

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
DIVISION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP

סדר טקס ההסמכה לרבנים ולחזנים
Ceremony of Rabbinical and
Cantorial Ordination

ח' באייר תשפ"ד
MAY 16, 2024



סדר טקס ההסמכה לרבנים ולחזנים

Ceremony of Rabbinical and Cantorial Ordination

The Jewish Theological Seminary

Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz, Chancellor

Rabbi Gordon Tucker, Vice Chancellor for Religious Life and Engagement

Dr. Jeffrey Kress, Provost

The Division of Religious Leadership

Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen, Pearl Resnick Dean of the Rabbinical School and Dean of the Division of Religious Leadership

Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay, Associate Dean of The Rabbinical School

Cantor Raphael Frieder, Interim Director of the H. L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music

Rabbi Naomi Kalish, Director of the Center for Pastoral Education

Rabbi Rafi Cohen, Director of Admissions

Rabbi Luciana Lederman, EdD, Director of the Beit Midrash and Nishma

Rabbi Jan Uhrbach, Director of the Block/Kolker Center for Spiritual Arts

Religious Leadership Advisory Board

Barry Lovell, Outgoing Chair

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Rabbi Ethan Witkovsky

Rabbi Joshua Heller

Rabbi Steven Lindemann

Rabbi Steven Rein

Rebecca Sonkin

Reva Pearlstein

Susan Zelman

Welcome Dr. Jeffrey Kress

Procession Ordinees

Opening Blessing Chancellor Shuly Rubin Schwartz

Words of Blessing Students and Mentors

Words of Torah Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen

Ordination of Rabbis and Cantors Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen,
Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay, Rabbi Jay Kornsgold,
Cantor Raphael Frieder, and Hazzan Luis Cattan

Welcome from the Rabbinical Assembly Rabbi Jay Kornsgold

Welcome from the Cantorial Assembly Hazzan Luis Cattan

Priestly Blessing Rabbi Jay Kornsgold, Hazzan Luis Cattan

Words of Appreciation New Cantors and Rabbis

Faculty Charge Faculty, Led by Rabbi Gordon Tucker and
Cantor Nancy Abramson

Sheheheyanu New Rabbis and Cantors with Community

Closing Words Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen

Festive Dancing Everyone

PROGRAM NOTES

The *tallitot* presented to the rabbinical ordinees are funded through an endowment established by Ivan Levinsohn (z"l) in memory of his wife, Tres (z"l), to symbolize their love of The Jewish Theological Seminary and its students. May their memory and their commitment to JTS be for a blessing.

The *beit din* (court) for ordaining our rabbis will include Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen, Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay, and Rabbi Jay Kornsgold, President of the Rabbinical Assembly. The *beit din* for ordaining our cantors will include Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen, Cantor Raphael Frieder and Hazzan Luis Cattan, Immediate Past President of the Cantors Assembly.

Musical accompaniment provided by Hazzan Natasha Hirschhorn with puck glass.

LIST OF OUR GRADUATES AND THEIR MENTORS

H. L. MILLER CANTORIAL SCHOOL

GRADUATES

MENTORS

Ingrid Alexandra Coleman Barnett	Cantor Nancy Abramson
David Samuel Childs	Cantor Jacob Mendelson
Gedalia Penner-Robinson	Rabbi Ethan Linden
	Rabbi Sandy Bogin
Max Henry Silverstone	Hazzan Daniella Risman
	Hazzan Jacob Sandler
Neal Michael Taibel	Cantor Isaac Yager

RABBINICAL SCHOOL

GRADUATES

MENTORS

Jonathon Gordon Adler	Rabbi Daniel Dorsch
Gisel Baler	Rabbi Daniel Greyber
	Rabbi Gordon Tucker
Josh Bender	Rabbi Robert Dobrusin
Caleb Milian Shahan Brommer	Rabbi Julia Andelman
	Rabbi Marcus Mordecai Schwartz
Talia Kaplan	Rabbi Carie Carter
Ilana Mardell Sandberg	Rabbi Craig Scheff
	Rabbi Robbie Harris
Lilli Shvartsmann	Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay
	Rabbi Richard Camras
Samuel Joseph Vingron	Rabbi Arthur Weiner
	Rabbi Avram Kogen
Amalya Miriam Volz	Rabbi Jan Uhrbach
	Rabbi Ariella Rosen



JONATHON GORDON ADLER
יהונתן גדליה בן קלמן הרשל וחווה אסתר

אָכּן יֵשׁ ה' בַּמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה וְאֲנִי לֹא יָדַעְתִּי
Surely Adonai is present in this place, and I did not know.
Genesis 28:16



GISEL BALER
יעל בת גרשון ומלכה

אִין דבר העומד בפני הרצון
Nothing can stand in the way of the will
The Zohar



INGRID ALEXANDRA COLEMAN BARNETT
ישראלה גיטל בת מרדכי ונעמי

וַעֲתָה קְחוּ לִי מִנְּגִן וְהָיָה כְּנִגֹּן הַמִּנְּגֵן וַתְּהִי עֲלָיו יַד ה'
Elisha said, "Now then, get me a musician." As the musician played,
God's hand was upon him.
II Kings 3:15



JESSICA BELASCO
יסכה שרה בת יואל וחנה

וְאָמַר אֶהְיֶה אֶדְנִי ה' הִנֵּה לֹא יָדַעְתִּי דַבֵּר כִּי־נֶעַר אֲנִי: וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֵלַי אַל תֹּאמַר נֶעַר אֲנִי כִּי
עַל כָּל אֲשֶׁר אֲשַׁלְּחֶךָ תִּלְךָ וְאֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר אֶצְוֶה תִּדְבֹּר
I replied: Ah, my Sovereign GOD! I don't know how to speak, For I am still a child.
And GOD said to me: Do not say, "I am still a child," But go wherever I send you
And speak whatever I command you.
Jeremiah 1:6-7

JOSH BENDER
אליהו בן קדיש ולאה

והנה יש ממנו מי שיברק לו הברק פעם אחר פעם במעט הפרש ביניהם עד כאלו הוא באור תדיר
 לא יסור וישוב הלילה אצלו כיום

On some the lightning flashes in rapid succession, and they seem to be in continuous light, and
 their night is as clear as the day.

The Rambam's Introduction to the Guide of The Perplexed



CALEB MILIAN SHAHAN BROMMER
כלב מאור בן הלל וחיה רות

זה הדבר אשר צוה ה' לקטו ממנו איש לפי אכלו עמר לגלגלת מספר נפשתיכם איש לאשר
 באהלו תקחו: ויעשו כן בני ישראל וילקטו המרבה והממעט: וימדו בעמר ולא העדיף
 המרבה והממעט לא החסיר איש לפי אכלו לקטו

This is what GOD has commanded: Each household shall gather as much as it requires to eat—
 an omer to a person for as many of you as there are; each household shall fetch according to
 those in its tent. The Israelites did so, some gathering much, some little. But when they measured
 it by the omer, anyone who had gathered much had no excess, and anyone who had gathered
 little had no deficiency: each household had gathered as much as it needed to eat.

Shmot 16:16-18



DAVID SAMUEL CHILDS
דוד שמואל בן החזן מאיר שמחה ושרה

וכל בניך למודי ה' ורב שלום בניך

And all of Your children will be taught of GOD, and great will be the peace of Your children.

Isaiah 54:13



TALIA KAPLAN
טליה לאה בת ברכה שיינע וראובן הכהן

תתבענה שפתי תהלה כי תלמדני חקיה: תען לשוני אמרתך כי כל מצותיה צדק: תהי ידך
 לעזרני כי פקודיה בחרתי

May praise pour from my lips, for You taught me Your laws. Let my tongue speak out
 Your words, for all Your mitzvot are just. May Your hand become my help, for I have chosen
 Your decrees.

Psalms 119:171-173





GEDALIA PENNER-ROBINSON

גדליה משה בן הרב מנחם מנדל יצחק ושרה עידל

אוֹדֶה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵי כָּל לְבָבִי, וְאֶכְבֶּדֶה שְׁמֶךָ לְעוֹלָם

I will praise you, Oh Lord, my God, with all my heart, and pay honor to Your name for eternity.

Psalm 86:12



ILANA MARDELL SANDBERG

אילנה בת ראובן דוד ודינה

הַתּוֹרָה נִקְנֶיִת... בְּתִלְמוּד, בְּשִׁמְיעַת הָאָזְן, בְּעֵרִיכַת שְׁפָתַיִם, בְּבִינַת הַלֵּב, בְּשִׁכְלוֹת הַלֵּב, בְּאִמָּה, בְּיִרְאָה, בְּעִנְיָה, בְּשִׁמְחָה, בְּטַהֲרָה, בְּשִׁמוּשׁ חֻכְמַיִם, בְּדִקְדוּק חֲבָרִים, וּבְפִלְפּוּל הַתְּלִמִּידִים, בְּיִשׁוּב

Torah is acquired... through learning/teaching, attentive listening, proper speech, through an understanding heart, an intelligent heart, through awe, fear, humility, joy, through attending to the sages, critical give and take with peers, and debate with disciples, through clear thinking...

Pirkei Avot 6:6



LILLI SHVARTSMANN

פרימה חנה בת שמעון ופיגה רבקה

בְּיוֹם נִטְעָה תִּשְׁגָּשְׁגִי וּבַבֹּקֶר זָרְעָה תִּפְרֹיחִי

On the day that you plant, you see it grow;

On the morning you sow, you see it bud

Isaiah 17:11



MAX HENRY SILVERSTONE

טוביה חנן בן אשר וצביה דינה

נִכּוֹן לִבִּי אֱלֹהִים נִכּוֹן לִבִּי אֲשִׁירָה וְאֶזְמְרָה

My heart is firm, O God; my heart is firm; I will sing, I will chant a hymn

Psalm 57:8

NEAL MICHAEL TAIBEL

נתן בן אברהם ושרה

עבדו את ה' בשמחה באו לפניו בְּרִנָּה

Serve the Lord in Gladness; come before his gladness with singing.

Psalm 100:2



SAMUEL JOSEPH VINGRON

שמואל יוסף בן יעקוב ותמר

אנעים זמירות ושירים אארג כי אליך נפשי תערג

I shall chant melodies and weave together verses, for my soul thirsts for You

Judah the Pious, quoted from Siddur Lev Shalem for Shabbat & Festivals



AMALYA MIRIAM VOLZ

עמליה פריידע בת הרב יוסף אליה וציפורה

כְּאֵיל תַּעֲרַג עַל־אֲפִיקֵי־מַיִם כִּן נַפְשִׁי תַעֲרַג אֵלֶיךָ אֱלֹהִים:

צְמָאָה נַפְשִׁי לֵאלֹהִים לְאֵל ה'

Like a hind crying for water, my soul cries for You, O God; my soul thirsts for God,
the living God;

Tehillim 42:2-3



Faculty Blessing for the New Rabbis

Let not this Book of Torah cease from your lips, but recite it day and night, so that you may observe faithfully all that is written in it. Only then will you prosper in your undertakings and only then will you be successful. We charge you: be strong and resolute; proceed with courage and confidence, for Adonai your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:8-9

לֹא-יִמוּשׁ סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה הַזֶּה מִפִּיךָ וְהִגִּיתָ בּוֹ
יוֹמָם וְלַיְלָה לְמַעַן תִּשְׁמַר לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּכָל-הַכְּתוּב
בּוֹ כִּי-אֶז תִּצְלִיחַ אֶת-דַּרְכְּךָ וְאֶז תִּשְׁפִּיל:
הֲלוֹא צִוִּיתִיךָ חֲזַק וְאַמֵץ אֶל-תַּעֲרֹץ וְאֶל-תַּחַת
כִּי עִמָּךְ הוּא אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכֹל אֲשֶׁר תֵּלֵךְ:

Sheheheyanu

Barukh atah Adonai, our God, sovereign of time and space, for granting us life, for sustaining us, and for bringing us to this moment.

Barukh atah Adonai eloheinu melekh ha-olam, sheheheyanu, v'kiymanu v'higianu lazman ha-zeh.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁהַחַיָּנו וְקִיְמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנוּ הַזֶּה:

