

Shabbat Chol Ha-mo’ed Sukkot

19 Tishri 5786 / 10 & 11 October 2025

Erev Shabbat

18:30 ‬‬ Erev Shabbat Service (in the Beit Tefillah)

Led by our Alyth Rabbis including the blessing for all those who marked their B’nei Mitzvah with our community in 5785.

Sukkot Sleep Out

For school years 4-8. Our annual and highly anticipated Sukkot Sleepout returns for its 33rd year. An opportunity to raise money for Homeless Action in Barnet, which runs the only night shelter in Barnet.

Shabbat Morning

9:00 ‬‬ Sleep Out Service (in the Leo Baeck Hall)

A creative service, with music, yoga and meditation to help those who slept over wake up for the day. All are welcome. Led by Rabbi Hannah and Izzie.

10:30 ‬‬ Shabbat Morning Service (in the Beit Tefillah)

Led by Rabbi Elliott and Rabbi Josh, with guitar.

The Torah will be read by Iris Chinn and Rabbi Elliott.

The Sermon will be given by Rabbi Josh.

There will be an unsupervised kids corner.

10:30 ‬‬ Kollot Service (in the Cecil Rosen Hall)

Led by Rabbi Hannah.

The Torah will be read by Ruth and Noam Tamir.

The D'var Torah will be given by Deborah Binstock.

There will be an unsupervised kids corner.

Simchat Torah

We are looking forward to seeing you next week as we round off this High Holy Day season together as a community. We hope to dance and celebrate as we always do, but there will also be reflective points in the service to reflect the fact that we are also marking the second Hebrew anniversary of the 7 October attacks. As well as a family breakout, there will be a parallel space for quiet reflection and study.

Erev Simchat Torah Service

Monday 13 October (18:30)

Including hakafot and Israeli dancing. With a supervised kid's corner so that our youngest members can be with us before and during the dancing. Suitable for all the Alyth community, including a space for those who do not want to dance during the hakafot.

Simchat Torah Morning Service

Tuesday 14 October (10:15)

We will begin with a Shacharit and Yizkor (including a special prayer to mark the second Hebrew anniversary of the 7 October attacks), before bringing out our Torah scrolls and celebrating with singing and dancing.

There will be a parallel space for our younger members who will join the community for the hakafot. For those who do not wish to dance, there will be a reflective space available during the hakafot.

Mazel Tov to our Chatan Torah, Jason Kosky and our Kallat B'reishit, Tracey Kieve who between them will finish and then restart the reading of the Torah.

Followed by an extended Kiddush.

Additional Songs and Readings for Shabbat

Yism’chu Ha-shamayim (Words: Psalm 96:11)

יִשְׁמְחוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם וְתִגַּל הָאָרֶץ יָרֵעַם הַיָּם וּמִלֵּאוּ:

Yism'chu ha-shamayim v'tageil ha-arets, yir'am ha-yam um'lo'o.

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth delight, let the sea thunder in its fullness.

Ya’aloz Sadai (Words: Psalm 96:12 / Music: Yoel Sykes and Navot ben Barak)

יַעֲלוּ שְׂדֵי וְכָל-אֲשֶׁר-בוֹ אֲזוּ יִרְנְנוּ כָּל-עֵצֵי-יַעַר:

Ya'aloz sadai v'chol asher bo, az y'rann'nu kol atsei ya'ar.

Let the field be glad and all within it, let all trees of the forest sing out

Hashkiveinu (Music: Dan Nichols)

הַשְׁכִּיבֵנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְשָׁלוֹם וְהַעֲמִידֵנוּ מִלְּכָנוּ לְחַיִּים

Hashkiveinu Adonai eloheinu l'shalom, v'ha'amideinu malkeinu l'chayyim

Spread the shelter of Your peace over us; Guide us in wisdom, compassion and trust

Save us for the sake of Your name; Shield us from hatred, sorrow and pain

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוה. הַפּוֹרֵשׁ סִכַּת שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל-עַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל-כָּל-הָעוֹלָם:

Baruch attah Adonai, ha-poreis sukkat shalom aleinu v'al ammo yisra'el, v'al kol ha-olam

Blessed are You God, spreading the shelter of peace over us, over Your people Israel, and over all the world.

Nachman of Bratslav’s Prayer for Peace

May it be Your will, Eternal God, that war and bloodshed be abolished from the world, that a great and wondrous peace rule forever; that never again shall nation lift up sword against nation, and never again shall they train for war. But may all who dwell on the earth recognize and understand the basic truth: that we have not come into this world for strife and division, nor for hate and jealousy, contrariness and bloodshed; but we have come into this world to recognize and know You, may You be blessed forever.

A Prayer for the Release of Captives

God of Abraham, the first who risked his life for the release of captives. God of Moses, Miriam and Aaron, whose words and actions brought us out of slavery. God of Elijah, who was comforted through his deep despair, by Your still small voice. Be with those everywhere who are enslaved and captive. With newfound hope, after two long years, we await the return of those taken hostage on 7 October. We pray that upon their return they find the strength to work towards healing, surrounded by their families and communities. For those families for whom hope has been extinguished, we pray that the return of their loved ones will give them closure. Supported by the love of the global Jewish community, may they remember their loved ones for the joy of their lives, rather than the tragedy of their deaths. We pray that this may be the beginning of a process of repair, for the hostages, for their families, and for the Jewish people as a whole.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם מְתִיר אֲסוּרִים:

Baruch attah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam matir asurim.

Blessed are You our Living God, who frees captives.

Ana El Na (Words: based on Numbers 12:13 / Music: Daphna Rosenberg and Naveh Agmon)

אָנָּא אֵל נָא רַפָּא נָא לָהּ

Ana El na, r'fa na la

Please God, please bring healing.

Oseh Shalom (Words: Psalm 89:3 / Music: Menachem Creditor / Yoel Sykes)

עֲשֵׂה שָׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וְעַל-כָּל-יְיֹשְׁבֵי תֵבֵל וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן:

Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol yisra'el, v'al kol yoshvei tevel v'imru amen.

May the Maker of peace in the highest bring this peace upon us, upon all Israel and upon all who inhabit the world. Amen.

Ivdu (Words: Psalm 100:2 and 95:3 / Music: Or Zohar)

עֲבֹדוּ אֶת־יְהוָה בְּשִׂמְחָה בָּאוּ לִפְנֵינוּ בִּרְנָנָה - כִּי אֵל מֶלֶךְ גָּדוֹל יְהוָה

Part 1:	Part 2:
Ivdu	(Ivdu...u.)
et Adonai b'simcha	(simcha, simcha, simcha...)
Bo'u	(Bo'u, bo'u bo'u...u)
l'fanav birna'na...ah	(na, na, na, na, na...)
Ki El melech gadol Adonai (x4)	
<i>Serve God in gladness; Come into God's Presence with joy. For God is a great Sovereign.</i>	

Torah Portion for Shabbat Chol Ha’mo’ed Sukkot

Deuteronomy 8:1-18

א כָּל־הַמִּצְוָה אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מִצְוֶה הַיּוֹם תִּשְׁמְרוּן לַעֲשׂוֹת לְמַעַן תַּחֲיוּן וּרְבִיתֶם וּבִאֲתֶם וִירִשְׁתֶּם אֶת־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּע יְהוָה לְאַבְתִּיכֶם:
ב וְזָכַרְתָּ אֶת־כָּל־הַדֶּרֶךְ אֲשֶׁר הוֹלִיכְךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ זֶה אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה בַּמִּדְבָּר לְמַעַן עֲנֹתְךָ לְנִסְתָּךְ לְדַעַת אֶת־אֲשֶׁר בִּלְבָבְךָ תִּתְּשַׁמֵּר מִצְוֹתָו [מִצְוֹתָיו] אִם־לֹא:
ג וַיַּעֲבֹדְךָ וַיִּרְעַבְךָ וַיֹּאכַלְךָ אֶת־הַמֶּן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַעְתָּ וְלֹא יָדְעוּן אֲבֹתֶיךָ לְמַעַן הוֹדִיעֶךָ כִּי לֹא עַל־הַלֶּחֶם לִבְדּוֹ יַחֲיֶה הָאָדָם כִּי עַל־כָּל־מוֹצֵא פִי־יְהוָה יַחֲיֶה הָאָדָם:
ד שְׁמֹלְתְךָ לֹא בָלְתָה מִעֲלֶיךָ וְרִגְלֶךָ לֹא בָצָקָה זֶה אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה:
ה וַיִּדְעַתָּ עַם־לְבָבְךָ כִּי כֹאֲשֶׁר יִיָּסֵר אִישׁ אֶת־בְּנוֹ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מִסִּרְיָ:
ו וְשִׁמַּרְתָּ אֶת־מִצְוֹת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְלַכֵּת בְּדַרְכָּיו וּלְיִרְאָה אֹתוֹ:

¹You shall faithfully observe all the Instruction that I enjoin upon you today, that you may thrive and increase and be able to possess the land that the Eternal promised on oath to your fathers.
²Remember the long way that the Eternal your God has made you travel in the wilderness these past forty years, in order to test you by hardships to learn what was in your hearts: whether you would keep the divine commandments or not.
³[God] subjected you to the hardship of hunger and then gave you manna to eat, which neither you nor your ancestors had ever known, in order to teach you that a human being does not live on bread alone, but that one may live on anything that the Eternal decrees.
⁴The clothes upon you did not wear out, nor did your feet swell these forty years.
⁵Bear in mind that the Eternal your God disciplines you just as a householder disciplines his son.
⁶Therefore keep the commandments of the Eternal your God: walk in God's ways and show reverence.

⁷כִּי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ מְבִיאָךְ אֶל־אֶרֶץ טוֹבָה אֶרֶץ נַחֲלִי מַיִם עֵינַת וּתְהַמֹּת יִצְאִים בִּבְקַעָה וּבְהָר:
ח אֶרֶץ חֹטֶה וּשְׁעָרָה וְגִפֶּן וּתְאֵנָה וּרְמֹן אֶרֶץ־זֵית שֶׁמֶן וּדְבָשׁ:
ט אֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר לֹא בַמִּסְכָּנָה תֹאכַל־בָּהּ לֶחֶם לֹא־תַחֲסֹר כָּל בָּהּ אֶרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲבִנְיָהּ בְּרוֹז וּמִהַרְרִיקָה תַּחֲצֹב נַחֲשָׁת:
י וְאָכַלְתָּ וּשְׂבַעְתָּ וּבִרְכַּתְתָּ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ עַל־הָאָרֶץ הַטֹּבָה אֲשֶׁר נָתַן־לָךְ:
יא הִשָּׁמֵר לָךְ פֶּן־תִּשְׁכַּח אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְבִלְתִּי שִׁמֹּר מִצְוֹתָיו וּמִשְׁפָּטָיו וּחְקֵיתָיו אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מִצְוֶה הַיּוֹם:

⁷For the Eternal your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with streams and springs and fountains issuing from plain and hill;
⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines, figs, and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey;
⁹a land where you may eat food without stint, where you will lack nothing; a land whose rocks are iron and from whose hills you can mine copper.
¹⁰When you have eaten your fill, give thanks to the Eternal your God for the good land given to you.
¹¹Take care lest you forget the Eternal your God and fail to keep the divine commandments, rules, and laws which I enjoin upon you today.

¹²י כִּפֶּן־תֹּאכַל וּשְׂבַעְתָּ וּבָתִּים טֹבִים תִּבְנֶה וַיִּשְׁבַּת:
יג וּבִקְרָךְ וּצְאֲנָךְ יִרְבִּין וְכֶסֶף וְזָהָב יִרְבֶּה־לָךְ וְכָל אֲשֶׁר־לָךְ יִרְבֶּה:
יד וְרָם לְבָבְךָ וּשְׁכַחְתָּ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ הַמוֹצִיאָךְ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבֵּית עֲבָדִים:
טו הַמוֹלִיכְךָ בַּמִּדְבָּר ׀ הַגָּדֹל וְהַנוֹרָא נָתַשׁ ׀ שִׁרְךָ וַעֲקָרְב וּצְמָאוֹן אֲשֶׁר אִין־מַיִם הַמוֹצִיא לָךְ מַיִם מִצּוֹר הַחֲלֻמִּישׁ:
טז הַמֹּאכְלָךְ מִן בַּמִּדְבָּר אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדְעוּן אֲבֹתֶיךָ לְמַעַן עֲנֹתְךָ וּלְמַעַן נִסְתָּךְ לְהִיטִבְךָ בְּאַחֲרִיתְךָ:
יז וְאָמַרְתָּ בִּלְבָבְךָ כַּחַי וְעַצִּם יָדִי עָשָׂה לִי אֶת־הַתִּיל הַזֶּה:
יח וְזָכַרְתָּ אֶת־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ כִּי הוּא הִנָּתַן לָךְ כֹּחַ לַעֲשׂוֹת חֵיל לְמַעַן הִקִּים אֶת־בְּרִיתוֹ אֲשֶׁר־נִשְׁבַּע לְאַבְרָם כִּיּוֹם הַזֶּה:

¹²When you have eaten your fill, and have built fine houses to live in,
¹³and your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold have increased, and everything you own has prospered,
¹⁴beware lest your heart grow haughty and you forget the Eternal your God—who freed you from the land of Egypt, the house of bondage;
¹⁵who led you through the great and terrible wilderness with its seraph serpents and scorpions, a parched land with no water in it, who brought forth water for you from the flinty rock;
¹⁶who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your ancestors had never known, in order to test you by hardships only to benefit you in the end—
¹⁷and you say to yourselves, “My own power and the might of my own hand have won this wealth for me.”
¹⁸Remember that it is the Eternal your God who gives you the power to get wealth, in fulfillment of the covenant made on oath with your fathers, as is still the case.

Deuteronomy 16:13-17

י' חַג הַסֵּכֶת תַּעֲשֶׂה לָּךְ שִׁבְעַת יָמִים בְּאַסְפֹּךְ מִגֶּרְנֶךָ וּמִיִּקְבֶּךָ: י" וְשִׁמַּחְתָּ בַּחֲגֹךָ אֹתָהּ וּבִנְךָ וּבִתְּךָ וְעַבְדְּךָ וְאֻמָּתְךָ וְהַלּוֹי וְהַגֵּר וְהַיִּתּוֹם וְהָאֹלְמֹנָה אֲשֶׁר בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ: ט"ו שִׁבְעַת יָמִים תַּחַג לַיהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּמָקוֹם אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחָר יְהוָה כִּי יִבְרַכְךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל־תְּבוּאָתְךָ וּבְכָל מַעֲשֶׂה יְדֶיךָ וְהָיִיתָ אֶךְ שְׂמֵחַ: טז שְׁלוֹשׁ פַּעַמִּים בַּשָּׁנָה יֵרָאֶה כָּל־זְכוּרְךָ אֶת־פָּנָי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּמָקוֹם אֲשֶׁר יִבְחָר בַּחַג הַמַּצּוֹת וּבַחַג הַשְּׁבֻעוֹת וּבַחַג הַסֵּכֶת וּלֹא יֵרָאֶה אֶת־פָּנָי יְהוָה רִיקָם: יז אִישׁ כַּמֶּתֶנֶת יָדוֹ כְּבִרְכַּת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר נָתַן־לְךָ: י"ח שְׂפָטִים וּשְׁטָרִים תִּתֶּן־לָךְ בְּכָל־שַׁעְרֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ נָתַן לָךְ לִשְׁבֻטֶיךָ וּשְׂפָטוֹ אֶת־הָעָם מִשְׁפָּט־צֹדֵק:

¹³After the ingathering from your threshing floor and your vat, you shall hold the Feast of Booths for seven days. ¹⁴You shall rejoice in your festival, with your son and daughter, your male and female slave, the [family of the] Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow in your communities. ¹⁵You shall hold a festival for the Eternal your God seven days, in the place that the Eternal will choose; for the Eternal your God will bless all your crops and all your undertakings, and you shall have nothing but joy. ¹⁶Three times a year—on the Feast of Unleavened Bread, on the Feast of Weeks, and on the Feast of Booths—all your males shall appear before the Eternal your God in the place that [God] will choose. They shall not appear before the Eternal empty-handed, ¹⁷but each with his own gift, according to the blessing that the Eternal your God has bestowed upon you.

Haftarah for Shabbat Chol Ha’mo’ed Sukkot

Ezekiel 38:18-39:7

¹⁸On that day, when Gog sets foot on the soil of Israel—declares the Eternal God—My raging anger shall flare up. ¹⁹For I have decreed in My indignation and in My blazing wrath: On that day, a terrible earthquake shall befall the land of Israel. ²⁰The fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the beasts of the field, all creeping things that move on the ground, and every human being on earth shall quake before Me. Mountains shall be overthrown, cliffs shall topple, and every wall shall crumble to the ground. ²¹I will then summon the sword against him throughout My mountains - declares the Eternal God—and every man’s sword shall be turned against his brother. ²²I will punish him with pestilence and with bloodshed; and I will pour torrential rain, hailstones, and sulfurous fire upon him and his hordes and the many peoples with him. ²³Thus will I manifest My greatness and My holiness, and make Myself known in the sight of many nations. And they shall know that I am the Eternal.

^{39:1} And you, O mortal, prophesy against Gog and say: Thus said the Eternal God: I am going to deal with you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal! ² I will turn you around and drive you on, and I will take you from the far north and lead you toward the mountains of Israel. ³ I will strike your bow from your left hand and I will loosen the arrows from your right hand. ⁴ You shall fall on the mountains of Israel, you and all your battalions and the peoples who are with you; and I will give you as food to carrion birds of every sort and to the beasts of the field, ⁵ as you lie in the open field. For I have spoken—declares the Eternal God. ⁶ And I will send a fire against Magog and against those who dwell secure in the coastlands. And they shall know that I am the Eternal. ⁷ I will make My holy name known among My people Israel, and never again will I let My holy name be profaned. And the nations shall know that I the Eternal am holy in Israel.

Save the Date

How To Talk About The ‘Big Stuff’ With Your Children/ Parents

Thursday 23 October (19:00)

Two parallel sessions, one for children in Years 5 - 7 and one for their adults, on how to talk and listen when the conversation gets onto the ‘big stuff’. As your children enter a transitional phase of their lives, leading up to secondary school and B’nei Mitzvah, we hope this session will empower you all to face some of those difficult conversations. Please contact sam@alyth.org.uk for further information.

New Members Breakfast

Saturday 15 November (9:15)

We are delighted to have welcomed over 100 new members since January 2025. Thank you for being with us. If you have recently joined the community, please join us for breakfast before the Shabbat service. This will be an opportunity to meet one another and members of the Alyth team and lay leadership.

Community News

Alyth is built on a foundation of mutual care, in which we share one another’s joys and sorrows, and accompany one another through our life journeys.

On this Shabbat we celebrate with:

Iris Chinn, who is reading Torah for the first time in our Shabbat morning service to celebrate becoming Bat Mitzvah
All those who had their Bar/Bat Mitzvah in 5785

We regret to announce the death of:

Roslyn Levitt, mother of Debbie Levitt and Mark Levitt

Claude Weil, father of Peter, Dan and Nick Weil

We join with those marking the anniversary of the death of a loved one:

Mary Cohen, mother of Pauline Liss

Grace Conn, wife of George Conn

Michael Conrad, husband of Diana Conrad

Steven Davis, husband of Hilary Davis

Benjamin Feldman, father of Paul Feldman

Ray Fife, mother of Sandra Lennard

Elaine Godfrey, mother of Ian Godfrey

Lionel Gottlieb, brother of Valerie Levy

Charles Gutman, father of Judith Hyman

Sally Jacobs, mother of Michael Jacobs and Amanda Jacobs

Alfred Joseph, father of Michael Joseph

Jerzy Lando, husband of Iris Lando

Samuel Lass, father of Martin Lass

Stanley Middleburgh, father of David Middleburgh

Joseph Miller, father of Alison Walsh

Joan Miller, mother of Alison Walsh

Harold Myers, father of Natalie Popper

David Myers, father of Deborah Anderson

Joseph Naftalin, father of Adrian Naftalin

Esther Nathan, mother of Shirley Marks

Israel Press, father of Adrian Press

Jake Rae, son of Maya Zarom

Herta Reik, mother of Paul Reik

Alec Russell, father of Claire Mitchell

Anne Silverman, mother of Jonathan Silverman

Reginald Smith, of Robert Smith

Sigmund Sternberg, father of Ruth Tamir

Marcus Traeger, father of Warren Traeger

Maurice Ziege, father of Gillian Epstein and Angela Samuels

Lola Zietcer, mother of Haim Zietcer

Contact Us

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Rabbinic Team

Rabbi Hannah Kingston, Rabbi Elliott Karstadt, Rabbi Colin Eimer, Rabbi Nicola Feuchtwang

Rabbi Josh Levy (Emeritus)