



**Come Home for the High Holidays  
2017/5778**



**Services led by:  
Rabbi Gideon Estes  
Dr. Rebecca Musher Gross**

*May the New Year bring you and your loved ones  
blessings of joy, health and peace.*



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Dear Friend,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to join us for our High Holy Day worship services as we usher in a New Year full of joy, song, and continued growth of Congregation Or Ami. The High Holy Days are a time to pause and reflect on life, to take stock of those things that are precious and dear to us in life. The holidays offer us an opportunity to strengthen and support one another as we gather as a synagogue community.

As we look forward to 5778, we are excited about the opportunities at Or Ami to build on the successes of past years. We will continue our quarterly spirited Sababa Shabbat, our monthly stimulating Limmud Shabbat discussions, Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Estes, Senior Trips, and an array of programs throughout the year. We have also added a monthly Saturday Minchah service and look forward to other innovations in the coming year.

For the coming holidays, Rabbi Estes and The Ritual Practices Committee have sought to create a worship atmosphere in which we can reflect on the past and then draw upon our spiritual resources to lead better personal and communal lives. We invite your participation and encourage you to join fully in our High Holy Days services. Rabbi Estes and Dr. Rebecca Musher Gross will once again lead the services. This year marks Dr. Gross' twenty sixth year serving as cantor for these services.

**As in past years, youth services will be conducted. Babysitting will be available as well.**

This year we will again be using the new Machzor Lev Shalem, which contains English readings in gender neutral language, classic piyyutim not included in the old Machzor, readings for meditation drawn from a range of traditional and modern sources, and extensive transliteration for those less comfortable with reading Hebrew.

The enclosed packet of High Holy Days information has been prepared to assist you in planning ahead for the holidays. Please review it and return the appropriate forms.

**Two very important items:**

- 1. Please return your forms by Wednesday, September 13, 2017.**
- 2. This year we will not be mailing out tickets; they will be available for pickup when you arrive for services.**

If you have any special needs, **please call Beth Aronson, 215-680-1144, Ritual Practices Committee chair.**

Our families join us in wishing you a Shanah Tova U'Metukah, a sweet new year blessed with good health, happiness, and prosperity.

B'Shalom,

Handwritten signature of Jason Feer in black ink.

**Jason Feer**  
**President**

Handwritten signature of Beth Aronson in black ink.

**Beth Aronson**  
**Chair, Ritual Practices**

## Schedule of Services 2017/5778

Service	Date	Time
Selichot Services	Saturday evening, September 16	9:30 pm
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Wednesday evening, September 20	8:00 pm
Rosh Hashanah 1 <sup>st</sup> Day Youth Services Tashlich	Thursday, September 21	9:00 am 10:00 am Following services
Erev Rosh Hashanah 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	Thursday evening, September 21	8:00 pm
Rosh Hashanah 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	Friday, September 22	9:00 am
Shabbat Shuva	Friday evening, September 22 Saturday, September 23	8:00 pm 9:30 am
Family Tashlich Service	Sunday, September 24	9:30 am
Kol Nidrei	Friday evening, September 29	6:30 pm (promptly)
Yom Kippur Day	Saturday, September 30	9:00 am
Youth Services		10:00 am
Afternoon study		4:00 pm
Minchah & Neilah		5:00 pm
Congregational Break Fast Meal following services	Saturday evening, September 30	Approx. 8:00 pm
Sukkah building	Sunday, October 1	9:00 am
Sukkot begins on Wednesday evening, October 4		

### Tallit/Kippot

The custom of wearing a kippah is a traditional practice that emphasizes humility before God. The tallit is a mitzvah (commandment) that symbolizes the 613 Torah laws that form the basis of our covenantal relationship with God, our fellow Jews, and all humanity. Out of respect for God and our tradition we encourage all people to wear a kippah or cover their heads and all Jewish adults (post Bar or Bat Mitzvah) wear a tallit. The tallit is also worn at the Kol Nidre service. Due to our limited supply, we ask you to please bring your own kippah and tallit.

### Tashlich

In order to give tangible expression to the prayers of the High Holy Days that ask for atonement from wrongdoing, the ceremony of Tashlich was instituted over 1,500 years ago. The act of symbolically casting (“Tashlich”) away one’s sins into a free flowing body of water is based upon the words of the prophet Micah who said, “And You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.” Congregation Or Ami will gather for Tashlich at the walking path next to the Robinson-Westchase Neighborhood Library **immediately following Rosh Hashanah Day 1 services and on the Sunday following Rosh Hashanah, September 24, 2017 at 9:30 AM. Please park at Or Ami; participants will make the brief walk together.** Please bring small pieces of bread to cast into the stream.

## **High Holy Days Tickets**

A limited number of seats are available for members of the Jewish community to attend our High Holiday services. In order to support and sustain the good work of Congregation Or Ami during the coming year, we ask that you contribute \$180 per person. *Non-members may apply the cost of High Holiday tickets toward membership dues through July 2018.* Dependent children and college students will be admitted with their parents at no additional cost. This includes all services and Erev Rosh Hashanah Oneg and Yom Kippur Break Fast.

## **Youth Services/Babysitting**

High Holy Days services for our children will be held so that they may have a meaningful worship experience and come to understand the important messages of the holidays. Youth services for ages 5-7 and 8-11 will be held on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Day. Babysitting is available for children ages 4 and under during all services with advance reservations. Your child will be served snacks on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

## **Parking**

Overflow parking for all holidays is available at the **shopping center adjacent to the Or Ami outdoor recreation area (corner of Wilcrest Green and Wilcrest).**

## **Yom Kippur Break Fast**

Following Neilah on Yom Kippur Day, Saturday, September 30, Congregation Or Ami will host a Break Fast Meal. Congregants and guests will be able to enjoy a full meal immediately upon the conclusion of the holiday, prepared by Congregation Or Ami's Kitchen Committee. Please consider making a donation to help offset this cost by indicating so on the following High Holy Days form.

## **High Holy Day Beautification & Security Fund**

If you would like to make a special donation toward beautifying our synagogue or providing security for the High Holy Days, please indicate on the following form.

# High Holy Days Form 2017/5778

GUEST NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER (please indicate type): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

## High Holy Days Tickets

I would like to request guest tickets at \$180 per person for the following adults  
(dependent children in college or younger are included with parents):

Name	Relationship
Name	Relationship
Name	Relationship
Name	Relationship

## Babysitting

Please reserve space in babysitting for my children (check all that apply):

Name & age	Rosh Hashanah I	Erev Rosh Hashanah II	Rosh Hashanah II	Kol Nidre	Yom Kippur

## Beautification & Security Fund

I would like to make a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_ to the Beautification & Security Fund.

## Yom Kippur Break Fast

I would like to make a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_ to the Break Fast.  
(A donation of \$36 per family is suggested)

Total Number Attending per family \_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017.**

## High Holy Days Packet Checklist and Payment Roster

This form must accompany any paperwork that you send back to the office.  
Thank you so much!

FIRST NAME: _____	LAST NAME: _____
FIRST NAME: _____	LAST NAME: _____

	<b>Fee</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Guest Tickets	\$180 per person	\$
Babysitting	No fee	
Beautification and Security Fund	Optional Donation	\$
Yom Kippur Break Fast	Suggested donation of \$36 per family	\$
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</b>		\$

Only one check is required for all your High Holy Days fees and contributions.  
Thank you very much!

**Please enclose your check made payable to Congregation Or Ami for the total amount noted above along with the completed forms no later than WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 to:**

Congregation Or Ami  
3443 Wilcrest Drive  
Houston, Texas 77042

**Please contact Becca in the synagogue office with any questions by phone, 713-334-4300 or e-mail, [houstonorami@gmail.com](mailto:houstonorami@gmail.com).**