

What is Tashlich?

According to ReformJudaism.org, Tashlich means "casting away;" and is "A traditional ceremony held during the Yamim Nora-im (Days of Awe), usually on the first day of Rosh HaShanah, in which individuals symbolically 'cast away' their sins or wrongdoings from the past year by throwing breadcrumbs into a flowing body of water."

Last year, we started a new tradition responding to the demands of this challenging era in our history. We felt that a pandemic demanded a little bit more from Tashlich--and sadly that demand (and the reason behind it) remains. I don't really feel like *just* casting away my sins... I feel like casting away the challenges from the past year, the frustration, the sorrow, the pain, the anger, and so, so much more. The past year-and-a-half has been incredibly challenging, and therefore I want Rosh Hashanah to start with a sense of new beginnings and new promise, even though I know we will still face challenging times ahead. Perhaps you feel the same way.

That is why we are gathering outdoors for a special Tashlich, Havdalah (end-of-Rosh Hashanah brief service), and Shofar blowing on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:00 PM. If you can join us, please bring your completed "Tashlich~Prayer of Release" (below). Whatever it is that you wish to release, please write it on the bottom of this paper. Cut it out and fold it in half. We will collect it (and of course not read it!) for this year's special Tashlich of Release and Renewal.

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This year, I wish to release:

May 5782 be a year of health, wholeness, and peace for us all.