**The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Holy Family Roman Catholic Church Fresh Meadows, Israel Center of Conservative Judaism and Hillcrest Jewish Center are proud to present:**

# *Virtual*

# *Interfaith*

# Thanksgiving Service

## Wednesday, November 25, 2020
## 7:30 pm

**Click here to join the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**

Or dial (929) 205 6099 then enter the meeting ID: 834 3429 2665
Followed by the passcode: 646909

## Participating Congregations

**Bait-Uz-Zafar Mosque - New York - Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, USA**
188-15 McLaughlin Avenue, Hollis, New York 11423

***Israel Center of Conservative Judaism***
167-11 73rd Avenue, Fresh Meadows, NY, 11366

**Hillcrest Jewish Center**
183-02 Union Turnpike, Fresh Meadows, NY 11366

**Holy Roman Family Catholic Church**
175-20 74th Avenue, Fresh Meadows, NY 11366

# Order of Our Service

Welcome and Introduction

America the Beautiful
*ALL*

**What Does America Mean to Me # 1**

The New Colossus

**What Does America Mean to Me # 2**

My Country Tis of Thee
*ALL*

**What Does America Mean to Me # 3**

Thoughts about Gratitude

**What Does America Mean to Me # 4**

Giving Back: Collection

Prayer for Peace

God Bless America
*ALL*

# America the Beautiful

*Words by Katharine Lee Bates*

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with
brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare of freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife.
Who more than self their
country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness
And every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee
And crown thy good with
brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

# The New Colossus

*Words by Emma Lazarus*

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,

With conquering limbs astride from land to land;

Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand

A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame

Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name

Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand

Glows world-wide welcome;

her mild eyes command

The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.

"Keep ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she

With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,

Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.

Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

# My Country ‘Tis of Thee

*Words by Samuel F. Smith*

My country,' tis of thee,
sweet land of liberty,
of thee I sing;
land where my fathers died,
land of the pilgrims' pride,
from every mountainside
let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
land of the noble free,
thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills,
like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
and ring from all the trees
sweet freedom's song;
let mortal tongues awake;
let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break,
the sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to thee,
author of liberty,
to thee we sing;
long may our land be bright
with freedom's holy light;
protect us by thy might,
great God, our King.

# Thoughts about Gratitude

1. "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." *William Arthur Ward*
2. "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." *John F. Kennedy*
3. "Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." *Charles Dickens*
4. "At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." *Albert Schweitzer*
5. "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." *Oprah Winfrey*
6. “Silent gratitude isn't very much to anyone." *Gertrude Stein*
7. "You cannot do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it will be too late." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*
8. "When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around." *Willie Nelson*
9. "Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out." *John Wooden*
10. "This is a wonderful day. I've never seen this one before." *Maya Angelou*

# Prayer for Peace

*Words by Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav*

May we see the day when war and bloodshed cease,
when a great peace will embrace the whole world.

Then nation will not threaten nation and we will never again know war.
For all who live on earth shall realize we have not come into being to hate or to destroy.

We have come into being to praise, to labor and to love.
Compassionate God, bless the leaders of all nations with the power of compassion.

Fulfill the promise conveyed in Scripture: "I will bring peace to the land, and you shall lie down and no one shall terrify you.

I will rid the land of vicious beasts and it shall not be ravaged by war.

Let love and justice flow like a mighty stream.
Let peace fill the earth as the waters fill the sea."
And let us say: Amen

# God Bless America

*Words by Irving Berlin*

God Bless America,

Land that I love.

Stand beside her,

and guide her

Thru the night

with a light from above.

From the mountains,

to the prairies,

To the oceans,

white with foam

God bless America,

My home sweet home.

# A Thanksgiving Prayer

By Rabbi Naomi Levy

For the laughter of the children,

For my own life breath,

For the abundance of food on this table,

For the ones who prepared this sumptuous feast,

For the roof over our heads,

The clothes on our backs,

For our health,

And our wealth of blessings,

For this opportunity to celebrate with family and friends,

For the freedom to pray these words

Without fear,

In any language,

In any faith,

In this great country,

Whose landscape is as vast and beautiful as her inhabitants.

Thank You, God, for giving us all these.  Amen.