

BLOWING YOUR OWN TRUMPET:

Great tunes to help you pray this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

In preparation for the High Holy Days this year, Dean of LSJS, Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum has put together a great list of short online recordings of key prayers in the services of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Choose the prayers and tunes that speak to you and try to listen to them a few times. Then you will be ready to try them yourself when you start to pray.

See Rabbi Zarum's "*BEYONDING: A really practical guide for meaningful prayer*" (available through LSJS website) for more information about praying at home this year.

Page numbers are given for thee machzorim: R = Routledge, A = Artscroll, K: Koren (UK edition); these numbers also give you an idea of how often the prayer is repeated.

A few personal favourites:

Halleluyah – Praise be to God

We say Psalm 150, the last in the Book of Psalms, every morning in *Shacharit*.

This recording brilliantly sets the psalm to Leonard Cohen's classic song, *Halleluyah*.

It's easy to learn and I sing it regularly... https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilnuc_P4GhM

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 75; A: 252 K: 329; Yom Kippur – R: 28; A: 310; K: 523)

Avinu Malkeinu – Our Parent, our Sovereign

A highlight of both Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur. Here are two great versions of the last verse:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=anPJFBzVC2c>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7zgrQQpxfE>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 111, 175, 210; A: 384, 622; K: 455, 715, 915)

(Yom Kippur – R: 55, 104, 269; A: 144, 436, 700, 758; K: 171, 711, 1093, 1185)

Zochreinu l'Chayim – Remember us for LIFE

The first of the four special sentences said in every Amidah of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5GiXdSooEU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeO0mMWDxII>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 15, 91, 131, 186, 227; A: 78, 350, 486; K: 65, 387, 517, 763)

(Yom Kippur - R: 1:22; 45, 124, 207, 246; A: 78, 350, 486, 650, 712; K: 77, 577, 775, 1013, 1111)

Unetanah Tokef – Let us voice the power of this day's sanctity

Brilliant and inspiring version from the IDF:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyBToUaon2w>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 146; A: 480, 538; K: 565, 801; Yom Kippur - R: 149; A: 530; K: 843)

Berosh Hashanah Yikatevun, uvYom Tzom Kippur Yechateymun

- On Rosh Hashanah it is written and on Yom Kippur it is sealed – so poignant this year:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iVXOKL_boeQ

<https://soundcloud.com/user-779278387/06-beh-rosh-hashana-1?in=user-779278387/sets/returning-home-lashuv-habayta>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 147; A: 482, 540; K: 569, 801; Yom Kippur – R: 150; A: 532; K: 845)

Tunes of prayers sung on Rosh Hashanah AND Yom Kippur:

HaMelech – The Sovereign

We proclaim the supreme rule of God as we begin the main prayers of the day:

<https://www.hadar.org/tefillah-element/r-sh-hamelekh>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 80, 176; A: 262; K: 341; Yom Kippur - R: 33; A: 320; K: 535)

Chamol – Have mercy... Such a heartfelt prayer:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-779278387/13-chamol?in=user-779278387/sets/returning-home-lashuv-habayta>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 148; A: 488, 544; K: 579, 811; Yom Kippur – R: 79, 151; A: 408, 538, 672; K: 665; 857, 1047)

Vechol Ma'aminim – All who are faithful...

Jewish faith is more about national faithfulness than it is abstract belief:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b87qMPnC8l>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BDqjfwajY> (starts 30s in)

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 149; A: 490, 546; K: 581, 813; Yom Kippur – R: 152;)

HaYom – Today! Be fully aware of today's importance:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-779278387/28-hayom?in=user-779278387/sets/returning-home-lashuv-habayta>

(R: 166; A: 532, 582; K: 633, 861; Yom Kippur - R: 195; A: 622; K: 979)

Specific Rosh Hashanah tunes:

A taste of Rosh Hashanah to get you in the mood:

<https://vimeo.com/450083870?1&ref=fb-share&fbclid=IwAR1CsPYk69QfZruZ3snp5ptxGUgwTwLjAl48UB81y64sGI14SwRjQ4IwuYs>

'A Taste of the High Holy Days' Rosh Hashanah shul tunes medley:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUy9CzrDY7Y>

The melody that begins Maariv, the evening service, to get you in the mood:

<https://www.hadar.org/tefillah-element/r-ma-nigun-barekhu>

Melech Elyon – Supreme Sovereign – Verses about God's sovereignty, easy tune to learn:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBbuq3RMgnU>

(Rosh Hashanah - R: 145, 201; A: 366; K: 689)

HaYom Harat Olam – Today the world was conceived...

Rosh Hashanah recall the day that humanity was created:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJ5r3mg_jwk

(R: 157, 160, 162; A: 508, 516, 520, 562, 566, 570; K: 607, 617, 623, 835, 843, 851)

Areshet Sefataynu – May our mouths' words rise... Just as the Shofar blasts rise:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lu3G83tu-iA>

(R: 157, 160, 162; A: 509, 516, 520, 562, 566, 570; K: 607, 617, 623, 837, 845, 851)

Specific Yom Kippur tunes:

Kol Nidrei – All vows

Free us from the vows we should not have made – help us be free to return to You:

Itzhak Perlman, Chazan Helfgot: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vOzmq887oKE>

Bruch's version for cello & orchestra: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i91RX2LhY8s>

(R: 15; A: 58; K: 53)

Ya'aleh Tachanuneinu – May our supplications rise (A prelude to the *selichot*).

A beautiful intro to Yom Kippur – we will prayer from eve to eve, a whole day for God & us:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jL7uTLfzUMU>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5O2rhz-u_g (Scarborough Fair!)

(R: 31; A: 102; K: 107)

Ve'al kulam, Eloha Selichot, selach lanu, mechal lanu, kaper lanu

And for all of these, God of forgiveness, forgive us, pardon us, grant us atonement

Try to learn this by heart – it is a succinct summary of what Yom Kippur is all about:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2OJP5GQ8ww>

(R: I:27-28; II: 50-51, 131-132; 212-213; A: 94-96, 360-362, 496-498, 660-662; K: 95-99, 593-595, 793-795, 1029-1031)

Ki Anu Amecha – For we are your people...

We are loyal to our God, let us count the ways...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5xyxFLmD448>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=htzwDomaq7Q>

(R: I:45; II:92, 183, 232, 264; A: 128, 418, 596, 682, 750; K: 145, 681, 947, 1067, 1171)

Shema Koleinu – Hear our voice...

A prayer about prayer: Please God, take pity on us, be merciful, listen to your prayers:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7A1iEvOqCew>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrl3S2cRS3M>

(R: I:45, II:92, 183, 232; A: 126, 416, 596, 682; K: 143, 679, 945, 1065)

Seder Avodah – The Temple Service

This magnificent Israeli song ties together phrases from the highlight moment when the *Kohen Gadol* (High Priest) would ask for forgiveness for himself, his family and all of Israel, and then he would count. It's so good, play it loud!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ECy3CMxShIQ>

(R: 161-164; A: 560-566; K: 885-893)

Endnote: I found that once I began searching and listening to these prayers and tunes on the web, it became very hard to stop. They come from such a variety of Jews, from communities across the globe have, going back decades. So many versions and styles. It's quite inspiring just appreciating the sheer diversity here: from old cracking recordings of the famous *chazanim* to the modern Israeli interpretations. So, if you want to spend a few hours searching and listening for yourself, you will not be disappointed. *Am Yisrael Chai*.