated congregations like ours to hold open our Zoom sessions for the whole length of Rosh Hashanah and then again for Yom Kippur. Therefore, ***you will need only two sets of session IDs and passwords to access our Rosh Hashanah services and our Yom Kippur services — one set for Rosh Hashanah and one for Yom Kippur. In each case, each Zoom session will be held open throughout the given Holy Day(s).*** *Though you may join services at any time, we encourage you to keep your computer or device attached to this session for the duration. If for some reason you become decoupled, however, you may re-join with the same link or meeting ID/password (of course, our Zoom Host Coordinator will have to admit you again, so please be patient).*

**For those attending a particular service in-person, please follow the instructions that you have received. Please try to arrive at the start of services, whenever possible. Please be aware that we have arranged to have security in place for all High Holy Day services. Finally, please familiarize yourself with our COVID-19 policies, which can be found here:**  
<https://seashul.org/who-we-are/our-policies/>

## 10 Commandments for the 10 Technological Days of Awe

Our High Holidays Zoom etiquette will enhance your enjoyment of High Holidays services this year at Temple Beth Shalom:

1. When joining a Zoom session, we encourage you to display your real name; being a community in prayer is enhanced for everyone when we can acknowledge each other. (If you're not sure how to do this, please watch the video or read the document on page 3.)
2. Please do not unmute yourself unless you are specifically requested to do so. In order for the prayers and honors to be experienced as smoothly as possible, please follow the Rabbi's and the Hazzan's directions. Unmuting yourself at the wrong time draws our attention elsewhere.
3. Please do not shut off your video. We are striving to create a communal experience as described in #1 above. That said, if you need to step away or do something that does not lend itself to being seen, we encourage you to shut off your video feed briefly.
4. Please turn off or silence ALL electronics in the background, including alarms, timers, phones, TVs, radios, motorized equipment (excluding medical equipment), and so on; extraneous sounds will detract from your spiritual experience as well as everyone else's.
5. There will likely be hiccups on both sides of this process, but please do your best to show up at the start of each service; a minyan is needed to hold the services and we will be focusing on keeping things running smoothly. If you have an honor and aren't present, we won't be able to delay the services. *All this being said, we look forward to seeing you whenever and for however long you may join us.*
6. The Zoom chat function will be set to enable people to chat only with the Zoom host. Take heart in knowing that our presence will be enough for each other. If you need help, do not hesitate to contact the Zoom Host Coordinator via Zoom's chat function, but please do so only if something is truly a problem. Please be aware that s/he will be the only one managing the comings and goings of the Zoom session.
7. If at all possible, please try not to exit and re-enter the Zoom session. This is important for a variety of reasons, including the fact that we have only one Zoom Host Coordinator, and s/he may not be able to re-admit you in a timely fashion.
8. Please consider dressing as you would to attend services in the synagogue. We want to make this day as special as you do.
9. If you are able to choose a spot in your home facing East, that would be best; the Amidah is typically said while facing in the direction of Jerusalem. Whether or not that is possible, don't forget to focus on #10.
10. Find a comfortable seat (preferably, one that also allows you to easily rise and be seated). Though we have worked hard to keep our High Holidays services focused while still making them meaningful and spiritually uplifting, High Holidays services of substance take time and require a good deal of standing and sitting for extended periods of time.

## Changing Your Name in Zoom

This brief video explains how to change your name (both in your profile and while in the Zoom waiting room): <https://youtu.be/yx8mLR76ukA>

This PDF document explains how to join a Zoom session, change your name, and many other things (some of which will not be allowed during our High Holidays services): <https://stockton.edu/student-transition/documents/welcome-week-zoom-tutorial.pdf>

(These links will also be sent out with the email that will contain the Zoom information for services, but we have included it here for good measure.)

Finally, a note of all-around appreciation: **Thank you for your patience and goodwill as we make every effort to share a meaningful High Holidays season.** We all want to be engaged spiritually and intellectually during our services and programs and Rabbi Fox and Rabbi Bernstein along with the synagogue leadership and office staff have worked tirelessly to bring uplifting and meaningful services to you while facing many challenges along the way. Collectively, they and many unnamed heroes, all deserve our praise and appreciation for their efforts toward making these services possible such that we can be together . . . joyfully, meaningfully, and safely.