

Dear Congregants,

We mark time from one Rosh Hashanah to the next and are soon bringing to close a most extraordinary year. Many of the TBT staff and volunteers have been busy planning for the High Holiday services, so I want to share our plans with you.

Every service will have a **live stream** available, so no matter your level of comfort, health status, or even being far away, you will have the ability to share the High Holiday experience with your friends at Temple Beth Torah. There are no fees for remote attendance and we welcome your friends and family to join us; we simply ask them to consider a donation.

This season TBT will have a full calendar of High Holiday services, just like any year, **in person**, without restriction on the size of our gathering. **We will all be wearing masks.** At times you may be uncomfortable with your mask, so we are expecting people to take regular unmasking breaks outside. Youth services will be held in our Beit Midrash and classrooms.

You are all hearing news about the pandemic, resurgence and variants, positivity rates in different cities and counties, and a range of commentary about what it all means. Our reopening committee has been working tirelessly during the entire pandemic to put this information together and guide us to having the richest experiences while keeping us safe:

- Out of respect for the health and safety of your fellow congregants we ask that you come vaccinated
- Out of respect for your own privacy we will not be asking your vaccination status and suggest that you do not ask other congregants
- Seating will be well spaced throughout the Sanctuary
- Screens have been installed in our sanctuary windows to allow for fresh air
- HEPA air purifiers will be running in the Sanctuary and throughout the building
- Masks will be provided if anyone has forgotten theirs
- Individual bottles of water will be available for refreshment

Rabbi Mimi now has the benefit of a full year getting to know us and leading our services, and has been busy making arrangements with our new High Holiday Cantor Sam Tygiel. You will find the comfort of the High Holidays at Temple Beth Torah, with a renewed energy and joy that you haven't seen before. Because of the lengthy singing performance, Rabbi Mimi and Cantor Sam will be the only exceptions to the mask wearing policy, however they are both vaccinated.

Please also note that we will be asking you to register this year if you will be attending in person. The online registration form is forthcoming.

Everything I've described above is part of a complex plan to keep you safe while enjoying the most rewarding High Holiday experience ever at Temple Beth Torah. Attendance is ultimately a personal choice based on your comfort so we are trying to be as transparent as possible. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Temple office at tbt@bethtorah.org.

b'Shalom, and I look forward to sharing a sweet new year with you!

David Asher, President, Temple Beth Torah