

From the Cantor

Dear friends,

“L’cha dodi likrat kallah p’nei Shabbat n’kab’lah”: *Come, my friend, let’s greet the bride- the face(s) of Shabbat we shall welcome!*

These words from our Kabbalat Shabbat liturgy express our excitement in welcoming in the holiness of the Shabbat.

As we sang these words (to an uplifting new melody by Josh Warshawsky) during our recent musical Friday Night service, featuring an incredible ensemble of OZ musicians, I couldn’t help thinking of an even more immediate and significant meaning:

“Come let us welcome each other anew—*face-to-face*—as we enter into *sacred community* and into *sacred time* together again.

Over the next few months we will have many more opportunities to be together in community, through music and prayer:

- July 16 @ 6 pm - outdoor Friday Night Service featuring OZ ensemble (location TBD)
- July 17 @ 9:15 am- our first Shabbat morning service in person (and on Zoom); the service will be infused with music and joy!
- July 17 @ 8 pm- Tisha B’av observance - we will mark this night of collective mourning with traditional as well as contemporary songs and poetry of lament.
- July 30 @ 6 pm- Friday Night Service at OZ with a very special guest service leader/pianist [Joyce Rosenzweig](#) (my previous musical collaborator in NYC).
- August 7, 14, 21, 28- we will celebrate four B Mitzvahs on each Shabbat afternoon in August (Gabriel Davidson, Melina Kanarick, Zev Barth and Isaac Rubman). We hope you’ll join us to rejoice with these amazing OZ youth who have persevered and have grown into Jewish leaders during this difficult year
- August 8 @ 6 pm - outdoor Friday Night Service (location TBD)

I hope to see you in person during the summer months, and I look forward to singing, praying, learning and simply *being* together again in sacred community again.

~ *B’shirah/In Song*
Cantor Steve
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