

**Come Home for the High Holy Days
at Congregation Or Ami
2025 5786**



**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,

With great pleasure, we welcome you to join us for High Holy Day worship services at Congregation Or Ami. Let us all join together to usher in a New Year full of joy, song, hope, and resilience. The High Holy Days give us time to pause and reflect on life, to take stock of all things precious and dear to us. These holidays offer an opportunity to strengthen and support one another as we gather as a synagogue community.

Looking forward to 5786, we continue our religious services and membership programming that are the traditions and backbone of Or Ami. Young and young at heart will enjoy our spirited Sababa Shabbatot, our monthly stimulating Limmud Shabbat discussions, Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Estes, Senior Trips, Austerlitz Shabbat and an array of programs throughout the 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' thirty-fourth year serving as cantor.

Our holiday services will be offered on Zoom for those who are unable to attend in the Strudler-Gladstone sanctuary. A special holiday Zoom link will be sent prior to Erev Rosh Hashanah for you to access our holiday services online. Shabbat Shuva (the Shabbat service between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) will use the regular weekly prayer link.

As in past years, we will offer youth services and provide babysitting. Youth services will be scheduled for the first day of Rosh Hashanah morning service and Yom Kippur morning.

We prepared the enclosed High Holy Day packet to help you in planning for this important season. Please review the packet and return the appropriate forms. We will make tickets available for pickup when you arrive for services.

Please return your forms by Monday, September 8, 2025. If you have any special needs, **please contact Anne Perlmutter, Ritual Practices Committee chair, at 713-516-6776 or email ampvideo@aol.com.**

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,

Jason Feer
President

Anne Perlmutter
Chair, Ritual Practices

Schedule of Services 2025/5786

| Service | Date | Time |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Selichot Services | Saturday evening, September 13 | 9:30 pm |
| Erev Rosh Hashanah | Monday evening, September 22 | 8:00 pm |
| Rosh Hashanah 1 st Day Youth Services | Tuesday morning, September 23 | 9:00 am 10:00 am |
| Erev Rosh Hashanah 2 nd Day | Tuesday evening, September 23 | 8:00 pm |
| Rosh Hashanah 2 nd Day | Wednesday morning, September 24 | 9:00 am |
| Shabbat Shuva | Friday evening, September 26 Saturday morning, September 27 | 6:45 pm 9:30 am |
| Tashlich Service | Sunday morning, September 28 | 9:30 am |
| Kol Nidrei | Wednesday evening, October 1 | 6:30 pm * |
| *Please arrive by 6:20 pm for a prompt 6:30 pm start. | | |
| Yom Kippur Day Youth Services Afternoon study Mincha & Neilah | Thursday morning, October 2 | 9:00 am |
| | | 10:00 am |
| | | 4:15 pm |
| | | 5:15 pm |
| Break Fast Meal following services in the Flax Social Hall | Thursday evening, October 2 | Approx. 7:15 pm |
| Sukkah building | Sunday morning, October 5 | 10:00 am |
| Sukkot begins on Monday evening, October 6, 2025 | | |

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) to 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 on the **Sunday following Rosh Hashanah, September 28 at 9:30AM. Please park at Or Ami; participants will make the short walk together.** Please bring small pieces of bread to cast into the stream.

High Holy Day Tickets

Guest admission is available for members of the Jewish community to attend our High Holiday services. In order to support and sustain the good works of Congregation Or Ami during the coming year, we ask that you contribute at least \$180 per person. *Non-members may apply the cost of High Holy Days tickets toward membership dues through July 2026.* Dependent children and college students will be admitted with their parents at no additional cost. This includes all services, Erev Rosh Hashanah Oneg and Yom Kippur Break Fast.

High Holy Day Security

Congregation Or Ami guests are asked to contribute to the cost of our additional security by donating a required \$36 per family. This donation is included on the following form.

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 will be held on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur Day. Ages 8-11 will enjoy their service in the Jerry Rochman Family Library. Ages 5-7 will meet in a classroom. Babysitting is available for children ages 4 and under during all services with advance reservations. Snacks will be served.

Yom Kippur Break Fast

Following Neilah on Yom Kippur Day, Thursday, October 2, Congregation Or Ami will host a Break Fast Meal in the Flax Social Hall. Congregants & guests will be able to enjoy a full meal immediately upon the conclusion of the holiday, prepared in the Jean & Allan Quiat Kitchen by Congregation Or Ami's wonderful 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

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

High Holy Days Form 2025/5786

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 Fund

I would like to make a contribution of \$ ____ to the Beautification 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 BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025.
WHETHER PAYING BY CHECK OR ZELLE, PLEASE INDICATE
"HOLIDAYS 2025" IN THE MEMO TO ENSURE PROPER CREDIT.

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: _____

| | Fee | Amount |
|---|--|--------|
| Guest Tickets | \$180 per person | \$ |
| Security fee | \$36 per family | \$ 36 |
| Babysitting | No fee | |
| Beautification Fund | Optional Donation | \$ |
| Yom Kippur Break Fast | Suggested donation of \$36 per family | \$ |
| TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Holidays 2025 in memo) | | \$ |
| TOTAL AMOUNT BY ZELLE (Holidays 2025 in memo) | | \$ |

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

**Please send your forms and payment for the
total amount noted above no later than
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025.**

If paying by check, mail to:

Congregation Or Ami
3443 Wilcrest Drive
Houston, Texas 77042

If paying by Zelle:

Use recipient
treasurer@oramihouston.org
and mail or email forms.

**Please contact the synagogue office with any questions,
713-334-4300 or houstonorami@gmail.com.**