

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
DIVISION OF RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP

סדר טקס ההסמכה לרבנים
Ceremony of Rabbinical Ordination

ג' בסיון תשפ"ו
MAY 19, 2026



סדר טקס ההסמכה לרבנים ולחזנים

Ceremony of Rabbinical 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 Lederman, EdD, Director of the Beit Midrash and Nishma

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Welcome Dr. Jeffrey Kress

Procession Ordinees

Opening Blessing Chancellor Shuly Rubin Schwartz

Kavanah and Words of Torah Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen

Words of Blessing Students and Mentors

Ordination of Rabbis Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen,
Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay, Rabbi Gesa Ederberg

Welcome from the Rabbinical Assembly Rabbi Gesa Ederberg

Priestly Blessing Rabbi Gesa Ederberg, Cantor Elisheva Dienstfrey
with H. L. Miller Cantorial School Director
Cantor Rabbi Shoshi Levin Goldberg

Words of Appreciation New Rabbis

Faculty Charge Faculty, led by Rabbi Gordon Tucker

Sheheheyanu New Rabbis 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 Gesa Ederberg, President of the Rabbinical Assembly. Representing the Cantors Assembly is Cantor Elisheva Dienstfrey, Senior Vice President of the Cantors Assembly.

Y'varech'cha composed by Cantor Sol Zim.

Musical accompaniment provided by Hazzan Natasha Hirschhorn and puck glass.

GRADUATES

MENTORS

Zachary Bernstein-Rothberg.	Rabbi Rob Dobrosin
Sara Malka Birnbaum.	Rabbi Evan Ravski Rabbi Eytan Hammerman
Noam Blauer.	Rabbi Micha'el Rosenberg Rabbi Esther Reed
Eitan Refael Bloostein	Rabbi Rachel Ain Rabbi Daniel Jezer
Rachel Beth Cohn	Rabbi Michael Fel Rabbi Ayelet Cohen Rabbi Stephanie Ruskay
Micah Weinberg Cowan	Rabbi Evan Ravski
Marc Nathan Hersch	Rabbi William Lebeau Rabbi Robert Scheinberg
Jacob Kaplan Lipkin.	Rabbi Julie Roth
Wade Jacob Melnick.	Rabbi Rachel Marder
Sarah Rockford.	Rabbi Rachel Isaacs Rabbi Gordon Tucker
Noa Rubin.	Rabbi Dianne Cohler-Esses Rabbi Jamie Weisbach



ZACHARY BERNSTEIN-ROTHBERG

זכריה מאיר חיים בן יעקב ופסי לאה

עזי וזמרת יה ויהי לי לישועה זה אלי ואנוהו אלהי אבי וארממנהו

God is my might and my song, and has become deliverance for me;

This is my God, Whom I will praise, the God of my ancestry,

Whom I will exalt

Exodus 15:2



SARA MALKA BIRNBAUM

שרה מלכה חיה בת יעל ברל ואיטקה מרל

עבדו את ה' בשמחה, באו לפניו ברננה

Serve the Eternal with joy; come before God with song

Psalms 100:2



NOAM BLAUER

נועם ישי בן יוסף ושרה פריידע

אהוב לך את המצוה הדומה למת מצוה שאין לה עוסקים

...אותם מסכתות ואותם הלכות שבני אדם אין רגילים בהם

Be sure to love whichever Mitzvah is like an abandoned corpse,

with nobody tending to it...those tractates and those

Halakhot which people avoid

Sefer Hasidim 261

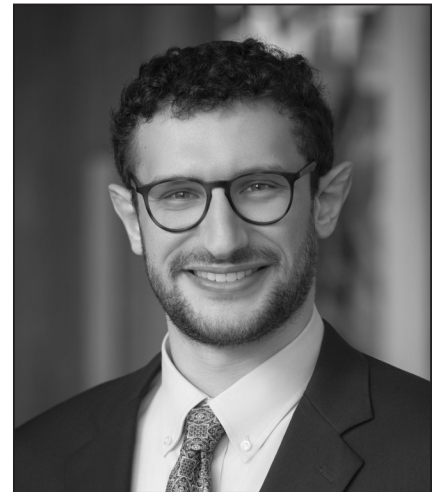
EITAN REFAEL BLOOSTEIN

איתן רפאל בן מאיר יעקב הלוי ואביבה

— אָמַר רַבִּי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בֶּן לֵוִי, מֵאִי דְכָתִיב: "וְזֹאת הַתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר שָׂם מֹשֶׁה," זָכָה —
נְעִשִׂית לּוֹ סָם חַיִּים, לֹא זָכָה — נְעִשִׂית לּוֹ סָם מִיתָה

Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi said: What is the meaning of the verse
“This is the Torah that Moses set [sam] before the Israelites”
(Deut. 4:44)? If you use Torah in a meritorious way, it becomes an
elixir [sam] of life; and if you do not use it in a meritorious way,
it becomes an elixir [sam] of death

Yoma 72b



RACHEL BETH COHN

רחל בת-שבע בת שרה ושלמה אנשל הכהן

כִּי־עִמָּךְ מְקוֹר חַיִּים בְּאוֹרְךָ נִרְאָה־אוֹר

With You is the source of life;
in Your light we see light

Psalm 36:10



MICAH WEINBERG COWAN

מיכה שאול בן בלומה חנה ואליהו פרץ הכהן

הַפַּכְתָּ מִסְפָּדִי לְמַחֹל לִי פִתְחֹת שָׂקִי וְתֹאזְרֵנִי שִׂמְחָה

You have turned my lament into dancing—you have removed
my sackcloth and clothed me with joy

Psalm 30:12





MARC NATHAN HERSCH

מאיר נתן בן שמחה ורייזל

ישמח משה במתנת חלקו

Moses rejoiced in his portion, for You called him a faithful servant

Liturgy: Shabbat Shacharit



JACOB KAPLAN LIPKIN

יעקב מאיר בן אלינה ודניאל שמעון הלוי

הן יראת אדני היא חכמה וסור מרע בינה

Indeed, to revere Hashem—that is wisdom; to shun evil—
that is discernment

Job 28:28



WADE JACOB MELNICK

זמר יעקב בן זאב ואסתר מלכה הלוי

למנות ימינו כן הודע ונבא לבב חכמה

Teach us to number our days, that we may obtain a wise heart

Psalms 90:12

SARAH ROCKFORD

שרה יסכה בת אהרון ורבקה אסתר

ואכלת ושבעת וברכת את-ה' אלהיך על-הארץ הטובה אשר נתן-לך

And you will eat and be sated and bless the Lord your God
for the good land given to you

Deuteronomy 8:10



NOA RUBIN

נועה רחל בת משה ויהודית

אמר ריש לקיש משום רבי יהודה נשיאה: אין העולם מתקיים אלא בשביל
הכל תינוקות של בית רבן

Reish Lakish said in the name of Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi,
“The world exists only because of the breaths of schoolchildren”

Shabbat 119b



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-יִמּוּשׁ סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה הַזֶּה מִפִּיךָ וְהִגִּיתָ בוּ יוֹמָם
וְלַיְלָה לְמַעַן תִּשְׁמֹר לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּכֹל-הַכְּתוּב בּוֹ כִּי-
אֲזוּ תַצְלִיחַ אֶת-דְּרָכְךָ וְאָז תִּשְׁכִּיל: הֲלוֹא צִוִּיתִיךָ
חֹזֵק וְאַמֵּץ אֶל-תַּעֲרֹץ וְאֶל-תַּחַת כִּי עִמָּךְ 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 melekh ha-olam, sheheheyanu, v'kiymanu v'higianu lazman ha-zeh.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מְלֶכֶּךְ הָעוֹלָם
שְׁהַחֵינּוּ וְקִיְמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנוּ הַזֶּה:

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