



אוֹהֵב שְׁלוֹם וְרוֹדֵף שְׁלוֹם

☆ *Ohev Shalom v'Rodeph Shalom* ☆
Love peace and pursue it (*Pirkei Avot* 1:12)

Friday *Shabbat* Evening Service

September 18, 2026 | 7 Tishrei, 5787

Welcome!

**Who belongs here at Congregation Rodeph Shalom?
Whether you are...**

Black, brown, white, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, or multi-racial
Queer, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, or straight

Three days old, 30 years old, or 103 years old

Single, married, with/without kids, divorced, widowed, or partnered

Living in Philadelphia, the suburbs, or elsewhere

Struggling with addictions or know someone in that position

A student, looking for a job, or gainfully employed

Disabled, able-bodied, or a person of differing abilities

Neurodiverse or neurotypical

New to Judaism or a lifelong member

Seeking your path, Jewish or not

You belong here at Rodeph Shalom!

Where equity, inclusion, and diversity are our congregational values!

Rodeph Shalom Vision Statement

Immersed in Jewish time ♦ Guided by enduring values ♦ Compelled to moral action
We create profound connections

Immersed in Jewish time

Sustained by the sacred rhythms of the Jewish year, pivotal moments of the Jewish life cycle, and generations of Jewish history, we are part of something greater than ourselves. Living in Jewish time teaches us how to express meaning in the everyday, to gather as a community, and to walk with each other through the joys and sorrows of our lives.

Guided by enduring values

The timeless wisdom of our tradition inspires our intentional quest for truth, righteousness, and purpose amid the uncertainties we face in our world. We dedicate ourselves to Judaism's ethical messages to treat each other with loving-kindness. The faithful, the skeptic—and those who perceive God in different ways—wrestle to renew the teachings of *Torah* for our present and for the future of the Jewish people.

Compelled to moral action

In a broken world, we commit to be a voice of conscience and to engage in the work of social justice. From our doorstep to our neighborhood and beyond, we welcome the stranger and embrace our responsibility to connect with and learn from others.

We create profound connections

We seek meaning in shared experiences and cherish our diverse perspectives. We who are new to synagogue life or have extensive Jewish backgrounds; we who are Jewish or who share our lives with Jews; we who live within different family constellations, who are of all abilities, gender identities, sexual orientations, races, and generations: we enter the synagogue to celebrate, to learn, to laugh, to heal, to pray, to challenge ourselves, and to connect with others about the deepest questions of our lives.

Friday *Shabbat* Evening Service

Parashat Ha'azinu

September 18, 2026 | 7 Tishrei, 5787

- Led by:** Rabbi Jill Maderer, Rabbi Eli Freedman,
Cantor Brad Hyman
- Shabbat* Blessings:** Isaac Talen Bernstein,
son of Ryan & Christie Bernstein

Nathan Hudson Kauffman,
son of Sara & Benjamin Kauffman

on the occasion of becoming *b'nai mitzvah*
- Greeters:** Dave Silver, Kain Warner
- Bimah* Guest:** Karen Wisnia
- Musicians:** Zack Spondike, clarinet
Harvey Price, percussion
AJ Luca, piano

Shabbat Services

Introduction to the Friday Evening Service:

Welcoming the Sabbath, *Kabbalat Shabbat*: This introduction provides a transition into *Shabbat*. A collection of verses from Psalms (pages 10-19), interpretations offered by prayer leaders, and a *niggun*/wordless melody or two; the warm-up peaks at *L'cha Dodi* (p. 20-21) a 16th century mystical song that welcomes *Shabbat* with the symbol of bride. The final verse of *L'cha Dodi*, we face the entrance to the sanctuary to welcome *Shabbat*.

The *Shema* and Its Blessings (p. 28-44/146-154): The *Barchu* is the prayer that calls the congregation to worship. *Shema* (p. 34/149), captures Jewish belief in the oneness of God and of humanity. This section includes prayers that express gratitude for creation, Torah, and liberation.

Amida/T'filah (p. 46-62/155-165): This series of blessings invites us to turn inward for contemplation.

Blessings for Community: The *Misheberach*/Blessing for Healing (p. 253) and the *Shehecheyanu*/Blessing for Gratitude (p. 344) offer the opportunity to share our concerns and our joys, and to strengthen the connections among us.

Commentary/*D'var Torah*: A *D'var Torah* is a brief sermon, commentary, or opportunity for study.

Conclusion: Our service concludes with *Alenu*/Praise to God (p. 282), recited while facing the ark. Finally, the Mourner's *Kaddish* (p. 294) is recited after we read the names of loved ones who have died in the past month, or at this time in past years. We conclude with a benediction.

Not able to join us in person? Livestream Friday night services here:

rodephshalom.org/livestream

Looking to follow via livestream with the *Shabbat* prayerbook? A *Shabbat* prayerbook can be purchased at ccarnet.org/publications/resources-repaginated/. Page numbers will align with those announced in the sanctuary.

We Return/*Hashiveinu*

Music by Elana Arian and Noah Aronson

Lyrics Lamentations 5:21

We return, we return, we return, return again.

We return, we return, we return, return again
And again, to Love (Truth, You).

Hashiveinu Adonai

eilecha v'nashuva

Chadeish yameinu kekedem

Turn us to you, Adonai, and we will return;
Renew our days as in the past.

In Memoriam: September 13, 2026 to September 19, 2026
***Yahrzeit* (anniversary of death)**

Susan Ashner	John J. Goldy	Henrietta Hirsh Newmayer
Estelle Bandler	Dorothy Naomi Grossman	Mary Olivant
Robert Bernstein	Samuel Heidelberger	Tillie Moskowitz Panzer
Jack Blanckensee	Mary Hollin	A. Jack Rappaport
Bessie Bogdanoff	George Jackson	Bernard S. Rosen
Ronald Boyask	Emanuel S. Kardon	George M. Rosenstein
Sylvia C. Briskman	S. Herbert Kaufman	Joseph Rosenthal
Harry Buchbinder	Abraham J. Kaufman	Lena Rosenzweig
Etta Leblang Buntin	Judith Auritt Klein	Barbara B. Rubenstein
Samuel Curson	David Kleinbard	Eva L. Sattler
Esther Davidson	Morton I. Kohn	Olga Schulman
Miriam Dintenfass	Harold Lens	Sue Schwartz
Albert Edelstein	Mildred Smith Levin	Stacey L. Schwartz
Florence Hess Ehrlich	Abraham J. Brem Levy	Charles S. Shapiro
Sarah Eisner	Claire L. Lobis	Louis Shorr
Samuel Feinstein	Anselm Loeb	Celia Weiss Snitzer
Goldie Feinstein	Marilyn Goldsmith MacDuffie	Helen Snyder
Mae Freedman	Edward Makransky	Audrey I. Stein
Samuel M. Freezman	Madeline Margolis	Hon. James L. Stern
Fred R. Freundlich	Louis Martin	Esther Harris Straus
Edward Furman	Herman Martin	Roslyn Strober
Alfred E. Garfinkel	Julia Martin	Charles Sutter
Ruth B. Garson	Alfred Mayer	Bernard Viener
Howard Gittis	Lillian Meltz	Louis Edgar Walter
Elaine Glassman	Jennie L. Meyer	Esther Wapner
Florence Bass Danien Gleaner	Krenny Muldawer	Kate Wiess
Steven Glick	Dorothy Pearlman Nagin	Samuel Yermanock

***Shloshim* (30 days of mourning)**

Merle Becker Tonia Burris Tim Dougherty Isabel Forrest
Michael Phillip Greenspan Patricia Meredith LoPresti

May the source of peace send peace to all who mourn and comfort to all who are bereaved.

Rodeph Shalom Community Events



Community Sukkah Building
Tuesday, September 22 at 5:00 p.m.



Community Sukkah Decorating
Wednesday, September 23 at 5:00 p.m.

For information about this year's High Holy Days, including the schedule of services and events, e-Passes, Guest e-Passes, and more, visit:
rodephshalom.org/high-holy-days-2026/

DEMOCRACY & SOLIDARITY AT 250 YEARS

MULTIFAITH DEMOCRACY FORUM

A three-part dialogue series hosted by The Perfecting Church, Rodeph Shalom, and Masjidullah Mosque to deepen understanding, counter hatred and polarization, celebrate religious liberty, and mobilize voter engagement. This program is made possible in part by a grant from A More Perfect Union: The Jewish Partnership for Democracy.

PASTOR KEVIN BROWN **RABBI ELI FREEDMAN** **IMAM IDRIS ABDUL-ZAHIR**

Multifaith Democracy Forum:
Evangelical Christianity & Democracy
with Pastor Kevin Brown
Thursday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m.
at The Perfecting Church

The first in a three part dialogue series hosted by The Perfecting Church, Rodeph Shalom, and Masjidullah Mosque to deepen understanding, counter hatred and polarization, celebrate religious liberty, and mobilize voter engagement.

This program is made possible in part by a grant from A More Perfect Union: The Jewish Partnership for Democracy.

Register here:
bit.ly/multifaithdemocracyforum

Our Clergy, Staff, and Lay Leadership Welcome You!

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Rabbi

ELI C. FREEDMAN (he/him)

Cantor

BRAD D. HYMAN (he/him)

Executive Director

JOSH LASTER (he/him)

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We would like to hear from you! Please contact:

Steven Share, Director of Membership & Community Engagement (he/him),
via email at sshare@rodephshalom.org.

www.rodephshalom.org

215-627-6747

Facebook.com/CongregationRodephShalom