Detailed Schedule

Friday, September 18 – Erev Rosh Hashanah:
“The Courage to Renew Your Life”

Welcome Gathering for All  5:30–5:45 pm
Gather as a community to welcome the beginning of Rosh Hashanah and prepare for a special “Ritual for THIS New Year.”

•  Platform: Zoom

Welcome Gathering for Families  5:45–5:55 pm
All families with young or school-age children are encouraged to join with the clergy for this ten-minute New Year welcome with blessings.

•  Platform: Zoom*
  *This session will be recorded and posted later to the Mount Zion Conversations Facebook page.

A Ritual for THIS Year  6:00–6:30 pm
Join for this ritual of music and prayer from the Mount Zion garden to help us welcome the reimagined High Holy Days that will be and let go of the High Holy Days that will not be. From the sanctuary, we will sound the shofar, hear the annual President’s message from Michael Kuhne, share the holiday blessings over the candles, wine, challah, and apples & honey.

•  Platform: Streaming www.mzion.org
•  Bring your prayer book, Mishkan HaNefesh for Rosh Hashanah
•  Have ready your candles, kiddush, challah, and apples & honey

Break / Festive Meal  6:30-7:15 pm

•  Music of the Holy Days: On Piano, Organ, and Harp
  •  Platform: Streaming www.mzion.org
•  Open Zoom room for connecting and conversation
  •  Platform: Zoom

Evening Service – L’Chayim  7:30-8:30 pm
Our evening service will include messages about life, renewal, and what it means to be written in the Book of Life. The liturgy will include uplifting, familiar music with some creative elements.

•  Platform: Streaming www.mzion.org
•  Alternative: Zoom This platform will include closed captioning.
•  Alternative Platform: Bring your prayer book, Mishkan HaNefesh for Rosh Hashanah
Facilitated Hangouts

8:30-9:30 pm

We will start together and then break into rooms, some by age, some by topic. 

**Age Cohorts** on “How can my Judaism help me to make this year a good year?”

- Teen Hangout.
- MZ “Graduates” and Community Hangout – Folks in their 20s.
- MZ “Graduates” and Community Hangout – Folks in their 30s.

**These topic breakouts are open to all:**

- How can my Judaism help me to make this year a good year?
- My Heart Aches: Talking about the World as it Ought to Be
- My Heart is Full: Sharing Messages of Gratitude

- **Platform:** Zoom

Saturday, September 19 – Rosh Hashanah Day:

“*Faith for this New Year*”

Parents and Tots Service

9:00-9:20 am

We will welcome the New Year with story and song and will provide time for a family activity. After our “Zoom” time together, families can view the streamed 15-minute video of the clergy in the sanctuary with prayers and shofar blowing (see below).

- **Platform:** Zoom*  
  *This service will be recorded and posted later to the Mount Zion Parents and Tots Facebook page.

Rosh Hashanah Poetry

9:00-9:30 am

Michael Kuhne will lead this beloved new tradition of congregants reciting the poetry and liturgy from the Machzor (High Holy Day prayer book).

- **Platform:** Zoom*  
  *Will be recorded and posted later to Mount Zion’s public Facebook page.

Shofar & Prayers for Families with Kids of all Ages

9:30-9:40 am

From the sanctuary, with the clergy in white robes holding the Torah scrolls in white mantles, we will sing Avinu Malkeinu and hear the sounds of the shofar to awaken us to the New Year.

- **Platform:** Streaming [www.mzion.org](http://www.mzion.org)
Rosh Hashanah Family Service  9:45-10:30 am

Our recent B’nei Mitzvah students will help lead this service from Mishkan HaNefesh for Youth and Families which will be shared on the screen. The service will include a story and time for family conversations.

•  **Platform:** Zoom*
  
  *This service will be recorded and posted later to the Mount Zion Religious School Facebook page.

Rosh Hashanah Shacharit (Morning) Service  10:30-11:15 am

Our clergy will lead this forty-five-minute traditional service from the sanctuary.

•  **Platform:** Streaming www.mzion.org

•  **Bring your prayer book, Mishkan HaNefesh for Rosh Hashanah.**

Shofar Service  11:15-11:30 am

Listen to the sounding of the shofar in its own service of prayer, music, and shofar wails and blasts! Afterwards, anyone with a shofar will be invited to go outside at the same time for a tekiah gedolah.

•  **Platform:** Streaming www.mzion.org

Sermon  11:30-11:45 am

You will hear the rabbi’s sermon, pre-recorded from the sanctuary.

•  **Platform for the sermon:** Streaming www.mzion.org

Sermon Discussion  11:45 am-12:15 pm

Following the sermon, congregant facilitators will lead discussion groups based on the topic.

•  **Platform for the sermon discussions:** Zoom

Messages from our Tradition: Torah and Haftarah  12:15-1:00 pm

This year, instead of chanting our sacred texts during services, we will hear selections chanted in the context of study and teachings that highlight the messages from our tradition. In addition to this one, we will have two Messages from our Tradition on Yom Kippur: one at noontime, and one in the late afternoon as we prepare for the closing of the gates.

•  **Platform:** Zoom

•  **Alternative Platform:** Streaming www.mzion.org
Break with Options 1:00-2:00 pm

• “Lobby” conversations about the day so far... An opportunity to visit with one another informally, as we might between services in our Mount Zion lobby.
  • Platform: Zoom

• Rosh Hashanah Meditation: A Shofar of Light - Cantor Spilker has recorded a guided meditation, approximately 10 minutes, to listen at a time that works for you.
  • Platform: Website Podcast [On our High Holy Days webpage by 9/17]

Teen Service 2:00-2:45 pm

By and for teens, this service will be relevant and uplifting and will help re-connect our teen community at a time when they need each other.

• Platform: Zoom*
  • Bring your prayer book, Mishkan HaNefesh for Rosh Hashanah.
  *This service will be posted later on a social media platform chosen by the teens.

New Year Yoga 3:30-4:30 pm

On the banks of the Mississippi River, Cantor Spilker and Chris Gordan from Big River Yoga will lead this annual New Year’s tradition. All are welcome.

• Platform: In Person / Outside! In case of rain (any amount of precipitation), we will move to Zoom.
  • Bring a yoga mat and please wear a mask.
  • Location: Hidden Falls Park (enter north gate on corner of Magoffin and Mississippi River Blvd.) Map

Tashlich 3:30-5:30 pm

You can still experience Tashlich in our familiar spot by the Mississippi River. Although we will not be able to safely gather all together, you can come with your family or make physically distanced Tashlich plans with friends. Come at any time between 3:30 and 5:30 pm for the ritual of symbolically ridding ourselves of our sins by tossing breadcrumbs into the river. Feel free to use this downloadable ceremony at Hidden Falls or wherever you would like!

• Platform: In Person / Outside!
  • Location: Hidden Falls Park (enter north gate on corner of Magoffin and Mississippi River Blvd.) Map

Teen New Year’s Hike 5:00-6:00 pm

A favorite from past years, teens are welcome to join for a scavenger hunt along the Mississippi River with old and new friends. Unplug from the screens and enjoy community following all safety precautions including physically distancing and mandatory mask-wearing.

• Platform: In Person / Outside!
  • Location: Hidden Falls Park (enter north gate on corner of Magoffin and Mississippi River Blvd.) Map