



A Rabbinic Greeting of Welcoming for Rosh Hashanah

Welcome, everyone, to our synagogue on this Rosh Hashanah eve.

Everyone is welcome and valued here tonight: Jews, people of other faiths, secular folks, intermarried families, straight, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning, single or partnered, students, seniors, as well as people who don't like labels and categories.

As we greet the New Year together, we are all equally treasured by the Holy One. Each of us is a unique and beloved soul held in the weave of Life, touched by the Divine Mystery. Eternal One, help us make this sanctuary a place of love and mutual respect, of dignity and welcoming, of appreciation of everyone here exactly as they are.

I'd like to ask now if everyone would please take a moment to greet someone near you, to say *Shanah Tovah* – Happy New Year – and welcome one another.

- adapted from a prayer by Rabbi Mychal Copeland