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**Halacha and Prayer  
Service Guide**

For the month of Elul, 5778

Anshei Lubavitch Congregation  
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

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The month of Elul is called חודש הרחמים the Month of mercies. During this period the heavenly Gates of Mercy are open, prayers ascend express to G-d's attention, and are answered favorably. In Chasidic works this is likened to the King in the field: when the king is in his palace, he remains in his inner chamber, and only the highest ministers have access to him, and then, only by appointment. But when the king is in the field, before he returns to his palace, everyone is permitted – and able – to approach him, while he greets everyone with a smile. We have this opportunity during the month of Elul; once Rosh HaShana arrives the King has returned to His palace, the Days of Awe begin, and it becomes more difficult to approach Him.

During this month it is customary to be extra scrupulous in reciting out prayers and performing our mitzvos. Tefillin and mezuzos that are due to be examined should be attended to at this time.

### **Schedule of Halachos and Prayers for Elul:**

**Shabbos Parashas R'ei, Shabbos Rosh Chodesh:** Candle Lighting time is 7:44 pm; Mincha at 7:30pm. During the *amida* prayer add יעלה ויבא for Rosh Chodesh on page 140. Latest time to recite *Sh'ma* is 9:29am. During the morning *amida* prayer add יעלה ויבא on page 180. After repetition of the *amida*, Hallel is said, page 241, with omission of two paragraphs. Following the psalm for the day of Shabbos (pp 182-183), the psalm for Rosh Chodesh ברכי נפשי is added (pp 79-81), followed by the psalm for the penitential season לדוד ה' אורי (p 81). Two Torah scrolls are taken out. In the first we read the parasha of the week; in the second we read the *maftir* for Rosh Chodesh. The Haftara for Shabbos Rosh Chodesh is read instead of the regular Haftara. For the Mussaf *amida*, instead of the regular text, say the text below the double line on pages 194-196. During the Mincha *amida* add יעלה ויבא on page 207. After the repetition, add לדוד ה' אורי (p 81). After

Mincha, say **Chapter 5** of *Pirkei Avos*. During the Maariv *amida* add יעלה ויבא (p 113)

**The psalm for the penitential season לדוד ה' אורי (p 81) is added at every Shacharis and Mincha service throughout the month of Elul.**

Ten blasts of the **shofar** are sounded after Shacharis each weekday during the month of Elul, to arouse the congregation to teshuva and good deeds. Someone who did not attend the public Shacharis service should make an effort to blow or hear the shofar during the day.

**Sunday August 12, 1 Elul, 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Rosh Chodesh:** add יעלה ויבא in the Shacharis *amida* (p 57-58). Following the psalm for the day of Sunday (p 76), the psalm for Rosh Chodesh ברכי נפשי is added (pp 79-81), followed by the psalm for the penitential season לדוד ה' אורי (p 81). On this day Chasidic custom is to begin reciting an additional 3 chapters of *Tehillim* to the regular chapters for

the day of the month said at the end of Shacharis. Today's chapters are 20, 1-9, followed by 1-3.

**Monday Aug. 13, 2 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 10-17 & 4-6.

**Tuesday Aug. 14, 3 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 18-22 & 7-9.

**Wednesday Aug. 15, 4 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 23-28 & 10-12.

**Thursday Aug. 16, 5 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 29-34 & 13-15.

**Friday Aug. 17, 6 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 35-38 & 16-18. Candle Lighting time is 7:34pm; Mincha at 7:30pm.

**Shabbos Parashas Shoftim, 7 Elul;** Latest time for Sh'ma is 9:32am. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 20, 39-43 & 19-21 After Mincha say **Chapter 6** of *Pirkei Avos*.

**Sunday Aug. 19, 8 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 44-48 & 22-24.

**Monday Aug. 20, 9 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 49-54 & 25-27.

**Tuesday Aug. 21, 10 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 55-59 & 28-30.

**Wednesday Aug. 22, 11 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 60-65 & 31-33.

**Thursday Aug. 23, 12 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 66-68 & 34-36.

**Friday Aug. 24, 13 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 69-71 & 37-39. Candle Lighting time is 7:24pm; Mincha at 7:30pm.

**Shabbos Parashas Ki Seitzei, 14 Elul:** Latest time for Sh'ma is 9:35am. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 20, 72-76 & 40-42. After the Haftara of the week the Haftara of Parashas R'ei (which was pre-empted by the Haftara of Rosh Chodesh) is added. After Mincha say **Chapters 1 & 2** of *Pirkei Avos*.

**Sunday Aug. 26, 15 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 77-78 & 43-45.

**Monday Aug. 27, 16 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 79-82 & 46-48.

**Tuesday Aug. 28, 17 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 83- 87 & 49-51.

**Wednesday Aug. 29, 18 Elul:** Birthdays of both the **Baal Shem Tov** (Founder of Chasidus), and **R. Shneur Zalman of Liadi** (the *Alter Rebbe*), founder of Chabad. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 88-89 & 52-54.

**Thursday Aug. 30, 19 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 90-96 & 55-57.

**Friday Aug. 31, 20 Elul:** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 97-103 & 58-60. Candle Lighting time is 7:13pm; Mincha is 7:15pm.

**Shabbos Parashas Ki Savo, 21 Elul.** Latest time for Sh'ma is 9:37am. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 20, 104-105 & 61-63. After Mincha say **Chapters 3 & 4** of *Pirkei Avos*.

**Selichos:** Beginning tonight the extra penitential **Selichos for Day 1** prayers are recited. For this first time the service is held after Shabbos, at midnight (12:45am at Anshei Lubavitch). On the following days the service is held before Shacharis (5:55am at Anshei Lubavitch).

**Sunday Sept. 2, 22 Elul:** One who did not say the Selichos service last night should say it privately before Shacharis. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 106-107 & 64-66.

**Monday Sept. 3, 23 Elul: Selichos for Day 2,** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 108-112 & 67-69.

**Tuesday Sept. 4, 24 Elul: Selichos for Day 3.** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 113-118 & 70-72.

**Wednesday Sept. 5, 25 Elul: Selichos for Day 4.** On today's date Creation of the universe began 5,779 years ago. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 119 (verses 1-96) & 73-75.

**Thursday Sept. 6, 26 Elul: Selichos for Day 5.** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 119 (verses 97-176) & 76-78.

**Friday Sept. 7, 27 Elul: Selichos for Day 6.** Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 120-134 & 79-81. Candle Lighting is 7:01pm; Mincha at 7:05pm.

**Shabbos Parashas Nitzavim, 28 Elul:** As is usual on the Shabbos before Rosh Chodesh, the entire book of *Tehillim* is recited before Shacharis (8am at Anshei Lubavitch). This is the last opportunity for public *Tehillim*, and it is important to make an effort to attend. Latest time for Sh'ma is 9:39am. The blessing for the New Month is not recited. According to Chasidic tradition, G-d Himself blesses the month of Tishrei. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 20, 135-139 & 82-84. After Mincha say **Chapters 5 & 6** of Pirkei Avos.

**Sunday Sept 9, 29 Elul, Erev Rosh HaShana: Selichos for Erev Rosh HaShana.** Tachanun is omitted. The

shofar is not sounded today. Today's chapters of *Tehillim* are 20, 140-150 & 85-87. After Shacharis, the congregation is divided into separate groups of 11 to recite the התרת נדרים, **Annulment of Vows** (pp 269-270). During the afternoon it is customary for men and boys to immerse in the mikve to prepare spiritually for the holy days. Prepare honey for dipping the challa at the festival meals, and apples for the meal of the first evening. Also, a fruit that is new in season should be prepared for Kiddush of the second evening.

Candle Lighting is at 6:58pm; Mincha at 7:00pm. We wear our festival clothing on Rosh HaShana in honor of the holy day, and to rejoice in the confidence that G-d will judge us favorably and grant us a good, sweet, healthy and happy New Year.

כתיבה וחתומה טובה לשנה טובה ומתוקה  
**May we be judged and inscribed in the Book of Life for a good New Year**