

## **Kol Hadash Candle Lighting Ritual - February 4, 2022**

### **Gathering Music: Niggun**

**Wendi Bernstein Lash**

### **Shabbat Shalom**

We gather on this Shabbat as a community of believers. We believe that Judaism is the entire experience of the Jewish people. We believe in the value of celebrating Jewish culture and identity. We believe that all those who choose to celebrate with us are part of our community. We believe that being together strengthens and enhances our Humanistic Jewish experience. May this Sabbath be a time of peace and rejuvenation.

This is a time of transition. We move from our everyday week to the experience of Shabbat. We turn from the concerns of the outside world and become quiet and peaceful. We, at this moment, in this time, create a community of Humanistic Jewish believers. Let us pause and take note as we begin the journey of this Shabbat.

Rabbi Miriam Jerris

### **Candle Lighting**

The Sabbath candles stand before us as did the lamps of our ancestors. We connect from their generation to our generation. As in each generation before us, we participate in this ancient ritual and make our contribution to the traditions of the Jewish people. As the daylight disappears, we light these candles to bring light to this gathering.

Rabbi Miriam Jerris

### **A Time for Sharing**

When we are born, we experience a sense of aloneness that never leaves us. As we grow up, as we become more and more aware of our own uniqueness, this feeling of apartness grows stronger and fills our hearts with a need for connecting.

There are many ways to connect. There are many paths to belonging.

*This evening we pause to share the joys and sorrow on our hearts and minds...*

Belonging is an experience of transcendence, an experience of being a part of something greater than oneself. It starts with the human bonds of family and reaches out to wider horizons. There are times when we feel we belong to the universe itself – to the evolutionary drama of life, to the very stars and beyond.

Rabbi Sherwin Wine

**Music: El Na Refa Na Ia**  
**Wendie Bernstein Lash**

### **Closing**

May the warm glow of the Sabbath candles light up our lives and our world.  
May the good spirit we share, remind us that we are connected to each other here in this community, and that we are connected to all the people in the world. Let us turn to one another and wish each other a "Sabbath of Peace," "Shabbat Shalom."