

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
DIVISION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP

סדר טקס ההסמכה לרבנים ולחזנים
Ceremony of Rabbinical and
Cantorial Ordination

כ"ד באייר תשפ"ה
MAY 22, 2025



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

Cantor Rabbi Shoshi Levin Goldberg, Director of H. L. Miller Cantorial School and College of Jewish Music

Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay, Associate Dean of The Rabbinical School

Rabbi Annie Lewis, Director of Recruitment and Admissions for Religious and Educational Leadership, Assistant Dean of First Year Rabbinical Students

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

Rabbi Naomi Kalish, Director of the Center for Pastoral Education

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

Religious Leadership Advisory Board

Annette Kasle, Chair

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Carl Koerner	Rabbi Ethan Witkovsky
Rabbi Steven Lindemann	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 Rabbi Shoshi Levin Goldberg, and Hazzan Joanna Dulkan

Welcome from the Rabbinical Assembly Rabbi Jay Kornsgold

Welcome from the Cantorial Assembly Hazzan Joanna Dulkan

Priestly Blessing Rabbi Jay Kornsgold, Hazzan Joanna Dulkan with H. L. Miller Cantorial School Faculty Ensemble

Words of Appreciation New Cantors and Rabbis

Faculty Charge Faculty, led by Rabbi Gordon Tucker and Rabbi Luciana Pajeci Lederman

Sheheheyanu New Rabbis and Cantors with Community

Closing Words Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen

Festive Dancing Everyone

PROGRAM NOTES

The *tallitot* presented to the 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 Rabbi Shoshi Levin Goldberg, and Hazzan Joanna Dulkan, President of the Cantors Assembly.

Y'varech'cha composed by Cantor Gerald Cohen.

Musical accompaniment provided by Joyce Rosenzweig.

LIST OF OUR GRADUATES AND THEIR MENTORS

GRADUATES

MENTORS

Roseanne Kay Benjamin	Cantor Raphael Frieder Cantor Natasha Hirschhorn
Rachel Black	Cantor Nancy Abramson Rabbi Manes Kogan
Sassoon Orol Brown	Rabbi Guy Austrian
Anina Dassa	Rabbi Felicia Sol
Ariel Ya'akov Dunat	Rabbi Ariel Russo
Alex Friedman	Rabbi Ilana Garber
Rebecca Jane Galin.....	Rabbi Megan GoldMarche
Justin Zvi Pellis	Cantor Alan Sokoloff
Aiden Eliyahu Pink.....	Rabbi Neil Zuckerman Rabbi Harold Kravitz
Lara Rodin.....	Rabbi Steven Wernick
Alicia Rothamel	Rabbi Micah Peltz
Claire Shoyer	Rabbi Gordon Tucker Rabbi Jeffrey Arnowitz



ROSEANNE KAY BENJAMIN

רחל חנה בת ירחמיאל וחביבה

הְשִׁיבֵנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְנִשׁוּבָה. חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם

Turn us toward you oh God, and we shall return. Renew our days,
as of old.

Liturgy, from Lamentations 5:21



RACHEL BLACK

רחל בת אלישבע ואלי הלוי

לְאָדָם מַעֲרָכֵי לֵב וְיִמָּה' מַעֲנָה לְשׁוֹן

A person may have the best of intentions, but it is God who grants the
ability of expression.

Liturgy, from Proverbs 16:1



SASSOON OROL BROWN

שׁוֹשְׁנָה שִׁשׁוֹן מִבַּיִת בְּרוּךְ וּדְבוּרָה

כְּמַיָּא דְאַשְׁקֵי לְאֵילָנָא וְאַתְרַבֵּי בְּהָהוּא שְׁקִיּוֹ

Like waters that feed a tree, and grow greater through that watering.

Liturgy, Edot Hamizrach: Petichat Eliyahu

ANINA DASSA

ענינה בת רון ויפה

הַמְאִיר לְאָרֶץ וְלְדָרִים עָלֶיהָ בְּרַחֲמִים וּבְטוּבוֹ מְחַדֵּשׁ בְּכָל-יוֹם תְּמִיד
מִעֲשֵׂה בְּרֵאשִׁית

God illuminates the earth for those who dwell on it, with compassion; and
God's goodness renews continually, the work of creation, every day.

Liturgy, Yotzer



ARIEL YA'AKOV DUNAT

אריאל יעקב בן אברהם ושרה שׁוׁיב

וְהָאֵר עֵינֵינוּ בְּתוֹרָתְךָ וְדַבַּק לִבֵּנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתֶיךָ וַיְחַד לְבַבְנוּ לְאַהֲבָה וּלְיִרְאָה
אֶת-שְׁמֶךָ

Enlighten our eyes with Your Torah, and cause our hearts to hold to Your
commandments, and unify our hearts to love and revere Your name.

Liturgy, Ahavah Rabah



ALEX FRIEDMAN

אביגדור אברהם בן לאה ריבא ויוחנן

הוּא הָיָה אוֹמֵר, חֲבִיב אָדָם שֶׁנִּבְרָא בְּצַלְם. חֲבִיב יִתְרָה נוֹדַעַת לוֹ שֶׁנִּבְרָא
בְּצַלְם

Rabbi Akiva would say: Beloved are people, that they were created in
God's image. Even more beloved are they, because it was made known to
them that they were made in God's image.

Pirkei Avot 3:14





REBECCA JANE GALIN

רבקה פרידה בת חוה ושלמה

אם אין קֶמַח, אין תּוֹרָה. אם אין תּוֹרָה, אין קֶמַח.

Where there is no bread, there is no Torah; where there is no Torah,
there is no bread.

Pirkei Avot 3:17



JUSTIN ZVI PELLIS

יעקב צבי בן קלמן שמחה ותמרה

אני תפילתי לך הי עת רצון

I am my prayers to you; Your abode is time and space.

Liturgy, from Psalms 69:14



AIDEN ELIYAHU PINK

עדן אליהו בן דוד יעקוב ותמר גבריאלי

כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲרֻבִים זֶה בְּזֶה

All Jews are responsible for one another.

Shevuot 39a

LARA RODIN

לאה חנה בת אביבה שינא וגרשון הכהן

הוּי מִתְלַמְּדוֹי שֶׁל אֶהֱרֵן אוֹהֵב שְׁלוֹם וְרוֹדֵף שְׁלוֹם אוֹהֵב אֶת הַבְּרִיּוֹת
וּמְקַרְבֵּן לַתּוֹרָה

Be like the students of Aaron. Love peace and pursue peace.
Love humanity and draw them close to Torah.

Pirkei Avot 1:12



ALICIA ROTHAMEL

אשר חנה בת אברהם ושרה

וּמְצָא־חַן וְשִׂכְל־טוֹב בְּעֵינֵי אֱלֹהִים וְאָדָם. בְּטַח אֶל־ה' בְּכָל־לְבָבְךָ וְאֶל־
בִּינְתְּךָ אֶל־תִּשְׁעֵן

And you will find favor and approbation in the eyes of God and human beings. Trust in God with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding.

Proverbs 3:4-5



CLAIRE SHOYER

צילה שרה בת שמואל ודבורה

לָמָּה נִמְשָׁלָה תּוֹרָה כְּתֵאנָה, שָׂרֵב הָאֵילָנוֹת, הַזֵּית הַגָּפֶן וְהַתְּמָרָה נִלְקָטִין
כְּאַחַת וְהַתֵּאנָה נִלְקָטָת מְעַט מְעַט. כִּי הַתּוֹרָה הַיּוֹם לּוֹמֵד מְעַט וְלִמְחָר
הַרְבֵּה, לְפִי שְׂאִינָה מִתְלַמְּדָת לֹא בְּשָׁנָה וְלֹא בְּשְׁנָתַיִם.

Why is the Torah likened to a fig tree? It is because other trees—the olive tree, the grapevine, the date tree—are each harvested all at one time, but the fig tree is harvested little by little. So too is the Torah.

One studies a bit today and more tomorrow, because it is not learned in just one or two years.

Midrash Tanchuma, Pinchas 11



Faculty Blessing for the New Cantors and 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 בוֹ יוֹמָם
וְלַיְלָה לְמַעַן תִּשְׁמֹר לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּכֹל-הַכְּתוּב בּוֹ כִּי-
אֲזַ תִּצְלִיחַ אֶת-דְּרָכֶךָ וְאֲזַ תִּשְׁכִּיל: הֲלוֹא צִוִּיתִיךָ
חֹזֵק וְאַמֵץ אֶל-תַּעֲרֹץ וְאֶל-תַּחַת כִּי עִמָּךָ ה'
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 melek ha-olam, sheheheyanu, v'kiymanu v'higianu lazman ha-zeh.

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

