

■ Jewish Prayer at K'hilot K'doshot

It is our intention that this gathering be a space in which Jews from all denominations and practices have access to prayer experiences that are meaningful and comfortable. We also believe that shared prayer experiences allow us to deepen our relationships across denominational and ideological boundaries and to strengthen our sense of ahdut--Jewish unity and community.

Some of us have regular prayer practices, while others of us may rarely or never participate in prayer services. During this gathering, you may choose to pray in a space similar to the one in which you regularly pray at home, try out a new style of prayer, or simply use the prayer times to reflect on your experiences here. We also intend for this gathering to serve as a safe space for talking about our prayer practices, and about the relationship between these practices and our justice work. You may take the opportunity to ask another participant about his/her prayer practices, or to learn more about the varieties of Jewish prayer.

Sunday afternoon

Though we are not organizing formal services on Sunday afternoon, a room will be available during registration for those who would like time for personal prayer.

Sunday evening

We will join together for a Ma'ariv (evening) service, led by **Cantor Jack Chomsky** (Congregation Tiferet Israel; Bexley, OH), with **Rabbi Stephanie Kolin** (Temple Israel, Boston) offering a kavvanah (intention). During this service, we will offer three seating sections, to accommodate those who prefer to sit in a mixed-gender section, women who prefer to sit only with other women, and men who prefer to sit only with other men.

Following the service, we will break into small groups to consider the possible intersections between prayer and justice work.

Monday morning

On Monday morning, we will offer four options for Shaḥarit (morning) services:

Traditional mehitza (men and women sit separately; a man leads services; traditional liturgy).

Led by **Will Friedman**

Traditional egalitarian (men and women sit together; a man or woman leads services, traditional liturgy)

Led by **Elizabeth Richman** (Jewish Theological Seminary Rabbinical School) and **Joseph Berman** (Hebrew College Rabbinical School)

Liberal (men and women sit together; a man or woman leads services, liturgy from Kol HaNeshama



JEWISH FUNDS
FOR JUSTICE

combining The Shefa Fund
and Jewish Fund for Justice

(Reconstructionist) siddur, with copies of Mishkan Shalom (Reform) siddur also available)

Led by **Rabbi Paula Marcus** and **Rabbi Shawn Zevit** (Jewish Reconstructionist Federation)

Meditation led by Rabbi Rachel Cowan (Institute for Jewish Spirituality)

All four services will join together for Torah reading. The Torah service will be led by **Rabbi Paula Marcus**, with **Rabbi Mark Raphael** (Kehilat Shalom; Gaithersburg, MD), **Rabbi Larry Bach** (Temple Mount Sinai; El Paso, TX), and **Rabbi Jill Jacobs** reading Torah. **Lila Foldes** (URJ-Just Congregations) and **Rabbi Eric Gurvis** (Temple Shalom; Newton, MA) will have two of the three aliyot.

Monday afternoon and evening

On Monday afternoon and evening, we will offer three options for minḥa (afternoon) and ma'ariv (evening) services: traditional meḥitza, traditional egalitarian, and liberal. The traditional egalitarian minḥa will be led by **Noah Farkas** (Jewish Theological Seminary Rabbinical School), the traditional meḥitza minḥa will be led by **Ben Greenberg** (Yeshivat Chovevei Torah), and the liberal minḥa will be led by **Rabbi Janet Marder** (Temple Beth Am; Los Altos Hills, CA)

Tuesday morning

For shaḥarit on Tuesday morning, we will offer a joint service, which will include the traditional order of prayers, as well as creative additions, kavvanot (intentions), and spirited singing. There will be three prayer sections: men, women, and mixed gender. P'sukei d'zimra (introductory psalms) will be led by **Beth Kalisch** (Hebrew Union College Rabbinical School) and Shaḥarit will be led by **Rabbi Jason van Leeuwen** (B'nai Tikvah congregation; Encino, CA)

We will also offer a meditation option, led by Rabbi Rachel Cowan, on Tuesday morning.

Birkat hamazon/blessings after meals

At the end of dinner on Sunday; lunch and dinner on Monday; and breakfast on Tuesday, we will offer short kavvanot (intentions) that link a concept or term from Birkat Hamazon (the prayer after meals) with our justice work. After this kavvanah, we will join together in either a traditional or alternative form of Birkat Hamazon. On each table, you will find bentschers/birkonim with the various forms of Birkat Hamazon that we will be using during the conference. At each meal, you are invited to join in the collective recitation of one of these forms, to recite a version that feels more comfortable for you, or to take some time for quiet appreciation for the food.

Kavvanot will be led by **Mike Schultz** (Yeshivat Chovevei Torah), **Rabbi Paula Marcus**, and **Rabbi Rick Litvak** (Temple Beth El; Aptos, CA)



If you have any questions about prayer at K'hilot K'doshot, please talk to Rabbi Jill Jacobs (Jewish Funds for Justice)

