



TOURO SYNAGOGUE

# HIGH HOLY DAYS

הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנָשׁוּבָה חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם

*BRING US BACK, O GOD, TO YOU, AND WE WILL RETURN;  
RENEW OUR DAYS AS OF OLD.*

*LAMENTATIONS 5:21*

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**BRING US BACK, O GOD, TO YOU, AND WE WILL RETURN;  
RENEW OUR DAYS AS OF OLD.**  
LAMENTATIONS 5:21

Dear Touro Synagogue Family,

In just a few weeks, we will be seated together in the Touro Synagogue sanctuary, praying and singing the familiar words that herald in the new year of 5785. To begin a new year with integrity, our tradition teaches that we must deeply reflect on the year that is ending and all it taught us - about ourselves and about the world we share. For each of us in our personal lives, 5784 was full of every human experience - joys and hardship, births and deaths, health and sickness, triumphs and failings, and hopefully deepening relationships with those who matter the most to us.

On the communal level, it is hard to remember a year that brought more confounding and challenging teachings than 5784. It was a year of catastrophic violence, beginning with the slaughters and kidnappings of October 7 and continuing through months of brutal war with Hamas in Gaza that has claimed thousands lives. It was a year of tension with and sometimes alienation from longtime allies and community partners, and also a year of Jewish solidarity and strength as we relied on the resilience we necessarily have developed over centuries. It was a year of relentless soul-searching as deeply held Jewish values and commitments seemed to collide with one another daily. There is so much to say about 5784, so much yet to understand, and we will most certainly explore its messages together during the High Holidays and throughout the year.

In the shadow of a year like that, what shall we build when we come together? When I consider this question, my mind returns to one particular night during my time in Jerusalem this summer when I went to a public singing session at a local yeshiva. On this particular evening, a few hundred people crowded into a single space with the same song sheet, lifted our voices in beautiful, spontaneous harmonies, and inevitably felt close to something Beyond. And as close as I may have felt to my neighbor in the seat next to me, his prayers were his own, as were mine ... because we came into the space with different experiences, different needs. I feel absolutely sure that there were prayers of thanksgiving in that room in Jerusalem, and prayers of lamentation, too. There were prayers rooted in fear and prayers rooted in joy. There were prayers uttered in support of individuals and prayers uttered on behalf of the entire People. All those prayers, in all their diversity, danced through the space, lifting one another toward the One who hears all prayers.

And so may it be with us as we stand at the threshold of a new year in our sanctuary. We will sit together, say the same words, hear the same shofar blast, support and elevate one another's voices, and through that elevation receive the gift of space for whatever is written upon each of our hearts. The claim of this season of Return is that our very presence becomes a balm, a spiritual stance for community, pluralism, and the basic conviction that we need each other. With the gifts of open heartedness and passion that each of us brings, the High Holiday season of 5785 promises to reaffirm that ancient claim of connection, and we will model how, in all our complexity and messiness, our earnest voices lifted in song and prayer are the sukkah that each of us needs, this year and every year.

L'shanah Tovah,

Rabbi Katie Bauman

# A SNAPSHOT OF TOURO HIGH HOLIDAYS 5785

## PREPARING FOR THE SEASON

### The Month Of Elul: A Time Of Reflection

#### Shabbat Evenings, September 6, 13, 20, 27, 6:00pm

Each Friday evening during the month of Elul, before we welcome in Shabbat, we will hear the blast of the shofar reminding us that the season for repentance is upon us.

### Selichot, a Meditative Beginning to the Season

#### Saturday, September 28, 8:00pm

Dessert reception, study, and a beautiful service led by the Touro Synagogue Choir

With special guest teacher Professor Golan Moskowitz presenting *Wild Visionary: Maurice Sendak in Queer Jewish Context*



Prof. Golan Moskowitz

### Wild Visionary: Maurice Sendak in Queer Jewish Context

In *Wild Visionary: Maurice Sendak in Queer Jewish Context* (Stanford University Press, 2020), Golan Moskowitz investigates the evolution of Sendak's artistic vision and its appeal for American, Jewish, and queer audiences. Dr. Moskowitz's talk will examine how Sendak's multiple perspectives as a gay, Holocaust-conscious, American-born son of Yiddish-speaking Jewish immigrants from Poland informed his life and work. It will also explore how his creative output interacted dynamically with his cultural surroundings, offering insights into experiences of marginality and emotional resilience that remain relevant and visionary to this day.

Golan Moskowitz is an assistant professor of Jewish Studies at Tulane University and a core faculty member of Tulane's Grant Center for the American Jewish Experience.

## ROSH HASHANAH

EREV ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 8:00PM

ROSH HASHANAH MORNING SERVICE  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 10:00AM

### Rosh Hashanah Family Services For All Families With Children

Thursday, October 3, 9:00am

### Tashlich, Casting Away and Starting Anew

Saturday, October 5, 5:00pm

We will gather at The Fly for Tashlich, a ritual of "casting off" the remnants of the past year that we wish to leave behind. With music, prayer, light refreshments, and time spent together as a community, we will look ahead to the possibilities and opportunities for 5785 alongside our congregational family. Be sure to bring your bread or bird seed! **All ages are welcome. Refreshments and activities for children included.**



*Dr. Michael Cohen*

**Shabbat Shuvah**  
**Friday, October 4, 6:00pm**

The Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is a unique moment on our calendar. Amidst the Yamim Noraim, the Days of Awe, we are invited to prepare for Yom Kippur and linger in the mindset of teshuvah. On this Shabbat Shuvah, the Shabbat of Return - to ourselves, to the right path, to God and to community - we will gather as a congregational family for a solemn and spiritual Shabbat service.

This year's Shabbat Shuvah guest speaker will be Dr. Michael Cohen, the Stuart and Suzanne Grant Professor in the American Jewish Experience at Tulane University. Mike is the chair and Sizeler Professor of the Department of Jewish Studies, and he directs the Stuart and Suzanne Grant Center for the American Jewish Experience, and he will

share with us some of the latest and most profound questions and responses among historians to this moment in American Jewish history.

**Kever Avot, Bringing our Ancestors into the New Year**  
**Sunday, October 6, 11:30am**

We, along with our sister congregation Temple Sinai, will participate in the tradition of Kevar Avot, visiting the graves of loved ones between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Whether or not loved ones are laid to rest in Hebrew Rest Cemetery, all are invited to attend this brief and meditative service and recall our dearly departed whom we carry with us into this new year.

**CONGREGATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF OCTOBER 7**

**Monday, October 7, 6pm**

After a year of unimaginable pain and loss, we will gather to acknowledge this painful first yahrzeit of October 7 with poetry and song, followed by a special dedication in the Touro Synagogue Sanctuary.

**YOM KIPPUR**

**KOL NIDRE SERVICE**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11 AT 8:00PM**

**YOM KIPPUR MORNING SERVICE**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 AT 10:00AM**

**Yom Kippur Family Services For All Families With Children**  
**Saturday, October 12, 9:00am**

**Yom Kippur Afternoon Sessions: Stay The Whole Day!**  
**Saturday, October 12, 12:15pm-3:15pm**

As we emerge from the contemplative depths of the Yom Kippur morning prayer service, everyone is encouraged to remain at the Synagogue all day, engaging learning sessions and services including the following opportunities.

- 12:15pm Embracing Judaism Panel Discussion for those curious about conversion  
Explore Touro's New Spaces
- 1:15pm Campus Reflections by Tulane Hillel Executive Director Gary Brandt
- 2:15pm Songs of Hope and Healing: A Reflective, Musical Hour
- 3:15pm Afternoon Service

**Yizkor Memorial Service, 4:30pm**  
**Neilah Concluding Service, 5:15pm**

We remember all our loved ones whom we have lost in recent and distant days. The 5785 Book of Remembrance will be made available in the sanctuary and electronically. We will conclude with our last Tekiah Gedolah and Havdalah at 6:00pm.

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## SUKKOT

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Sukkot is known as the most joyful holiday of the Jewish year. Its hallmarks are a return to the gentle embrace of nature, audacious hospitality, and an open heart to those who have neither home nor shelter. We will savor this week of communion with our natural world by shaking the lulav, dwelling outside in the sukkah, and reflecting on our responsibility to provide for all.

**Sunday, October 13** Touro Synagogue Sukkah Build, 9:00am  
**Wednesday, October 16** Sukkot Festival Service and Celebration, 5:30pm  
Book Discussion: *The Amen Effect* by Sharon Brous, 7:30pm  
**Friday, October 18** Festive Shabbat Service and Dinner in the Sukkah, 6:00pm  
**Saturday, October 19** Sukkot Rocks! 10:00am

**Lifting the Sky Celebration and Building Dedication**

**Saturday, October 19, 4:00pm**  
*See outside panel for more details!*

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## SIMCHAT TORAH

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**Simchat Torah Celebration with Panorama Jazz Band**  
**Wednesday, October 23, 5:30pm**

Our Touro family will gather to celebrate our return to the beginning of the Torah! We will celebrate the end of the Torah cycle with a festive service, special programming and moments for children, hakafot (marching) around the sanctuary, and the exuberant music of Panorama Jazz Band. Followed by a Congregational Dinner.

**Festival Yizkor Service**  
**Friday, October 25, 5:00pm**

Our tradition teaches that when we observe festivals together as a community, we also bring the memories of those who are no longer with us. We will read the names of those in our extended Touro Synagogue family who have died since last Simchat Torah. We will also read the names of loved ones we have lost in years past. Please call Donna in the office at (504) 895-4843 to add the names of those you are remembering at our Yizkor service.

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## YOUTH HOLIDAY EXPERIENCES

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We are so excited to celebrate the upcoming High Holidays with Touro's kids, teens, and families. We will mark these passages of sacred time with reflections of the past year, dreams of the new one ahead, and lots of joyful music. We hope to see all of you with us, celebrating life and the start of the new year together!

**High Holiday Childcare During Services**

We are happy to offer babysitting for select services during the High Holy Days for children ages 6 months to 7 years. Children will spend time making holiday crafts as well as reading holiday stories and observing other fun and meaningful traditions.

***Be sure to sign up for childcare as soon as possible as space is limited.***  
***Sign up online at [www.tourosynagogue.com/hhdbabysitting](http://www.tourosynagogue.com/hhdbabysitting).***

**Rosh Hashanah Morning Service Child Care**  
**Thursday, October 3, 9:50am-12:30pm**  
**Registration Deadline: Monday, September 23**

**Yom Kippur Morning Service & Yizkor Child Care**  
**Saturday, October 12, 9:50am-12:15pm & 4:15pm-6:15pm**  
**Registration Deadline: Tuesday, October 1**

**Rosh Hashanah Family Services For All Families With Children**

**Thursday, October 3, 9:00am**

There will be two services taking place simultaneously, one intended for early childhood and one intended for elementary-aged children. As always, please choose the best service for your family to attend.

**Rosh Hashanah Kehilla Kidosha Service For Students In 3rd-6th Grade**

**Thursday, October 3**

Students in 3rd through 6th grade will be invited to step out of the main service and join a special Rosh Hashanah experience tailored just for them, offering a meaningful and age-appropriate small group learning opportunity.

**Tashlich At The Fly**

**Saturday, October 5, 5:00pm**

**Yom Kippur Family Service For All Families With Children**

**Saturday, October 12, 9:00am**

There will be two services taking place simultaneously, one intended for early childhood and one intended for elementary-aged children. As always, please choose the best service for your family to attend.

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Students in 3rd through 6th grade will be invited to step out of the main service and join a special Yom Kippur experience tailored just for them, offering a meaningful and age-appropriate small group learning opportunity.

**SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH  
FOR TEENS, KIDS, & FAMILIES!**

**6th-8th Grade Erev Sukkot Celebration & Sukkah Decorating**

**Wednesday, October 16, 6:00pm**

**Shabbat Sukkot Celebration**

**Friday, October 18, 6:00pm**

**Sukkot Rocks!**

**Saturday, October 19, 10:00am**

*For all families with kids up to age 5. Siblings welcome!*

**Yamim Yafim Pk-5th Grade Sukkot Celebration**

**Sunday, October 20, 9:30am**

**9th-12th Grade Teen Night In Sukkah: Hosted By TASTY & BBYO**

**Tuesday, October 22, 6:00pm**

**Simchat Torah Celebration With Panorama Jazz Band**

**Wednesday, October 23, 5:30pm**



## LIFTING THE SKY CELEBRATION AND BUILDING DEDICATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 4:00PM

Because of the many devoted and loving congregants who contributed so generously to the Lifting the Sky Campaign, we will soon enjoy beautifully designed and renovated spaces that will serve us well for many years. This project is such a gift to our community. Please join us for a special Sukkot Havdalah on October 19 when we will celebrate the opening of the building and express deepest gratitude to the many congregants who made the project possible through their generosity.

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## SECURITY PASS REMINDER

Touro members in good standing will be issued two security passes per member household by mail and email. These passes are intended to allow Touro members and their guests to bypass entry security screening. It is not necessary that each individual family member has a pass, but to avoid screening, members and their accompanying guests must enter together with one of the passes. Members, guests, and non-members who arrive without security passes will go through a brief security screening. If you did not receive your pass, please contact the Touro office during office hours, Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm. Security passes are non-transferable.

We ask non-members not arriving as the guests of members to RSVP online at [TouroSynagogue.com/HHD](http://TouroSynagogue.com/HHD).

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## HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOKS

There will be opportunities for Touro congregants to both borrow and purchase High Holiday Prayer Books before the High Holidays. Please call the Touro office at 504-895-4843 to arrange to borrow a High Holiday prayerbook. For a free online version of Mishkan HaNefesh or to purchase your own copy, please visit [ccarpres.org](http://ccarpres.org).

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## HIGH HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

*Let's make a big impact this High Holiday season  
with a food drive to support our community!*

Throughout the High Holiday season, Touro will be collecting nonperishable food items for distribution to Second Harvest. Help fight food insecurity in New Orleans by bringing bags of groceries to Touro Synagogue, Monday-Friday from 9:00am-5:00pm, including Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning services. We encourage each Touro family to provide enough food for a comparable size family in need. *Monetary donations can also be made to Rabbi Bauman's Discretionary Fund earmarked High Holiday Food Drive.*