שנה טובה ומתוקה

High Holiday Space Guide

Main Sanctuary
Our most liturgically comprehensive service, with songful Hebrew prayers led by the Rabbis, Hazzan Ben-Yehuda, and congregants, Torah and haftarah reading, and a sermon. On Yom Kippur day, there will be a traditional Yizkor. All ages and stages are welcome in this service. Our sanctuary is a two-level space, with the balcony accessible by stairs and elevator. Children who choose to go to the balcony must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Seating available: chairs with backs, benches with backs, space for wheelchairs. This is also the space we use for the afternoon text study on Yom Kippur.

Pavilion Service
The Pavilion service is an abbreviated, outdoor service led by congregants, Rita Cortés and Norman Kahn. There is limited seating available at picnic tables, or you may bring your own chairs for comfort during these Musaf and Kol Nidrei services.

Instrumental Services in Goldsmith Hall
In Goldsmith Hall, this service with musical instruments features familiar tunes from the Musaf service, a sermon, and, on Yom Kippur, a Yizkor with traditional prayers and poetic readings. This service is led by Rabbi Kaplan and our musical High Holiday rabbi-in-residence, Rabbi Jonah Rank. Seating available: chairs with backs and space for wheelchairs. Feel free to get up and dance!

“Prayground” in Goldsmith Hall
On the first day of Rosh HaShanah and on Yom Kippur, there will be a space in the back of Instrumental Services with quiet toys and books geared towards preschoolers and elementary schoolers. While many will be enjoying our robust programming for ages 1-10 at this time, we have designed this space for children who want to be with their family for instrumental services. Movement and natural sound are welcome in this space, and we ask you to take conversation into the hallway.

Tashlikh
We gather under a gazebo, which has some bench seating. The walk to the gazebo is through a paved sidewalk and then grass. After a few short prayers, the tashlikh ritual takes place next to a body of water a few hundred yards from the gazebo. Snacks are provided and enjoyed by participants of all ages. This event is rain or shine, except in the case of dangerous thunder/lightning.

Contemplative Practice in Goldsmith Hall
On the second day of Rosh HaShanah, Rabbi Kaplan will facilitate mindfulness practice for b'nei mitzvah age and older, looking to explore a spiritual alternative to the traditional morning prayers. Whether you've never meditated before, meditate daily, or somewhere in between, please join us to reconnect with your body and the themes of the High Holidays. There will be chairs with backs as well as seating on blankets on the ground. This is a food and scent-free space; water is welcome. Please come on time so we can begin together. There will be a brief teaching, some gentle singing, and periods of silence.

Rosh HaShanah Day 2 Alternative Service
Contemplative Shacharit in Goldsmith Hall
9:15 am - Doors Open, 9:30 am - Doors Close
Program runs until 10 am. Singing, Sources, and Silence
A space to connect to the themes of Rosh HaShanah and our bodies. No prior meditation experience necessary.
Breakfast of Blessings
9:45-10:15 am Lower Level Reading Area
Join to taste the simanim - symbolic foods for Rosh HaShanah
Taste of Rimon Service
10:30 am Goldsmith Hall, Text Study and Singing

Quiet Space: Stacey's Study
Looking for a quiet place to read, breathe, or regroup? Stacey's Study will be open to congregants ages 18+ and features couches, chairs, fidget toys, and a few curated High Holiday reading materials.

Nursing Rooms
Room 103 (downstairs; accessible by elevator and stairs on the other side of the building from the sanctuary) and the coat room (by the stairs to the second level of the sanctuary that are closest to the sukkah patio) are for parents who wish to have designated space to breastfeed or pump.

Bathrooms
There is a multi-stall men's room and women's room on both floors of our building. Each has handicap stalls. There is a gender neutral, single use restroom on the first floor by the elevators and preschool office, as well as across from the men's bathrooms by the Sanctuary.

Please refrain from wearing perfume, cologne, or other scented products; some of our members have sensitivities to these. For those who need to eat or drink on Yom Kippur, please do so anywhere in the building that is comfortable for you – outside of spaces where services are being held.