



## Use of Zoom for Shabbat and Festival services

In common with a number of other organisations around the world, Alyth experienced an unpleasant incident of Zoom bombing last week.

As we learn more about how to best use this technology, we are adjusting our procedures to minimise the ability of those who wish to disrupt our services to do so. We are balancing this with our community's founding ideals of being as open and welcoming as possible.

### **Here is how we are adjusting our procedures to protect our services:**

1. For each service there will be a different Zoom address, so please make sure that you use the most recent email link to join us.

2. The account settings which can allow others to interrupt your experience have all been disabled. This includes chat, screen sharing, screen annotations and file transfers.

*We are especially sad about the disabling of the chat function, which had been used so beautifully on the previous Erev Shabbat for messages to one another and on Shabbat morning to send notes to the Bat Mitzvah.*

*Unfortunately, this is now necessary to limit the possibility of disruption.*

3. We will be strictly monitoring users throughout the session, with the ability to put on hold, or remove unwanted or disruptive participants, especially those who are trying to show offensive images. Those who are removed will be unable to re-join the session.

### **There are also additional ways that you can protect yourself:**

1. During the service, set your Zoom so that it is on speaker view only. This will mean that you only see the service leaders and do not see anything being done by other users.

2. Remember that you also have the choice whether to be visible to others or not. If you wish to turn off your video so others cannot see you, or into your home, please do so.

3. If you wish, you can also change the name on your zoom account so that not even your name is visible to other users.

*As we have done in previous weeks, we will give everybody the ability to unmute themselves at Kiddush. At this point you may wish to turn on your video and gallery view so that you can see others and be seen. Please do not feel that you have to do so, and feel free to leave the session at this point.*

### **Please also remember:**

While it is wonderful to be able to see one other, many members are trying to pray during the service and the congregation includes members in mourning, especially at this time.

If you choose to remain visible during the service, please bear this in mind.

Our Siddur is available to follow online at: <https://www.reformjudaism.org.uk/online-siddur/>