



Congregation Beth Shalom

High Holy Days 5786/2025 General Information

General Information

High Holy Day Ticket Policy

Congregation Beth Shalom is an inclusive and welcoming synagogue, open to all who wish to join us for High Holy Day Services. All CBS members and their immediate household, including children through age 26, are invited to attend. Members' names will be on a reservation list at check-in. We also welcome other relatives and out-of-town guests—please complete our [Out-of-Town Guest Form](#) if you plan to bring them. We look forward to sharing the holidays together as a community.

In-Person and Virtual Worship Options

Our sanctuary can seat over 700 people. Speakers are distributed throughout the sanctuary to ensure that all activities can be heard. Seating location is on an open, first-come, first-served basis. CBS has a limited number of tallit available and many kippot in the foyer. You may also wish to bring a sweater or some type of wrap as temperatures will vary in the sanctuary depending on the number of worshippers present. Our community services will also be available via Zoom, with access details sent by email a few days before the High Holy Days

Entrance and Parking

Entry is via the front main doors only. Members and guests are encouraged to park in the lined spaces provided at the synagogue. If those spaces are filled, our neighbors have graciously offered to share their parking facilities with us.

800 West 5th Avenue - Directly west of Beth Shalom, congregants may park in the spaces on the north and east sides only.

5th Avenue - There will be limited parking available on the north side of 5th Avenue. Please obey all posted signs on 5th Ave. as there is no parking on the south side of the street.

Electronics

For the benefit of everyone's spiritual fulfillment please turn off or vibrate all cell phones.

We encourage you not to allow your children to bring electronic games. Use of these electronics will not be permitted in the sanctuary or foyer.

Accessibility and Special Needs

To help make your worship experience more comfortable and meaningful, we offer several accommodations. Large-print prayer books are available in the lobby, and assistive technology is provided for those who are hearing impaired. Special seating is available for seniors and individuals using wheelchairs or walkers, and we add extra handicapped parking spaces during the High Holy Days. We want nothing to stand in the way of your worship. If you have any special needs that could affect your experience during the High Holy Days, please contact Lisa Ohlhausen at religiouspractice@napershalom.org or call the office at 630-961-1818. We will make every effort to meet your needs.

Special Worship Services and Adult Education

Rabbi David's High Holy Day Classes

Rabbi David will offer a series of High Holy Day classes, open to both members and non-members. RSVP is required, and you may register for one or all of the sessions through the [provided link](#). The series begins on Wednesday, September 3, from 6:00–8:00 pm with *"Kintsugi: Brokenness & Repair."* On Wednesday, September 10, from 7:00–8:30 pm, he will present *"High Holy Day Refresher/101."* The final class will be on Wednesday, September 17, from 7:00–8:30 pm, focusing on *"Hasidic Notions of Teshuvah."*

Selichot

The month of Elul is a time of soul-searching and reflection to prepare oneself for the High Holy Days. Part of this preparation includes the recitation of Selichot, which translates to "forgiveness". The Selichot prayers for High Holy Days are Jewish penitential poems and prayers, with the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy playing a central role. Join CBS in the Sanctuary at 7:00 PM for a film viewing of "Footnote", a 2011 Israeli drama film which won the Best Screenplay Award at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival. "Footnote is the story of Talmud scholar Eliezer Shkolnik (Shlomo Bar-Aba), who has worked in obscurity at Jerusalem's Hebrew University. In contrast, Eliezer's son, Uriel (Lior Ashkenazi), also an academic, has published many books and received numerous accolades. Eliezer looks down on his son's achievements and pursuit of fame, and so the pair have a rocky relationship. Their rivalry comes to a head when Eliezer receives word that, at long last, he is the recipient of the prestigious Israeli Prize."

The movie is 1 hour and 45 minutes, meaning it will end around 8:45pm. Following the movie we will have a discussion of the film over some lite nosh and snacks in the social hall. Our traditional Selichot service will follow the discussion (around 9:15pm) where we change the Torah covers to white and begin the High Holy Day season in earnest.

Tashlich

Tashlich is our opportunity to symbolically cast our sins into a body of water and start the New Year with a clean slate. Please join us for our community Tashlich service shortly following services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. Birdseed will be provided to cast away your sins, as well as a light snack. Location: Will be announced at Rosh Hashanah services.

Community Kol Nidre

The main community Kol Nidre will begin at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Kol Nidre will be followed immediately by the Maariv (evening) service. A pre-sundown communal chanting of the Kol Nidre "All Vows" declaration will take place at 6:00 pm in the Youth Lounge. Tom and Barbara Wolff will lead this participatory service with Hebrew, transliteration and music provided to enable congregants to add their voices to the lovely prayer. This service will last about 20 minutes.

Yizkor Service on Yom Kippur

The Yizkor service on Yom Kippur will begin at approximately 1:15 pm, immediately after the morning service. The Yizkor Memorial Book will be used during Yizkor services on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, Pesach, and Shavuot throughout the year 5786. To include a dedication in memory of one or more loved ones, please complete our [Memorial Book Dedication Form](#).

Yom Kippur Study Session

Zena Goldenberg will lead our Yom Kippur Study Session on Thursday, October 2, beginning at approximately 1:45 p.m., right after the Yizkor Memorial Service. "Take a whale of a trip! Join this guided inner Jonah journey of your own. Relax, review, renew"

Children's and Family Programming

Child Care

Child Care will be available for First Day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning services. Only those who have made reservations for child care will be guaranteed a space. Please [click on this link for Child Care Information and Registration Form](#). Contact the office at 630-961-1818 for additional information.

Play and Pray

Our "Pray and Play" area, designed for families with children ages 0–7, features a cozy rug, coloring books, toys, and books. Families are welcome to enjoy this space or sit anywhere else in the Sanctuary. A cabinet of additional toys is also available in the lobby.

Young Family Services

Join Rabbi David and Rabbi Allison for meaningful and engaging family services this High Holy Day season at CBS. Together, we'll share songs, stories, and a warm introduction to the spirit of the holidays—perfect for young children and grandchildren. These special services will be held on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur, both starting at 9:00 a.m. in the tent. Designed especially for families with children ages 0–7, the services create a welcoming space for our youngest community members to celebrate and connect.

Junior Congregation (Grades 3-7)

Junior Congregation services will be led by Rabbi Allison Peiser and offered on the 1st day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur at 10:00 am.

Questions During Services?

If you have any questions, please look for a CBS board member wearing a colorful nametag or a volunteer in the lobby.