



A Musical Mindset for the High Holy Days

A Jewish Study Center Workshop with Lisa Baydush

Consider the power of music... music can inspire, soothe, teach, excite, comfort, and illuminate. Music can provide the path that guides your spiritual journey. Music can touch your soul.

Music is central to the Jewish worship experience. It pulls us together as a community, and yet it also helps us find moments of personal reflection. It infuses us with a sense of awe, of joy, of peace. It allows us to pray. "The wave of a song carries the soul to heights which mere words can never reach... True prayer is a song." (Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Quest for God*)

Rosh Hashanah Themes:

- New Year (New Beginning)
- Creation (Birthday of the World)
- Apples and Honey
- Shofar
- Repentance

Yom Kippur Themes:

- Repentance (I'm Sorry)
- Reflection
- Forgiveness
- Thinking of Others
- Counting your Blessings

Songs for Rosh Hashanah:

1. Chag Sameach
2. Creator of All Things, Taubman
3. Shehecheyanu, Pik
4. Shofar Blast, Allard
5. Find the Sunshine, Baydush
6. Shana Tovah, Farber
7. L'shanah Tovah, Allard
8. Tapuchim Ud'vash, Buchman
9. This is Very Good, Klepper
10. Hal'luyah, Taubman

Songs for Yom Kippur:

1. A Little Less of Me, Campbell
2. Avinu Malkeinu
3. Return Again, Carlebach
4. I Offer My Prayer to You, Allard
5. If You Forgive Me, Daniel
6. May You Be Sealed, Allard
7. Sh'ma Koleinu, Schafer
8. These are the Days, Friedman
9. V'al Kulam, Taubman
10. We are Sorry for These Things, Komar

Chag Sameach

Chag sameach, chag sameach
Lai— lai lai lai— lai lai lai—
Chag sameach, chag sameach
Lai— lai lai lai— lai lai lai—

Shiru shiru shiru shiru chag sameach
Lai— lai lai lai— lai lai lai—
Shiru shiru shiru shiru chag sameach
Lai— lai lai lai— lai lai lai—

Creator of All Things

by Craig Taubman

Creator of all things, Ruler of Israel,
We are your people and You are our God.
Teach us to follow,
Obey Your commandments
Sh'ma Yisraeil Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad.

Your glorious world abounds in the heavens,
Your majesty rules all over the earth.
We are Your teachers
and You're our Creator,
Sh'ma Yisraeil Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad.

Shehecheyanu

by Tzvika Pik

Baruch ata Adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam
Shehecheyanu v'kiyimanu v'higianu
lazman hazeh

A—men

Shofar Blast

by Peter and Ellen Allard

Chorus:

I like to hear the shofar blast
sometimes slow and sometimes fast
I like to hear the shofar blast,
Happy happy happy new year!

1. T'ki-ah
2. Sh'va-rim
3. T'ru-ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah
4. T'ki-ah g'do-lah—————

Find the Sunshine

by Lisa Baydush

It's a brand new day, the sun is shining bright,
Note the colors on the trees,
Feel the way your heart feels when it smiles,
Go ahead and sing!

Chorus:

It's up to you to note the colors,
It's up to you to sing the songs,
It's up to you to find the sunshine,
It will make you strong!

(Repeat last two lines to end song)

It's a brand new year, the air is crisp and clean,
Feel the cold wind in your hair,
Blowin' away dark clouds from the sky,
Go ahead and sing! (chorus)

It's a brand new you who sees the cup half full
Counting the blessings that you have,
Feel the hugs and cherish those you love,
Go ahead and sing! (chorus)

Shanah Tovah

by Judy Farber

A time to think, a time to pray,
a time for all of us to say
Shanah Tovah, Shanah Tovah, Tik-a-tei-vu
(repeat last line to end)

Rosh Hashanah, a time to say,
please forgive me, God, this day
I'll try to be a little bit better,
and throw all my sins away (chorus)

I'm sorry if I hurt someone's feelings,
I didn't mean to be that way.
This year I'll make one special promise
to be kinder, starting today (chorus)

And if I try to do my part
to show the world I have a good heart
They may want to follow me so many
Mitzvot there would be (chorus)

L'Shanah Tovah

by Peter and Ellen Allard

Chorus:

L'Shanah Tovah, a happy new year
L'Shanah Tovah, a healthy new year
L'Shanah Tovah, a sweet new year
For you and you and me.

We start at the very beginning
And go round all over again
Like our A-B-C's and our 1-2-3's
From the beginning right to the end. (chorus)

We dip our apples in honey
A sweet beginning to a sweet new year
We eat the challah so round,
we hear the shofar sound
Yes, we hear it loud and clear. (chorus)

Teshuvah, we change for the better
Tefillah, we pray for the best
Tzedakah, we help other people in need
And God will take care of the rest. (chorus)

Tapuchim Ud'vash

by Rachel Buchman

Dip apples in the honey
for a sweet new year
Tapuchim ud'vash l'Rosh Hashanah
Shana to-ova, shana-a mitooka (2x)
(Repeat first three lines)

This is Very Good

by Jeff Klepper

When God made the world,
God made it full of light,
The sun to shine by day,
The moon and stars by night.
God made it full of life:
Lilies, oaks and trout,
Tigers and bears, sparrows, hawks and apes.

And God took clay
From earth's four corners
To give it the breath of life,
And God said:

This is very good, this is very good
Man, woman and child, all are good.
This is very good, this is very good
Man, woman and child, all are good.
Man, woman and child, all are good.

Hal'luyah – Psalm 150

by Craig Taubman

Chorus:

Hal'luyah Hal'luyah
Hal'luyah Hal'luyah (repeat at beginning)

Hal'lu eil b'kod-sho
Hal'lu-hu bir-ki-a u-zo
Hal'lu-hu big-vu-ro-tav
Hal'lu-hu k'-rov gud-lo (chorus)

Hal'lu-hu b-tei-ka sho-far
Hal'lu-hu b'-nei-vel v'chi-nor
Hal'lu-hu b'tof u-ma-chol
Hal'lu-hu b'mi-nim v'u-gav (chorus)

Hal'lu-hu b'-tzil-tz-lei sha-ma
Hal'lu-hu b'-tzil-tz-lei t'-ru-ah
Kol han-sha-mah t'ha-leil-ya
Hal'luyah Hal'luyah
Kol han-sha-mah t'ha-leil-ya
Hal'luyah Hal'luyah (chorus)

A Little Less of Me

by Glen Campbell

Let me be a little kinder
Let me be a little blinder
To the faults of those about me
Let me praise a little more

Let me be when I am weary
Just a little bit more cheery
Think a little more of others
And a little less of me

Let me be a little braver
When temptation bids me waver
Let me strive a little harder
To be all that I should be

Let me be a little meeker
With the brother that is weaker
Let me think more of my neighbor
And a little less of me

Let me be when I am weary
Just a little bit more cheery
Let me serve a little better
Those that I am strivin' for

Let me be a little meeker
With the brother that is weaker
Think a little more of others
And a little less of me

Avinu Malkenu

A-vi-nu mal-kei-nu (3x)
Cho-ne-nu v'a-ne-nu
Ki eyn ba-nu ma-sim

A-seh i-ma-nu tz'da-kah va-che-sed (2x)
V'ho-shi-ei-nu

Return Again

by Shlomo Carlebach

Return again, return again,
Return to the land of your soul.
Return to who you are,
Return to what you are,
Return to where you are born
and reborn again,
(repeat first two lines)

I Offer My Prayer To You

by Peter and Ellen Allard

Chorus:

Al chet, Al chet, for my sins, I say I'm sorry
Al chet, Al chet, I look at the year that's gone by
Al chet, Al chet, recalling mistakes,
what I've said, what I've done
Al chet, Al chet, I offer my prayer to You.

I look in the mirror, I look deep inside,
I want to do right, my soul to repair
Ask God for forgiveness, ask others I've hurt
To forgive me as I forgive them. (chorus)

I ask for the strength to stand tall for the chance
To move closer to God, for Teshuvah I turn
To become all that I can become and to look
Ahead to the year that's begun. (chorus)

If You Forgive Me

by Karen Daniel

Today is a holiday and it's a special day,
We celebrate this holiday in a different way;
No presents or special food, this day called
Yom Kippur is a day to think about
what we are sorry for, so...

Chorus:

If you forgive me, and I forgive you,
God will forgive both of us, kaper lanu (repeat)

I'm sorry for some things I've done,
I didn't share my toys
I said some things that hurt my friends
I made a lot of noise
But all the things that I have done
won't just go away
There are some very special words
I really need to say
What words? I'm sorry! (spoken answer)
What words? I forgive you! (spoken answer)
And... (chorus 2x)

May You Be Sealed

by Peter and Ellen Allard

Chorus:

May you be sealed for a good year,
For a sweet year, for a healthy year.
May you be written in the book of life,
G'mar chatima tova (repeat)

A holy day, a solemn day, a day to set aside,
On Yom Hakipurim
From our sins, we will not hide (chorus)

We make amends to others
for the wrongs that we have done,
Then we ask God for forgiveness,
Yes, we face the Holy One. (chorus)

When day turns into night
The final shofar blast we hear
As the book of life is closed we say
In Jerusalem next year. (chorus)

Sh'ma Koleinu

by Beth Schaefer

With humility and graciousness,
we stand before You
The days have made us weary and unsure
And although we've made mistakes,
the truth is we adore You
And ask that You be with us evermore

Chorus:

Sh'ma koleinu – hear our voices,
Adonai Eloheinu, our one and only God!
Have compassion on us Your children
And with compassion hear our prayer.

If You look into our eyes,
You'll find the quest for learning
If You look into our hearts,
You'll find true love
If You look into our souls,
You'll find a constant burning
It's the fire that's been kindled from above.
(chorus)

And if we stray, don't push us away,
Help us to return to what is right,
We know that it's late but we're willing to wait
For Your answer, for Your blessing,
for Your light! (chorus 2x)

These Are the Days (of Awe)

by Debbie Friedman, adapted by Lisa Baydush

These are the days we say we're sorry
For all the things we've done
that we could do better,
These are the days to make a promise
To be the best that we can be.

This year we'll try a little harder
to be the best that we can be!

V'al Kulam

by Craig Taubman

V'al kulam, elo-ha sli-chot,
s'lach lanu, mi-chal lanu, kaper la—nu

We Are Sorry For These Things

by Eric Komar

Al cheit she-cha-ta-nu l' -fa-ne-cha,
O, Adonai, our Ruler, we are sorry for these things,
Al cheit she-cha-ta-nu l' -fa-ne-cha,
Forgive us this Yom Kippur.

For the sins we have committed
with our words and by our deeds,
For putting before others
our own desires and needs,
For not sharing our toys
and for giving into greed,
Forgive us this Yom Kippur. (chorus)

For the sins we have committed
openly or in our minds,
For when we to our parents
and our teachers were unkind,
For lying and for cheating
and for acting unrefined,
Forgive us this Yom Kippur. (chorus)

For not offering assistance
when we saw someone in pain,
For times when things were fine
but we did nothing but complain,
For when we used bad words
and when we took Your name in vain,
Forgive us this Yom Kippur. (chorus)