



To pray. To learn. To live. Together.

ELUL

PROGRAMME

28 AUGUST - 25 SEPTEMBER 2022

PRAY WITH US

IN ELUL

SHOFAR BLOWING WORKSHOP

THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 18:00–19:00

Calling all budding shofar blowers, or those who are just intrigued to try.

Join our member, Sam Eastmond, professional composer, trumpet player and band leader, in this workshop where even beginners will feel confident in learning a new skill.

[Click here](#) to let us know you're coming.

SING WITH US

FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER, 17:15-18:15

Join us as we sing new and familiar melodies, exploring harmonies and preparing our voices for our Shabbat and festival services.

SELICHOT

SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

We come together on Saturday evening for Selichot, a beautiful way to bring yourself towards the High Holy Days and to enhance their spiritual impact.

20:00 Madrichim Secret Cinema Selichot

An immersive and interactive viewing of "Pitch Perfect" to explore the themes raised by this time of year in a fun and different way. We'll start in the Barden University cafeteria to join the Bella's for dinner, so [click here](#) to let us know you are coming for catering purposes.

21:00 Selichot Film Club

A viewing of "12 Angry Men (1957)", followed by a discussion of the themes it raises. Following the closing arguments in a murder trial, the 12 members of the jury must deliberate, with a guilty verdict meaning death for the accused, an inner-city teen. As the dozen men try to reach a unanimous decision while sequestered in a room, one juror (Henry Fonda) casts considerable doubt on elements of the case. Personal issues soon rise to the surface, and conflict threatens to derail the delicate process that will decide one boy's fate.

Followed by light refreshments and a choice of two services, starting at 23:10:

23:10 Choral Service

An opportunity to join our Choir and hear for the first time the sound of the High Holy Days and the poems which search our souls.

23:10 Selichot for the Soul

A relaxed guitar led service with moments of song and moments of silence to allow for reflection as we move towards our High Holy Days.

These services are in-person and will also be available online. Please see the weekly email for Zoom links.

PRAY WITH US - YOUNG FAMILIES

IN ELUL

ELUL SENSORY SHABBAT

SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 11:00-12:00

A special version of our Shabbat experience designed to stimulate your babies' senses in the first years of their life. Join Rabbi Hannah, Ella and the Dungareenees in this service where you and your baby can touch, see, smell, hear and taste your way through the service to begin their preparations for the High Holy Days.

GESHER SERVICE

SATURDAY 3, 10:00-11:00 AND SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER, 11:00-12:00

If your child feels too old for Sensory Shabbat, but Big Bang felt too grown up, join us for a special Elul version of our new family service 'Geshet'. This service has been designed to bridge the gap between our two family prayer spaces, so that your child can grow through tefillah that works for them. With Rabbi Hannah, Cantor Tamara, Ella and the Geshet Guitarists.

LEARN WITH US

IN ELUL

ALYTH'S JOURNALISTS

THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER, 19:30-21:00

As we move towards a new Jewish year and begin a process of reflection, join a panel of Alyth journalists for an evening looking back on the past two years. In conversation, they will review how events affected our society, the state of the UK and the wider world.

This session is in-person and can also be joined online by [clicking here](#).

ALYTH'S ONLINE LECTURES REVISITED

THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER, 19:30-21:00

In 2020, in the heart of the first lockdown, we ran a series of Alyth Online Lectures, which for many of our members were one of the highlights of that difficult period. As part of our pre-High Holy Day programme this year, we invite back a panel of four of our lecturers, in conversation with Rabbi Josh, to look at what has changed – for better or worse - in the last two years.

This session is in-person and can also be joined online by [clicking here](#).

LEARN WITH US

IN ELUL

JUDAISM THE ESSENTIALS

TUESDAYS, 20:00

Tuesdays 6, 13, 20 September, 20:00-21:00

Our regular introduction to Judaism class taught by our clergy with Jon Epstein. Essentials is the perfect class for those coming to Judaism for the first time, or looking to consolidate the learning of a lifetime - or anywhere in between.

- 6** How the Jewish calendar works
- 13** Preparation for the High Holy Days 1
- 20** Preparation for the High Holy Days 2

Please contact Rabbi Hannah (hannah@alyth.org.uk) for more information about this programme. New students are always welcome.

PARDES: ROSH HASHANAH - A FESTIVAL OF MANY NAMES

THURSDAYS, 13:00

Thursdays 1, 8, 15, 22 September, 13:00-14:15

This Elul, Pardes will explore the many meanings of Rosh Hashanah through its multitude of names: whether it is Yom Teruah, Yom Harat Olam, Yom HaZikaron, or Yom HaDin, the Jewish New Year takes on a different significance depending on how you approach it.

Join the Alyth clergy to delve into these many names through Jewish text and story.

These sessions are online only, [click here](#) to join (Meeting ID: 123 761 361 Password: 019498)

ALYTH CHAVRUTA PROJECT

SATURDAYS, 9:00

Saturdays 3, 10, 17, 24 September, 9:00-10:15

The Alyth Chavruta Project returns at a new time but with the same in-depth approach to the study of Jewish texts.

Chavruta is a classical form of Jewish study, in which two people grapple with a text together. The Talmud declares, "Two students learning together sharpen one another".

This Elul we will prepare for Yom Kippur by studying Maimonides' Hilchot Teschuvah (Laws of Repentance), as well as delving into their biblical and talmudic origins.

No level of knowledge is expected, and you are welcome to come on your own or with a partner. Text packs will be sent out on a Sunday, and then we will join as a group on Shabbat mornings for breakfast, coffee, and feedback to each other with the Alyth clergy.

If you would like to receive the first text pack, please email Rabbi Elliott (elliott@alyth.org.uk) before Friday 26 August, or check the Alyth website (alyth.org.uk/chevruta).

BE WITH US IN ELUL

NEW YEAR FOR ANIMALS DOG WALK SUNDAY 28 AUGUST, 10:00

Our annual community walk on the Heath Extension to celebrate the beginning of the month of Elul, which is the Mishnaic New Year for animals.

Join the Alyth team and their dogs at the corner of Wildwood Road and Hampstead Way.

No dogs needed but bring an umbrella just in case!

SHABBAT B'YACHAD LUNCH SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 12:30

As part of the Alyth Friendship Project we are pleased to welcome you for an Elul themed Shabbat lunch after the service. Please join us following the Shabbat Morning Service for a delicious lunch and good company. Contact Lynette on 020 8457 8793 for more information.

[Click here](#) to register so that we know how many people to cater for.

UNI RETURNERS BRUNCH SUNDAY 4 SEPTEMBER, 10:00-11:00

Anyone who has gone away to Uni, had a Gap Year, or has graduated over the summer is invited to join Rabbi Hannah, Sam and Ella for an informal brunch to catch up before you head back for term. Please click here

[Click here](#) to let us know you are coming, so we have enough food.

ALYTH BOOK CLUB: MY QUARREL WITH HERSH RASSEYNER MONDAY 5 SEPTEMBER, 18:30

"My Quarrel with Hersh Rasseyner" by Chaim Grade is our book for Elul.

In 1932, Chaim and Hersh are fellow yeshiva-niks in Lithuania. Chaim leaves that world and becomes a Yiddish author. They meet twice by chance in the late 1930s. Both survive the Shoah but lose their families. In 1948, they meet, again by chance, in Paris. They talk about their experience, about life, death, faith and doubt.

The full text is available by [clicking here](#).

HIGH HOLY DAYS 1ST TIME DINNER TUESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER, 19:00-20:00

The Alyth High Holy Days can be overwhelming with a broad programme offering many different options. If this is your first High Holy Days at Alyth, or first in person High Holy Days following covid, we invite you to join us for a dinner to talk through the programme and help you find the space that feels right for you. With the Alyth clergy and Sam, our Head of Member Engagement.

[Click here](#) to register so that we know how many people to cater for.

BE WITH US IN ELUL

APPROACHING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS WITH DOUBT SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER, 10:30

How do we approach the High Holy Days if we struggle with the words of the liturgy? Can we join with community in song and prayer if we are alienated by the theology that the prayerbook presents? Join us over brunch as we create a space to speak about these questions and to talk about doubt and disbelief. Hosted by Rabbi Josh.

Can we build spaces in our community to respond to this challenge - over the High Holy Days and beyond?

[Click here](#) to register so that we know how many people to cater for.

JEWISH MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION FRIDAYS, 17:00

Fridays 2, 9, 23 September, 17:00-18:00

Prepare for the High Holy Days as Jewish Mindfulness Meditation helps us to open our hearts and find peace through our spiritual heritage.

YOUTH AND EDUCATION IN ELUL

THURSWAY THURSDAYS, 16:00

Thursdays 8, 15, 22 September, 16:00-17:00

Kids come play... brighten up your Thursday afternoon with some cosy vibes With Alyth Youth! For all Primary School aged children, join us for our High Holy Days special 'drop in and out' after school club, for some exciting Elul-themed kefi!

SMG PARENTS BRUNCH SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 10:00-11:00

Whether you're an SMG regular, or this is your first year, we invite you to join us on the first Sunday of term, for a brunch with Alyth Clergy and Sam, our Head of Member Engagement, to chat, meet other parents, and ask any questions about the upcoming academic year.

SAVE THE DATES

THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Your High Holy Days information guide and tickets will be sent to you in the first week of September. Please contact mail@alyth.org.uk if you have not received yours by Wednesday 7 September.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sunday 25 September

Rosh Hashanah 1

Monday 26 September

Rosh Hashanah 2

Tuesday 27 September

Kol Nidre

Tuesday 4 October

Yom Kippur

Wednesday 5 October

Erev Sukkot

Sunday 9 October

Sukkot

Monday 10 October

Erev Simchat Torah

Sunday 16 October

Simchat Torah

Monday 17 October

ALYTH WEEKEND AWAY

FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER - SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER

"The weekend away changed our lives. Each member of our family found their own way to connect with this amazing community. For me it was the learning and really getting to know other members over a coffee or drink in the bar".

Pray with us, learn with us, be with us...

laugh with us, relax with us, create with us, ramble with us, play table tennis with us, quiz with us, eat chocolate with us, meditate with us, read the newspapers with us, stay up late with us, design with us, revise in a quiet corner with us, drink coffee with us, connect with us, study Talmud with us, drink with us, dance with us, watch films with us, play with us, hide and seek with us, chill with us, play games with us, sing with us, make new friends with us, make memories with us...

Join us at the beautiful High Leigh Conference Centre in Hoddesdon, just 7 miles from the M25, about an hour from Alyth by car.

Contact sam@alyth.org.uk for more information or [click here](#) to book your place.