



P'nai Or Jewish Renewal Congregation of Philadelphia

High Holydays 5781/2020

The veil is thin, God is close - Return to the One, Return again

Our community will continue to gather VIRTUALLY, with a creative response to our time.

Our High Holydays will be different this year! We will miss being together for our extraordinary musical transformative events. But we will create new ways to make the purpose of the High Holydays relevant and accessible.

- * **SELICHOT** **Saturday night after Shabbat, SEPT. 12**
Opening service of the Holy Days to begin the personal communal process of t'shuvah
- * **ROSH HASHANAH** **Friday evening SEPT. 18, SHABBAT SEPT. 19, and Sunday SEPT. 20**
Creative experiences with ample breaks and several surprises along the way
- * **KOL NIDRE** **Sunday evening SEPT. 27** Musical and meditative offerings
- YOM KIPPUR** **Monday SEPT. 28** Prayer, music, with opportunities for deep inner work
- * **SUKKOT** Begins **Friday evening OCT. 2**
- * **SIMCHAT TORAH** **Saturday night OCT. 10**

More information will be posted on the P'nai Or email and website throughout August and September.

To join the P'nai Or listserv, contact Gwen Greenberg at drgwengreenberg@gmail.com

Because of Zoom security concerns, P'nai Or will join most every Jewish community in requiring advance registration for High Holyday services and events. Info on how we will do that will show up in your email.



From our Rabbi

Last year in August I was preparing for, and then beginning the arc of recovery from, open-heart surgery. All my prayers for openness of heart were, it seems, responded to quite literally. I have needed an open heart often this year. Even as we wrestled with climate catastrophes, healthcare inequities, gun violence, and challenges to basic human rights, our world became engulfed by pandemic and we have been brought to a new level of accountability for the American legacy of racial oppression and injustice. Our hearts are broken open.

AND we are primed for change.

Our work is both in the world and in ourselves – that we each individually, and as a P'nai Or community of caring – might become the change we seek.

Our High Holydays are about transformation and repair. We do a deep dive into our own souls and clean house. Our souls and our relationships need tending and repair. Maybe more now than ever. Old stories we tell ourselves need to be opened up and re-written so that we can be free to become who we need to be in our lives and in our world. We are moving... we are becoming...

This year our High Holydays will be so different from anything we've had before (though our wonderful Dave Posmontier will still be with us!). We are inventing what that can look like. Most importantly, we will be together, and that is what matters.

P'nai Or never closed. We just moved our shul to your house! May it be a year of unanticipated blessings and new possibilities.

-Rabbi Marcia