

Yom Kippur 5784

Location Key:

Services and Sessions in dark blue take place at The Sternberg Centre
Services and Sessions in light blue are especially for families and younger members, taking place at Alyth and The Sternberg Centre

Most services on Yom Kippur will be using the 1985 Machzor.
Please remember to bring your own copy with you if you have one. We have a very limited stock of spares to lend out. If you have copies that you can lend to others during the service then please do so.

We know that there are Alyth members who need to drink or eat on Yom Kippur. Water and food are available in the Marquee foyer, Akiva foyer and at Alyth.

KOL NIDRE (Sunday 24 September)

19:15 KOL NIDRE (Marquee)

We begin with our annual cello recital of Kol Nidre to help us to prepare for the day ahead. This will take place from 19:15. Please note that there will be no entry to the Marquee while the cello is being played. At 19:30, we will reopen the doors, before we rise together and remove our Sifrei Torah for the ritual of Kol Nidre.

Followed by a choice of four service options at approximately 19:45

19:45 CHORAL KOL NIDRE (Marquee)

The choral service continues with the beautiful sound of the Alyth choir.

19:45 KOLLOT NIDRE (Akiva Hall)

A Kollot style service containing familiar melodies sung together.

The sermon will be given by Rabbi Josh in both the Kollot and Choral services.

19:45 SOUL NIDRE (Akiva Classroom 1)

A more gentle, intimate and reflective service with songs and readings, and space for silence and contemplation. Led by Rabbi Elliott and Lynette Chazen. This service will finish in time to join the Choral service for the sermon.

19:45 TEEN NIDRE (Akiva Classroom 2)

Join the Youth and Education Hub for an in-depth evaluation of apologies made in film and TV. Are they genuine and do they effect society beyond the silver screen?

YOM KIPPUR (Monday 25 September)

SHACHARIT AND TORAH SERVICES

10:15 CHORAL SHACHARIT (Marquee)

Our choral service with the beautiful sound of the Alyth choir.

10:15 KOLLOT (Akiva Hall)

Our informal, unaccompanied, participatory service which takes place in the round, largely in Hebrew, and encourages communal singing. There will be a supervised kids area for children so that parents can enjoy the opportunity to pray.

The sermon will be given by Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn-Harris in both the Choral and Kollot services.

12:30 CHORAL TORAH SERVICE (Marquee)

The continuation of our choral service, including the Torah service.

12:30 KOLLOT TORAH SERVICE (Akiva Hall)

The continuation of our Kollot service, including the Torah service.

12:30 STUDY SESSION: WHO IS A JEW? (Akiva Classroom 1)

The first of our four study sessions for Yom Kippur, looking at big questions for Progressive Judaism.

In an era in which ever greater numbers of Jews live in mixed faith households, and identity is increasingly complex, does Jewish status still matter? Should whether someone has immediate Jewish lineage make a difference to their involvement in communal life? With Rabbi Josh.

FOR FAMILIES ON YOM KIPPUR MORNING (AT ALYTH)

10:00-11:00 SENSORY SERVICE (Beit Tefillah)

Join Rabbi Hannah, Ella and the dungareenees for a Yom Kippur experience designed to stimulate your babies' senses in the first years of their life. Based on our sensory Shabbat and den services, you and your baby can touch, see, smell, hear and taste your way through the service.

11:30-12:30 GESHER SERVICE (Beit Tefillah)

If your child feels too old for Sensory Shabbat, but Big Bang feels too grown up, join us for a special Yom Kippur version of our family service 'Geshher'. This service will bring the familiar Shabbat melodies alongside special High Holy Day tunes, making it accessible for your children. With Rabbi Hannah, Ella and the Geshher Guitarists.

See below for details of our special Musical Mincha in the Marquee

YOUTH & EDUCATION HUB AT ALYTH (Kindergarten and Upstairs)

Young people in Reception to School Year 8 are invited to join our Youth and Education Hub for a rolling programme of arts and crafts, music and much more.

Please note: All those in School Year 8 and younger will need to be signed in and out of the Hub space.

The Youth and Education Hub will have responsibility for children when they are in the Hub space, but children are the responsibility of their parents/carers when not in the Hub.

AFTERNOON SERVICES AND SESSIONS

We once again offer our traditional Yom Kippur afternoon tracks: "Classical", "Tefillah and Spirituality", and "Study". Follow one track through the afternoon or go to individual sessions that appeal to you.

MUSAF AVODAH

13:30-14:45 CHORAL MUSAF AVODAH (Akiva Hall)

Joining together in the Akiva School Hall to continue our Choral Service with the drama of the Avodah service.

13:30-14:30 IMREI FINU AVODAH (Akiva Moadon)

Imrei Finu is a guitar led service with singing to new and familiar melodies and readings. In this special service, we echo the path taken by the High Priest during the Avodah service in our own songs and reflections. Led by Rabbi Josh, Cantor Sarah and Justin Wise.

13:30-14:30 STUDY SESSION (Akiva Classroom 1)

HOW DO WE RESPOND TO NEW MODELS OF FAMILY LIFE?

Join Rabbi Elliott and Rabbi Dr Deborah Kahn Harris as we learn more about new ways of defining our intimate relationships, where they can be found in our religious texts, and how Jewish tradition might help us to navigate these new forms of family life.

MUSAF MARTYROLOGY

14:45-16:00 MUSAF MARTYROLOGY (Akiva Hall)

For this year's martyrology we will use a liturgy taken from the new draft Reform Machzor, as we reflect on the history of our people and the needs of our time. Led by Rabbi Colin and Cantor Sarah.

14:45-15:45 WELL BEING SERVICE (Akiva Classroom 2)

Join Rabbi Elliott and Lynette Chazen as we focus on the start of a new year. Through readings and songs we will explore how we prioritise ourselves and begin to think about those things that will bring balance and well being to our lives.

14:45-15:45 STUDY SESSION (Akiva Classroom 1)

THE CARLEBACH QUESTION

Shlomo Carlebach has been called 'the foremost Jewish religious songwriter of the 20th century'. He was also a prolific abuser. Should we stop singing his music (including popular favourites such as Essa Einai)? What do our responses to this question say about our religious values and priorities? With Student Rabbi Nicola.

14:45-16:15 MUSICAL MINCHA IN THE MARQUEE

Join Rabbi Hannah, Rabbi Josh, the Youth & Education Hub and musicians from our community in this Mincha service for all generations. Including a creative telling of the story of Jonah, helping us all to reflect on what it can teach us today.

MINCHA

16:00-17:15 MINCHA SERVICE (Akiva Hall)

Our afternoon service, accompanied by the Alyth Choir, in which we hear Torah and the Book of Jonah.

After this service there will be a short break to enable members to return to the Marquee for Yizkor.

16:00-17:00 MINCHA MEDITATION (Akiva Classroom 3)

Allow stillness to infuse your inner Yom Kippur journey through Jewish Mindfulness and Meditation. With Mika Hadar-Borthwick and the JMM team.

16:00-17:00 STUDY SESSION (Akiva Classroom 1)

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A PROGRESSIVE ZIONIST TODAY?

We are Progressive Jews living outside Israel. In the light of current events in Israel, what does that mean? What might it mean? What should it mean in terms of our relationship with Israel?

With Rabbi Colin and Cantor Sarah.

YIZKOR AND NEILAH

17:30-18:15 YIZKOR (Marquee)

Our memorial service begins with Psalm 23.

The service also includes the recitation of names of those who have died in the past year, and concludes with El Malei Rachamim and Kaddish.

Please arrive in good time for the start of Yizkor. Entry into the marquee may not be allowed once the service has begun.

17:30-18:15 REFLECT WITH YEh (Akiva Classroom 2)

Create rainmakers and dreamcatchers as we reflect together on 5783 and prepare for 5784.

18:15-19:39 SERMON AND NEILAH (Marquee)

Our concluding service for Yom Kippur with the Alyth choir and clergy.

Beginning with the final sermon of Yom Kippur, which will be given by Rabbi Colin.

18:15-19:30 NEILAH WITH YEh (Akiva Classroom 2)

Take some time to write to your future self. What do you want to achieve this year? What do you hope to see happen? Write it all down and wait and see if you predict correctly! We will join the service in the Marquee for the final Avinu Malkeinu and Shofar Blast. All ages are welcome.

19:39 HAVDALAH AND BREAKING THE FAST

We will be making Havdalah, the concluding ceremony for Yom Kippur, in front of the Marquee. Honey cake and challah will also be available for those who wish to break the fast together.

Save the date: Shabbat 27/28 October

Celebration and thank you to Rabbi Josh

A shabbat of celebration and thank you to Rabbi Josh as he moves onto his new role at the end of October. More details will be in October's Around Alyth which will be sent out this week, as well as a special communication on how we will mark this occasion, which will follow shortly.



New Year. New Building.

This will be an exciting year in the history of Alyth, as we open our new building. We invite you to take some time to look at the images on display in the foyer of the Marquee.

Sukkot

Young Adult Sukkah Build: Cocktails and Canapés

Thursday 28 September, 19:00-20:30

For catering purposes, please let us know if you are attending.

Sukkot Baby Den

Friday 29 September, 10:30

A special Sukkot version of our weekly service for our youngest members.

The 32nd Alyth Sukkot Sleepout

Friday 29 – Saturday 30 September

One of the highlights of the Youth and Education year. This year’s sleepout will also include its own morning service, starting at 09:00 on Saturday 30 September, which parents are welcome to attend.

Erev Sukkot Service

Friday 29 September, 18:30

A special Erev Sukkot and Shabbat service, which will also include a celebration of the B’nei Mitzvah of 5782 and 5783.

Sukkot First Day Services

Saturday 30 September

A choice of three services, all of which will include the waving of lulav:

Choral Service (10:30) An opportunity to sing together from our choral repertoire, including Hallel.

Imrei Finu (10:30) An informal Shabbat morning service with guitar, including the singing of new and familiar melodies.

Sensory Sukkot (11:00) A special Sukkot Sensory designed to stimulate your babies’ senses in the first years of their life.

Simchat Torah

Erev Simchat Torah Services

Friday 6 October, 18:30

Including hakafot and Israeli Dancing. With a supervised area for children so that our youngest members can be with us before and during the dancing. Suitable for all the Alyth community.

Simchat Torah Morning Services

Saturday 7 October, 10:30

A special service for the whole community. With an area for children so that our youngest members can be with us before their own special Torah service after the Hakafot and dancing. Yizkor will take place after the Torah Service. Followed by an extended Kiddush.

Mazal Tov to our Kallat Torah, Viv Bellos, and our Kallot B’reishit, Cheryl Brodie and Debbie Rose. Please join us to celebrate with them.

Visiting Rabbi: Or Zohar

5-25 November

We are delighted to welcome Rabbi Or Zohar, Reform rabbi of the Misgav Region in the Galilee and world renowned composer and teacher of Jewish spirituality, for a three week residency in November, in which he will teach, lead services, and bring his unique musical gifts to our community.

At the heart of his visit will be a special “composer in residence” weekend, for which he will be joined by his wife Feliza Bascara-Zohar. This weekend will include a ‘Sing With Us’ and Erev Shabbat Service on Friday 17 November, and a special concert on Saturday 18 November, in which they will showcase some of their original compositions.

The “in residence” weekend is part of **Alyth Composers and Songwriters in Residence**, a programme made possible in memory of Raymond and Joy Goldman.

5784: A year of transition

A note from the Chair of Trustees

As we mark the beginning of a new year it is time for us to turn our attention as a community towards the future. 5784 will be a year of celebration, as we open the new building, and also of transition, as we work to build on the strong foundations that have been laid under Rabbi Josh’s exceptional leadership.

At the end of October, Rabbi Josh will be stepping away from his role as Principal Rabbi, to take up his new full-time role as CEO of the Movement for Reform Judaism and to work with Rabbi Charley Baginsky, CEO of Liberal Judaism, on the co-creation of Progressive Judaism in the UK. Alyth has benefitted greatly from Rabbi Josh’s leadership over the past 15 years, during which time we have continued to develop as a strong, vibrant, innovative, flourishing and diverse community of now more than 3,500 people.

Alyth has outstanding clergy and professionals who will continue to support the community with care and dedication. We are grateful to have Rabbi Elliott and Rabbi Colin with us as we move into this new chapter, supported by Student Rabbis Nicola Feuchtwang and Eleanor Davis. Excellent rabbinic support has been put in place which includes teaching, co-leading services and cover for life-cycle events. We look forward to welcoming Rabbi Or Zohar who will be with us for the month of November. The plans to appoint an Interim Rabbi are progressing well and we hope to be able to make an announcement about this very soon. We expect that they will be at Alyth for the first half of 2024, during which time we will also welcome back Rabbi Hannah on her return from maternity leave.

As we enter this period of transition, we have the opportunity to ask ourselves what we value about the community we have built so far, what we hope for the future, and what kind of leadership will support us as we meet the needs of both those who are with us today and those who will come in future generations.

To support this conversation, the Trustees invite you to one of our upcoming ‘Talk Together’ events on one of the dates below. Each will last for two hours, will be held in person, and will be an opportunity to talk with other members of the community and to share your thoughts, hopes, insights, concerns and aspirations for the future of our community. What we learn together will be really valuable as we begin the process of search and recruitment later in the year.

You can sign up online at <https://shulcloud.alyth.org.uk/form/Talk23.html> or call Deborah on 020 8457 8794 to select a date. Full details of venue will be sent to you when you sign up. If these dates are over-subscribed, we will offer more dates.

Monday 6 November 19:30-21:30

Sunday 19 November 19:30-21:30

Monday 20 November 19:30-21:30

Sunday 26 November 10:30-12:30

Thursday 30 November 19:30-21:30

I, and all the Trustees, look forward to these conversations with anticipation and excitement, and look forward to seeing you there.

G’mar chatimah tovah

Justin Wise, Chair of Trustees

Alyth’s Annual Tu Bishvat Supper Quiz

Sunday 28 January 2024, 19:00-22:00

Don’t miss Alyth’s Annual Tu Bishvat Supper Quiz, so please put it in your diary now! More details to follow. If you would like to help organise this event, please get in touch with Sarah at sarah@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8787.

Purim 2024

Written by our member, Louis Patterson, our Community Purim Spiel for next year is taking shape. We are looking for members of all ages to join us as performers, singers, stage managers, props and costume designers, musicians, lighting operators and anyone who would like to be involved in this production! Auditions for parts will take place in November with once-a-week rehearsals starting in January. Please email Lynette lynette@alyth.org.uk or call her on 020 8457 8793 to join this theatre troupe for Purim.



To pray. To learn. To live. Together.



Welcome to Alyth

Yom Kippur 5784

Thank you for being with us.

If we can help in any way, please do not hesitate to speak with one of our Rabbis, lay leaders or a member of the staff team.