

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 to everyone 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**. Parents of Religious School children are asked to join the brief service on Sunday and return their child(ren) to Or Ami at its conclusion. **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

Each adult Congregation Or Ami member in good standing (**i.e., current with financial obligations to Or Ami and has submitted a completed 2025-2026 dues commitment form**), will receive a ticket for entrance to our High Holy Days services. Your admission to Kol Nidrei services will be your High Holy Days Appeal ticket. Dependent children and college students of our members will be admitted with their parents. Adult immediate family of our members may purchase tickets for a donation of \$36 per person. High Holy Days tickets for all services and break fast will be offered to the general Jewish community for a donation of \$180 per adult (dependent children in college or younger are included with parents). Non-members may apply the cost of High Holy Days tickets toward membership dues through July 2026. We strongly encourage that such guests consider an appropriate contribution to our synagogue to support our activities in the coming year. *Please note: Congregation Or Ami honors reciprocity for High Holiday seating to those members who will be worshipping at other synagogues and guests who have a signed letter from their home congregation.*

Youth Services/Babysitting

High Holy Days youth services will be held so that they may have a meaningful worship experience and understand the important messages of the holidays. Youth services are on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and 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 will enjoy a full meal upon the conclusion of the holiday, prepared in the Jean & Allan Quiat Kitchen by Congregation Or Ami's wonderful kitchen committee. Please consider a donation to offset this cost on the High Holy Days form.

High Holy Day Security

Security is provided during all High Holy Day services. Please consider a suggested \$36 donation to help defray the costs of additional security during our services. This donation can be indicated on the following 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.

Book of Remembrance

For all four Yizkor services during 5786 (Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Passover, Shavuot), we will use a specially printed Book of Remembrance that recalls the names of beloved relatives. (A minimum contribution of \$10 per name is suggested.)

High Holy Days Forms 2025/5786

MEMBER NAME(S): _____

High Holy Days Tickets

I would like to request guest tickets for the following members of my immediate family:
(Please consider a minimum donation of \$36 per ticket)

Name

Relationship

Name

Relationship

Name

Relationship

I would like to request tickets (\$180 each) for the following guests/friends:

Name

Name

Name

Name

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

High Holy Day Security

I would like to help defray the cost of added security with a contribution of \$ ____ .
(A donation of \$36 per family is suggested.)

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.

Book of Remembrance Form 2025/5786

Names must be submitted to appear in the Book of Remembrance

MEMBER NAME(S): _____

Names for whom a donation is made will be read aloud.

If you prefer them not to be read aloud during Yizkor, please check here ☐

If you would like to include the same names as last year, please check here ☐
and add any additional names in the spaces below.

Please list the following name(s) for inclusion in the 5786 Or Ami's
Book of Remembrance:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

By (your name(s)): _____
(A contribution of \$10 per name is suggested)

Yizkor Memorial Plaque Form 2025/5786

I wish to order a Memorial Plaque and have enclosed \$360 per plaque.

English Name _____

Hebrew Name _____

English Date of Death: _____

Time of Death:

☐

Before Sunset

☐

After Sunset

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025.
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Lulav and Etrog Orders



Name _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please check one or more of the choices below:

☐ Standard Etrog & Lulav Set - Fully Assembled **\$60.00**

☐ Deluxe Etrog & Lulav Set - Fully Assembled **\$70.00**

☐ Premium Etrog & Lulav Set - Fully Assembled **\$80.00**

Total Order: \$_____ is enclosed.

★Made In Israel★

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High Holy Days Packet Checklist and Payment Roster

This form must accompany any paperwork that you send back to the office.

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____ (Member 1)

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____ (Member 2)

FORM	AMOUNT	PLEASE CHECK
Congregation Or Ami Member Ticket(s)	<i>Included with 2025-2026 dues commitment. Form enclosed if not previously submitted.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guest Ticket(s) for Immediate Family Member (≥\$36 each)	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guest Ticket(s) for Friends (\$180 each)	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Babysitting	No Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Security Donation	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beautification Fund	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yom Kippur Break Fast	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Book of Remembrance	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lulav and Etrog	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Holidays 2025 in memo)	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL AMOUNT BY ZELLE (Holidays 2025 in memo)	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Please DO NOT combine High Holy Days payments with annual giving (dues) payments.
Thank you for your fees and contributions!*

**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.**