

MAY YOU AND YOURS BE SEALED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE!

# G'mar Chatimah Tovah גמר חתימה טובה

YOM KIPPUR 5786



Rabbi Elaine S. Zecher  
Cantor Alicia Stillman  
Rabbi Suzie Jacobson  
Rabbi Dan Slipakoff  
Rabbi Andrew Oberstein

Dan Deutsch,  
*Executive Director*  
Shawn Kravetz,  
*Board President*  
Amy Bolotin,  
*FJEC Preschool Director*

Rabbi Ronne Friedman,  
*Rabbi Emeritus*  
Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman,  
*Senior Scholar*  
Cantor Roy B. Einhorn,  
*Cantor Emeritus*

## Yom Kippur Afternoon: Stay in the Day

Between Yom Kippur morning and afternoon services, we invite you to participate in a choice of facilitated conversations, or find one of many spaces inside the Temple Israel building and along the Muddy River for meditative quiet. Details on page 3.

Following Neilah and Havdalah, we will have the chance to gather for a light and delicious break fast to share the end of Yom Kippur together!



## Sukkot & Simchat Torah

October 6-14, 2025. Details on pages 4 & 5.

KOL NIDRE | 10 TISHREI 5786 / WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025

**4:30 p.m.: Young Family Kol Nidre  
(Age 0 - Grade 1) in the Chapel**

**Rabbi:** Dan Slipakoff\*

**Cantorial Soloist:** Rachmiel Klein

**Musicians:** Jeremy Faust, Josh Segal, Tim Roberts

**5:45 p.m.: Early Community-Wide Kol Nidre  
in the Sanctuary and Online**

**Rabbis:** Elaine Zecher\*, Dan Slipakoff

**Cantor:** Alicia Stillman

**Musicians:** Emmanuel Feldman, Plamen Karadonev,  
MacFarland Masterton

**Greetings:** Rachel Wexler

**6:00 p.m.: Family Kol Nidre  
(Grades 2 - 7) in the Chapel**

**Rabbi:** Suzie Jacobson\*

**Cantorial Soloist:** Rachmiel Klein

**Musicians:** Jeremy Faust, Josh Segal, Tim Roberts

YOM KIPPUR | 10 TISHREI 5784 / THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025

**9:00 a.m.: Family Yom Kippur Service  
(Grades 2 - 7) in Levi Auditorium**

**Rabbi:** Dan Slipakoff\*

**Cantor:** Alicia Stillman

**Musicians:** Jeremy Faust, Eric Lass, Joshua Segal

**Torah Chanters:** Ben Fishbein, Ezra Fishbein,  
Lucia Mindell

**Greetings:** Rachel Wexler

**9:00 a.m.: Early Community-Wide Yom Kippur  
Service in the Sanctuary and Online**

**Rabbis:** Elaine Zecher, Suzie Jacobson\*

**Cantorial Soloist:** Rachmiel Klein

**Musicians:** Yale Friend, Dor Herskovits,  
Plamen Karadonev, MacFarland Masterton

**Torah Chanters:** Joe Bates, Josh Bates, Risa Goldfeld

**7:00 p.m.: Riverway Project Kol Nidre (20s & 30s)  
in Levi Auditorium and Online**

**Rabbi:** Andrew Oberstein\*

**Musicians:** Andrew Barnwell, Yale Friend,  
Dor Herskovits, Sam Powers, Tim Roberts,  
Ethan Roubenoff, Ellen Stepansky

**Greetings:** Rachel Wexler

**8:15 p.m.: Late Community-Wide Kol Nidre  
in the Sanctuary and Online**

**Rabbis:** Elaine Zecher\*, Suzie Jacobson, Dan Slipakoff

**Cantor:** Alicia Stillman

**Musicians:** Emmanuel Feldman, Plamen Karadonev,  
MacFarland Masterton

**Greetings:** Shawn Kravetz

**9:15 a.m.: Young Family Yom Kippur Service  
in the Social Hall**

**Rabbi:** Andrew Oberstein\*

**Musician:** Wayne Potash

**Greetings:** Karin Freed

**11:30 a.m.: Late Community-Wide Yom Kippur  
Service in the Sanctuary and Online**

**Rabbis:** Elaine Zecher, Suzie Jacobson\*, Dan Slipakoff,  
Andrew Oberstein

**Cantor:** Alicia Stillman

**Cantorial Soloist:** Rachmiel Klein

**Musicians:** Dor Herskovits, Plamen Karadonev,  
Yale Friend, MacFarland Masterton

**Torah Chanters:** Asher Berk, Eli Berk, Max Derris

# Yom Kippur Afternoon: Stay in the Day

**Thursday, October 2, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Between Yom Kippur morning and afternoon services, we invite you to participate in a choice of facilitated conversations, or find one of many spaces inside the Temple Israel building and along the Muddy River for meditative quiet.

## Deepen Your Yom Kippur Experience:

- **Ask the Clergy:** Delve into the themes of the holidays with Rabbis Zecher and Oberstein, and Cantor Stillman. (Onsite in the Sanctuary & Online)
- **Hour of Action:** We are excited to partner with Partakers to create packages for individuals returning home from incarceration. Partakers is a Massachusetts non-profit organization that supports the education and advancement of incarcerated individuals and returning citizens through a unique mentoring model. (Onsite in the Chapel)
- **Outdoor Mindfulness Walk:** Join us for a gentle guided walk on Yom Kippur afternoon. As we walk together in quiet contemplation, we will honor the sacredness of the day through presence, breath, and nature. All are welcome to share in this sacred journey. No experience is needed, just an open heart and comfortable shoes. Meet at the Nessel Way entrance.
- **Poetry as Prayer, Prayer as Poetry** with Rabbi Suzie Jacobson. (Onsite in Levi Auditorium & Online)
- **Riverway Gathering Space for 20s & 30s** (Unfacilitated in Slater Lounge)

SCAN THIS CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE TO HEAR  
CANTOR STILLMAN'S OUTDOOR MINDFULNESS WALK GUIDED AUDIO



**3:45 p.m.: Torah Service, Afternoon Service, Yizkor, Neilah, Havdalah in the Sanctuary and Online**

**Rabbis:** Elaine Zecher, Suzie Jacobson, Dan Slipakoff, Andrew Oberstein\*

**Cantor:** Alicia Stillman

**Cantorial Soloist:** Rachmiel Klein

**Musicians:** Plamen Karadonev, Dor Herskovits, Yale Friend, Josh Segal

**Torah Chanters:** Shari Noe, Andrew Sherman, Isa Gonzalez, Audrey Hemenway

**Shofar Blower:** Aviva Sapers

Following Neilah and Havdalah, we will have the chance to gather for a light and delicious break fast to share the end of Yom Kippur together!



EREV SUKKOT

Monday, October 6, 2025

5:15 p.m. Schmooze and Festival Meal for all ages

6:00 p.m. **October 7 Commemoration** (Onsite & Online). As the sun sets on October 6, we will gather at the intersection of sorrow and joy. On the second anniversary of the October 7 attacks, we will begin with a time of remembrance, holding space for grief and reflection. Then, as the holiday of Sukkot begins, we will gently turn toward celebration, inspired by a powerful tradition in Israel where Memorial Day flows directly into Independence Day, reminding us that even in mourning, we can choose to affirm life, resilience, and hope.

6:00 p.m. **Family Program**

6:30 p.m. **Festival Service in the Sukkah of Justice and Compassion** (Onsite & Online). Learn how Tikkun Central is making an impact, and how you can join in! Followed by a Festival Oneg.

SUKKOT MORNING

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

9:00 a.m. **Sukkot Festival Service and Torah Study** (Onsite & Online). Join us for a joyful Sukkot Festival Service, followed by an engaging and celebratory Torah study session that brings the meaning of the holiday to life. Afterward, stay for a Sukkot Festival Qiddush, a time to savor delicious food and connect in conversation. All are welcome!

9:30 a.m. **Village Sukkot Celebration (ages 0-5)**  
Celebrate Sukkot with songs, stories, and play in the Temple Israel sukkah! Join our clergy and beloved musician Wayne Potash for an interactive holiday service, followed by fun holiday crafts, snacks, and playground time.

Friday, October 10, 2025

6:45 p.m. **Riverway Shabbat: Sukkot Edition (20s & 30s)**  
Celebrate with a musical, inclusive service for those in their 20s & 30s, followed by drinks, desserts, and time to connect. Step into the spirit of Sukkot: eat under the sukkah, shake the lulav and etrog, and welcome in Shabbat with joy.



EREV SIMCHAT TORAH

Monday, October 13, 2025

4:30 p.m. **Yizkor Memorial Service** (Onsite & Online)

5:00 p.m. **Consecration for Kindergarten and all new students**

5:00 p.m. **Festival Meal for all ages**

6:00 p.m. **Erev Simchat Torah: Creative Sevice Experience** (Onsite & Online). In the past few years, we have had a camera moving around projecting the Torah, but this year, the Torah will move us. We will begin in the Sanctuary for a specially designed Simchat Torah creative service experience. Then, we will move to the Atrium to unroll the Torah scroll fully so that we can chant from the end of Deuteronomy and without-even-a-breath begin again with Genesis where everyone will be able to hold the Torah so we can all see its beautiful letters and story together. After that, the dancing begins as we move into Levi auditorium to celebrate with our feet, our hearts, and with some tasty treats.

SIMCHAT TORAH MORNING

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

9:00 a.m. **Simchat Torah Festival Service and Yizkor Memorial Service** (Onsite & Online)

9:30 a.m. **Village Simchat Torah Celebration (ages 0-5) followed by Qiddush**



# Upcoming Israel Programs at Temple Israel of Boston



**Qabbalat Shabbat with Din Tesler, Nova Festival Survivor**  
**Friday, October 3, 6:00 p.m. Onsite & Online.**  
Din Tesler survived the October 7 Nova Music Festival massacre, where he served as a security commander and helped save lives during the Hamas attack. His best friend, Bar Kupershtein, was taken hostage and remains in captivity. Since then, Din has shared his story across North America, raising awareness and inspiring communities with his message of resilience, remembrance, and hope.



**Temple Israel of Boston and United Hatzalah present: Eden Golan**  
**Thursday, October 30, 7:15 p.m. Onsite. Tickets required.**  
Join us for an evening with Eden Golan, who rose to international recognition as Israel’s representative in the 2024 Eurovision Song Contest. Golan has inspired audiences worldwide with her voice and her resilience. Now, she comes to our community for an intimate night of music and conversation in support of United Hatzalah’s lifesaving mission in Israel.



**From Israel With Love: Meet the Makers of Israel**  
**Sunday, November 9, 11:00 a.m. Online.**  
Join us for a morning of stories, craft, and connection as we prepare for Chanukah! We’re excited to feature Makers of Israel, a new marketplace connecting global audiences with Israeli artists and small businesses through handcrafted goods and meaningful stories. Ceramic artist Lia Bruce of Saltware will share her journey and creative inspiration, followed by an opportunity to shop a curated Chanukah collection. Support Israeli makers, bring beauty and meaning to your holiday, and give back through optional donations to organizations like the Israeli Children’s Fund.



**Conflicts of Interest: The History of the Arab-Israeli/ Israeli- Palestinian Conflict, with Rabbi Suzie Jacobson**  
**Seven-part series, beginning November 9.**  
Engaging with conflict is challenging—especially when shaped by diverse histories and perspectives. In this course, we’ll build foundational knowledge of key moments in Israel’s history and examine multiple narratives through primary sources. Together, we’ll explore the Arab-Israeli and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts, develop tools for respectful dialogue, and engage with curiosity in a diverse cohort of adult learners. Based on the I-Center’s Conflicts of Interest curriculum.

# Israel-Related Trips & Travel



**Trip to the Nova Music Festival Exhibition Boston**  
**Sunday, October 5, 2:00 p.m. Registration required.**  
Visit The Nova Exhibition in Boston together with our community and TI clergy. This powerful, immersive installation traces the events of the October 7 Nova Music Festival massacre through survivor testimony and artifacts from the scene. Walk through a moving timeline of joy turned devastation, hear from survivors, and reflect in a healing space that lifts up resilience and hope: “We will dance again.”



**Volunteer in Israel with the Riverway Project (20s & 30s)**  
**November 16-25, 2025**  
Join us for a powerful week of volunteering, learning, and connection, both with local Israeli communities and fellow participants. In partnership with Tailor Made: Birthright Israel, this experience includes accommodations in central Tel Aviv (with safe rooms), 4–6 hours of daily volunteering on farms and in logistics centers, a \$100 food stipend, health insurance, security, group Shabbaton, and time to explore. Spots are limited! The cost is \$600 with roundtrip group flights from Boston, or just \$50 if you’re meeting us in Israel. We’d love for you to be part of this meaningful journey.



**Explore Israel with Rabbi Zecher & Cantor Stillman**  
**November 4-14, 2026**  
Join us for a meaningful journey through Israel: hiking, tasting, singing, learning, and discovering alongside community and clergy. Experience the beauty, complexity, and spirit of Israel through a uniquely curated trip that celebrates our shared peoplehood. For more information or to express interest, please email Amy Sherr at asherr@tisrael.org.

# Remembering October 7



**October 7 Commemoration**  
**Monday, October 6, 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Onsite & Online.**  
**Followed by our Festival Service in the Sukkah of Justice and Compassion**  
As Sukkot begins, we’ll open our Erev Sukkot celebration with a meaningful moment of remembrance, honoring the October 7 anniversary and entering the holiday with reflection, resilience, and hope.

# Center for Adult Jewish Learning

## at Temple Israel of Boston

What new things will you discover in 5786? No matter your location, schedule, experience, or interests, there are so many ways to learn with the Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Israel of Boston this fall. Learn more by connecting with Lily Van Cleave at [Ivancleave@tisrael.org](mailto:Ivancleave@tisrael.org), or by registering through our calendar at [www.tisrael.org](http://www.tisrael.org).



**Jewish Music 101:**  
**Sounds, Settings, and Significance with Cantor Alicia Stillman**  
**Thursdays, October 9 & 16, 7:00 p.m. Onsite. No cost.**

Explore the evolution and significance of Jewish music, examining its role in history, culture, and religious practice. This two-session course delves into musical settings, aesthetics, and spirituality, offering participants a richer understanding of Jewish identity through music.



**Learn to Read Hebrew with Naomi Zipursky**  
**Mondays, October 20 – November 24 7:00 p.m. Onsite.**  
**\$180 Standard / \$240 Supporter / \$90 Reduced**

A beginner-friendly course designed to teach participants how to read Hebrew confidently. Students will learn the alphabet, follow along in prayer books, and gain the skills to participate in Jewish rituals. The class emphasizes a supportive, judgment-free learning environment.



**From the Rag Trade to Ralph Lauren with Lee Rubinstein**  
**Tuesdays, October 28, November 4, 18, 25, 6:30 p.m. Online.**  
**\$120 Standard / \$160 Supporter / \$60 Reduced**

This four-session course explores the impact of Jewish designers and photographers on fashion history, from European roots to modern America. Each session covers different eras, highlighting influential figures, social changes, and contributions in design, photography, and fashion culture globally.



**Modern Midrash: The Transformative Experiences of Exodus with Rabbi Elaine Zecher**  
**Monthly, beginning November 13, 9:00 a.m. Online. No cost.**

In the world of Modern Midrash and through the study of the book of Exodus, we will encounter and uncover some of the lesser known stories of the impact of women. The Midrash teaches that it is “because of the women” that the Jewish people were redeemed from Egypt. But, why and how? In our monthly class, we will explore the answers and, as always, the questions.



### Intro to Judaism

**Tuesdays, October 21 - February 10, 7:00 p.m. Onsite.**  
**\$275 per individual; \$375 per couple. Scholarships available.**

Introduction to Judaism is a welcoming course for anyone interested in exploring Jewish life through a Reform lens. Participants will dive into Jewish holidays, life cycle rituals, sacred texts, history, Hebrew, prayer, Israel, and more. This course is perfect for interfaith couples, spiritual seekers, those raising Jewish children, individuals considering conversion, or anyone looking to deepen their understanding of Judaism in a thoughtful, inclusive environment.



**Speaking Across Conflict Workshop with Resetting the Table**  
**Thursday, December 11, 6:00 p.m.**

This workshop offers tools for engaging in productive conversations across disagreement. Participants practice communication skills, explore differences and commonalities, and strengthen community trust and collaboration. The session encourages dialogue in a supportive and structured environment.

## Mark Your Calendar for These Special Programs



**Mindfulness Retreat with Cantor Stillman**  
**Saturday, November 1**

Join us for a half-day retreat at Temple Israel to engage in a number of different mindfulness practices. Together we will spend Shabbat in an enriched mindful setting, exploring prayer, movement, eating intentionally, meditation, and text study together as practices that further our awareness of ourselves and our value in the world.



**Jewish Arts Festival & Annual Winter Concert**  
**Sunday, February 1, 3:00 p.m. Onsite at Temple Israel**

**Exciting news!** This year, we are thrilled to bring together two of Temple Israel's most beloved artistic traditions for one incredible evening. Mark your calendars: the Jewish Arts Festival will return on Sunday, February 1, 2026! This year, the festival will open with Cantor Alicia Stillman's Annual Winter Concert at 3:00 p.m., and then the celebration continues at 4:00 p.m. filling our entire building with artists, vendors, food, performances, folk dancing, and more. This special night unites music, creativity, and community in a way that is truly unique. From the concert stage to the festival floor, every moment will be alive with artistry and connection. We can't wait to share this inspiring evening with you!



# Support the Friends Annual Fund

As we come together to welcome the 5786 High Holy Days, we are filled with gratitude for each member of our community. No matter what brings you into our space, we are glad you're here. Your presence enriches our shared experience and strengthens the spirit of Temple Israel. Your continued support helps keep our doors open to all, ensuring that our inclusive gatherings can thrive for years to come. We invite you to contribute to The Friends Annual Fund today. Your generosity plays a vital role in sustaining the warmth, vibrancy, and accessibility of our community. For more details, please call us at 617-566-3960.



## Stepping Out: Temple Israel's Annual Gala Save the Date! Thursday, April 9, 2026

Join us for an evening of celebration and community in support of the Friends Annual Fund. Your generosity helps keep Temple Israel accessible, inclusive, and vibrant for all who call it home. Stay tuned for more details, and thank you for being part of what makes this community so special.

# Pastoral Care at Temple Israel

One of the most meaningful aspects of being part of a synagogue community is knowing that we are never alone in life's most significant moments; whether joyful or difficult. At Temple Israel of Boston, we are honored to accompany you through every chapter: welcoming new life, becoming B'Mitzvah, standing together in confirmation, celebrating weddings, and navigating illness, crisis, or loss.



Amy Sherr, Executive Coordinator to Rabbi Zecher and Pastoral Care, Life Cycle, and End of Life Coordinator, will now be your primary contact when you or a loved one is facing a crisis or loss. Amy brings deep compassion, wisdom, and calm to her work. She will be your guide in navigating funeral arrangements and life's hardest moments with care and clarity. Whether you're unsure of what to do next or need to be connected with a member of our clergy, Amy will be there to help you.

You can reach Amy through the Temple Israel front desk or directly through our designated pastoral hotline:

**Pastoral Hotline: 857-305-9348**

**Temple Israel Front Desk: 617-566-3960**

Being in community means showing up for each other, in celebration and in sorrow. We are here for you. Your rabbis, your synagogue, and now Amy, are all part of that support system. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

# Youth Education at Temple Israel

Youth education at Temple Israel of Boston offers engaging, joyful, and meaningful Jewish experiences for every age and stage. From **The Village**, where families with young children connect through music, play, and holiday celebrations, to the **Frances Jacobson Early Childhood Center (FJECC)**, a nurturing preschool with top-tier secular and Judaic education, we support families from the very beginning. Our **Religious School** welcomes children ages 3 through 7<sup>th</sup> grade into a flexible, kid-centered learning community, while **The Tent** brings together Greater Boston teens for dynamic classes, celebrations, and social events. Across all ages, we help young people and their families find connection, purpose, and joy in Jewish life. For more information on our youth education programs, contact Natali Hecht at [nhecht@tisrael.org](mailto:nhecht@tisrael.org).

# Accessibility & Safety Information

## ACCESSIBILITY AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Temple Israel of Boston strives to ensure that our services are accessible and inclusive. We are proud to offer the following:

- Listening devices are available at the Reception desk.
- Large print prayer books are available for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services.
- We offer closed captioning on YouTube, Livestream, and Facebook Live, where available.
- Gender-neutral and wheelchair-accessible bathrooms are available on the first and second floors.
- Accessibility ramps are located at the Nessel Way and Riverway entrances.
- Elevator access is available to all levels, and wheelchair spaces are provided in all gathering spaces.
- ADA-compliant bathrooms are available on all floors.

Our staff at reception are available to help you navigate our offerings.

## SAFETY & EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In the unlikely case of an evacuation, please use any available exit to vacate the building. All exits are clearly marked with signage above them. If you see anything suspicious, please report it to a staff member or security guard. If you are interested in being a volunteer ambassador throughout the year, please contact Dan Deutsch, Executive Director, at [ddeutsch@tisrael.org](mailto:ddeutsch@tisrael.org).

## THANK YOU

The protective measures we have taken to provide a safe space to pray, learn, and gather come with significant financial costs. Most of our households have already contributed towards our security fund, allowing us to adapt our security measures. This contribution will be an essential resource for our ongoing safety and security work in the year ahead. Thank you! For more information, contact Dan Deutsch, Executive Director, at [ddeutsch@tisrael.org](mailto:ddeutsch@tisrael.org).

# Yom Kippur Song Lyrics

## I'm Not Alone

*By Anat Hochberg & Aly Halpert*

I'm not alone, I'm not alone (repeat)  
I forgot, for a minute who I belong to  
the mama earth, the wind and rain,  
the beauty and the pain.  
I'm not alone, for me the world was created  
I'm not alone, to dust I will return.

## Hareini M'kabel Alai

*Morning liturgy*

*Hareini mekabel alai*

*et mitzvah ha boreh*

*v'ahavta l'rei'acha kamocha.*

I take upon myself, the mitzvah of my creator  
*v'ahavta l'rei'acha kamocha*, to love my neighbor as  
myself

## May I Be Empty

*Batya Levine*

May I be empty, and open to receive the light.  
May I be empty, and open to receive.  
May I be full, and open to receive the light.  
May I be full, and open to receive.

## Ashrei

*High Holy Day and Shabbat Liturgy*

*Music and additional lyrics: Aly Halpert*

*Ashrei yoshvei, ashrei yoshvei beitecha*

*Ashrei yoshvei beitecha, od y'halelucha, Selah*

I sing (repeat) For you (repeat) I sing for what is holy and  
is true.

I sing for all creation, for life and liberation Every day  
anew.

## UneTane Tokef/Who By Fire

*On Rosh Hashanah it is written, on Yom Kippur it is sealed*

And who by fire, who by water  
Who in the sunshine, who in the night time  
Who by high ordeal, who by common trial  
Who in your merry merry month of May  
Who by very slow decay  
And who shall I say is calling?

And who by brave assent, who by accident  
Who in solitude, who in this mirror  
Who by his lady's command, who by his own hand  
Who in mortal chains, who in power  
And who shall I say is calling?

## We Rise

*Batya Levine*

We rise, humbly hearted  
Rise, won't be divided  
Rise, with spirit to guide us  
Rise!  
In hope, in prayer, we find ourselves here  
In hope, in prayer, we're right here...(2x)  
We rise, all of the children  
Rise elders with wisdom  
Rise, ancestors surround us  
Rise!  
In hope, in prayer, we find ourselves here  
In hope, in prayer, we're right here...(2x)  
We rise, up from the wreckage  
Rise, with tears and with courage  
Rise, fighting for life  
We rise!

