

THE INSTALLATION OF
RABBI ELLIOT J. COSGROVE, PH.D.

Wednesday, September 17, 2008
17 Elul 5768

Park Avenue Synagogue
50 East 87th Street
New York City



Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove, Ph.D.

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove is recognized as one of the new leaders of the Conservative Movement, and follows a tradition of distinguished rabbinical predecessors on the pulpit of Park Avenue Synagogue, including Rabbi Milton Steinberg, Rabbi Judah Nadich, and Rabbi David H. Lincoln.

Ordained at The Jewish Theological Seminary, Rabbi Cosgrove earned his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago Divinity School. His dissertation on Rabbi Louis Jacobs, a leading Anglo-Jewish theologian of the 20th century, reflects his passion for the intersection of Jewish scholarship and faith.

Rabbi Cosgrove grew up at Sinai Temple in Los Angeles, influenced by his father's leadership as its President and by the rabbinical legacy of his grandfather, Reverend Dr. I.K. Cosgrove of Garnethill Synagogue, Glasgow, Scotland. He received his undergraduate degree in English and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan, where he was deeply engaged in Jewish intellectual and communal leadership in the context of the Jewish Studies program and the dynamic Hillel. He received his Master of Hebrew Letters from the University of Judaism. In Israel, he spent a year as a volunteer with Project Otzma and studied at the Schechter Institute of Judaic studies.

Rabbi Cosgrove most recently served at Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago, where he demonstrated his commitment to building a caring community, fostering Jewish learning, and advancing social justice. He aspires to lead Park Avenue Synagogue as a model of the best the Conservative Movement can be, as a place where national Jewish conversations are lived, and as a true *kehillah kedosha*.

Park Avenue Synagogue is privileged to welcome Rabbi Cosgrove, his wife Deborah, and their children Lucy, Madeline, Zoe, and Jed into our community dedicated to study, worship, and acts of loving kindness.

Processional

Barukh Haba — Yaakov Bergman
Cantor David Lefkowitz, *Senior Cantor*
Cantor Nancy Abramson, *Cantor*
The Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational Singers
Neil Robinson, *Conductor*

בְּרוּךְ הַבָּא בְּשֵׁם יי, בְּרַכְנוּכֶם מִבֵּית יי. אֵל
יי וַיִּאָר לָנוּ אֶסְרוּ-חַג בְּעֵבְתֵינוּ עַד-קֶרְנוֹת
הַמִּזְבֵּחַ. אֵלֵינוּ אֲתָה וְאוֹדֶךָ אֱלֹהֵי אֲרוֹמָמְךָ.
הוֹדוּ לֵי כִי-טוֹב, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסָדוֹ.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of
Adonai, from whose house blessing flows and
who lights our way. We sing thanks to God who
is good and whose love is everlasting.

Star-Spangled Banner and *Hatikvah*

Cantor David Lefkowitz
Cantor Nancy Abramson

O say, can you see
By the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed
At the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars,
Through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched
Were so gallantly streaming!

And the rockets' red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
That our flag was still there!
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free,
and the home of the brave?

כָּל עוֹד בְּלִבָּב פְּגִימָה
נִפְּשׁ יְהוּדֵי הוֹמְיָה
וּלְפָאֲתֵינוּ מִזְרַח קִדְיָה
עֵין לְצִיּוֹן צוֹפֵיָה
עוֹד לֹא אֲבָדָה תִּקְוֹתֵנוּ
הַתִּקְוָה בֵּת שְׁנוֹת אֲלֻפִים
לְהִיּוֹת עִם חֲפָשִׁי בְּאַרְצֵנוּ
אֶרֶץ צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלַיִם.

Invocation

Rabbi David H. Lincoln, *Rabbi Emeritus*

Welcome

Steven M. Friedman
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Words of Congratulation

Dr. Arnold M. Eisen, *Chancellor and President of the Faculties, The Jewish Theological Seminary*

Greetings from Israel

Rabbi Michael Graetz, *Interim Rabbi; Past President of the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel*

Text Study: Jewish Leadership

Dr. Paul Mendes-Flohr, *Professor of Modern Jewish Thought in the Divinity School, The University of Chicago*

The Scholar and the Sage, the Righteous Man, the Prophet — these are the models of Jewish tradition. They are paradigmatic persons, for they encapsulate all the perfections of a sacred tradition. They are normative, rather than rare and exceptional occurrences, for it is to them that the pious Jew should turn, when defining for himself the task of his own life. Moreover, they exist and have existed; they can be named and their lives narrated; they have influences and continue to influence. But they are still models, for there are no rules or guides by which to be instructed in achieving what they achieved nor are there manuals and directions for their imitation. They are not quite human models and therefore not quite real: they are finally beyond time and history, caught up in mythology, legend, hagiography. It is known when such exemplary sages and saints, Rabbi Akiba and Rabbi Hillel, Maimonides and Jehuda Levi, Rabbi Elijah Gaon of Vilna and Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov, lived and died, with whom they were conversant, and by what influences they were formed, but the whole of their lives is still clouded by mystery — and not simply mysteries which additional information might some day dispel, but mysteries that are essential to the awe and reverence with which they are regarded. They are paradigms to Jewish tradition, a priori model whom God, not man, created.

[From Arthur A. Cohen, "The Jewish Intellectual in an Open Society," in *An Arthur A. Cohen Reader*, ed. by David Stern and Paul Mendes-Flohr (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1998) p. 132.]

V'al Kulam – Meir Finkelstein

Cantor David Lefkowitz

Cantor Nancy Abramson

The Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational Singers

וְעַל כֵּלָם יִתְבַּרְךָ וְיִתְרוֹמַם שְׁמֶךָ מְלַכְנּוּ תָמִיד
לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד. וְכָל הַחַיִּים יוֹדוּךָ סְלָה, וַיְהִלּוּ
אֶת שְׁמֶךָ בְּאַמּוֹת, הָאֵל יִשׁוּעַתָּנוּ וְעִזְרָתָנוּ סְלָה.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הַטּוֹב שְׁמֶךָ וְלֹךְ נְאֻה לְהוֹדוֹת.

For all these blessings we shall ever praise and exalt You. May every living creature thank You and praise You faithfully, our deliverance and our help. Praised are you, beneficent Lord to whom all praise is due.

Charge to the New Rabbi

Rabbi William H. Lebeau, *Past Vice Chancellor and Dean of The Rabbinical School, The Jewish Theological Seminary*

Transmission of Torah and Installation

Steven M. Friedman
Rabbi David H. Lincoln
Rabbi Michael Graetz
Rabbi William H. Lebeau
Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove
Amy A.B. Bressman, *Honorary Chair, Board of Trustees*

Etz Hayim Hi – T. Portnoy
The Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational Singers

עץ חיים היא למחזיקים בה, ותמכיה מאשר. דרכיה דרכי נעים, וכל נתיבותיה שלום. השיבנו יי אליך ונשובה, חדש ימינו כקדם.	It is a tree of life for those who grasp it, and all who uphold it are blessed. Its ways are pleasantness, and all its paths are peace. Help us turn to You, and we shall return. Renew our days as in days of old.
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Installation Address
Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove

Closing Prayer
Rabbi Michael Siegel, *Norman Asher Rabbinic Chair, Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago*

Benediction
Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove

As our community opens up a new chapter in Rabbinical leadership, we understand this moment through the prism of our sacred texts:

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: He said, “You dealt most graciously with Your servant David, because he walked before You in faithfulness and righteousness and in integrity of heart . . . And now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant in place of David; but I am young. Your servant finds himself in the midst of the people You have chosen, a people too numerous to be numbered or counted. Grant, then, Your servant an understanding mind to judge Your people, to distinguish between good and bad.”

Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson: And God said to him, “Because you asked for this — you did not ask for long life, you did not ask for riches, you did not ask for the life of your enemies, but you asked for discernment in dispensing justice — I now do as you have spoken. I grant you a wise and discerning mind . . . And I will further grant you long life, if you will walk in My ways and observe My laws and commandments, as did David.” [1 Kings 3:6-14]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: What if they do not believe me and do not listen to me? [Exodus 4:1]

Rabbi Carol Levithan, Rabbinic Director and Senior Director of Adult Programs, The JCC in Manhattan: “Have no fear of them, For I am with you to deliver you” — declares the LORD. [Jeremiah 1:8] “And who knows, perhaps you have attained to this position for just such a moment.” [Esther 4:14]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: A voice rings out: “Proclaim!” “What shall I proclaim?” [Isaiah 40:6]

Dr. David Steinberg, President, Long Island University; son of Rabbi Milton Steinberg, z"l: The teaching of the LORD is perfect, renewing life; the decrees of the LORD are enduring, making the simple wise; The precepts of the LORD are just, rejoicing the heart; the instruction of the LORD is lucid, making the eyes light up. The fear of the LORD is pure, abiding forever; the judgments of the LORD are true, righteous altogether, more desirable than gold, than much fine gold; sweeter than honey, than drippings of the comb. [Psalm 19:8-11]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: Where can wisdom be found? Where is the source of understanding? [Job 28:12]

Dr. Malcolm and Gabrielle Cosgrove: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and discipline. My son, heed the discipline of your father, and do not forsake the instruction of your mother; for they are a graceful wreath upon your head, a necklace about your throat. [Proverbs 1:7-9]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: And what of my wife, "Have you seen the one I love?" [Song of Solomon 3:3]

Deborah Cosgrove: He said to Deborah, "If you will go with me, I will go; if not, I will not go." "Very well, I will go with you," she answered. [Judges 4:8-9]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: And what of my family?

Leah Nadich Meir, Program Officer, The AVI CHAI Foundation; and Shira Nadich Levin, Esq., Cooley Godward Kronish LLP; daughters of Rabbi Judah Nadich, z"l: Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children, like olive saplings around your table. So shall the man who fears the LORD be blessed. May the LORD bless you from Zion; may you share the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life, and live to see your children's children. May all be well with Israel! [Psalm 128:1-6]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: What does the Lord require of me?

Beryl Chernov, Executive Director: Only to do justice, and to love goodness, and to walk modestly with your God. [Micah 6:8]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: How shall I lead this people?

Steven M. Friedman: You shall seek out from among all the people capable leaders who fear God, trustworthy leaders who spurn ill-gotten gain. Set these over them as chiefs of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. Let them judge the people at all times. Have them bring every major dispute to you, but let them decide every minor dispute themselves. Make it easier for yourself by letting them share the burden with you. If you do this — and God so commands you — you will be able to bear up; and all these people too will go home unwearied. [Exodus 18:21-23]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: Where shall I turn for continued counsel?

Brian Lustbader, President: Turn to the inexhaustible wisdom of your past and future: As it is written: An angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire out of a bush. He gazed, and there was a bush all aflame, yet the bush was not consumed. [Exodus 3:2]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: For whom shall I pray?

Rabbi Michael Graetz: Pray for the well-being of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be at peace. May there be well-being within your ramparts, peace in your citadels." For the sake of my kin and friends, I pray for your well-being; for the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I seek your good. [Psalm 122:6-9]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: What shall I teach them?

Students of the B'nai Mitzvah Classes of 5768, 5769, and 5770:

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, יְיָ אֶחָד.
וְאָהַבְתָּ אֶת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ, בְּכָל לִבְבְּךָ, וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ,
וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ. וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי
מְצַוְךָ הַיּוֹם, עַל לִבְבְּךָ. וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ, וְדַבַּרְתָּ
בָּם, בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ, וּבְלִקְחֶךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ, וּבְשֹׁכְבְּךָ,
וּבְקוּמְךָ. וְקִשְׂרָתָם לְאוֹת עַל יָדְךָ, וְהָיוּ לְטוֹטְפוֹת
בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ. וְכִתְבָתָם עַל מְזוֹזוֹת בֵּיתְךָ וּבְשַׁעְרֶיךָ.

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Take to heart these instructions with which I charge you this day. Impress them upon your children. Recite them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them serve as a symbol on your forehead; inscribe them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

[Deuteronomy 6:4-9]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: How will the people respond?

Congregation: And all the people answered with one voice, saying, "All the things that the LORD has commanded we will do!" [Exodus 24:3]

Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove: And he said: "Surely the LORD is present in this place, and I did not know it! How awesome is this place! This is none other than the abode of God, and that is the gateway to heaven." [Genesis 28:16-17]

Priestly Blessing

יְבָרְכֶךָ יְיָ וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ.
כִּן יְהִי רְצוֹן.

May ADONAI bless you and keep you.

May this be God's will.

יֵאָר יְיָ פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחֲנֶנֶךָ.
כִּן יְהִי רְצוֹן.

May ADONAI cause Divine light to shine on you and be gracious to you.

May this be God's will.

יִשָּׂא יְיָ פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם.
כִּן יְהִי רְצוֹן.

May ADONAI lift Divine countenance upon you and give you peace.

May this be God's will.

Sheheḥyanu

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מְלִיךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שְׁהַחֵינּוּ, וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהַגִּיעֵנוּ לַיּוֹם הַזֶּה.

Blessed are You, ADONAI our God, Ruler of the universe, Who has given us life, sustained us, and brought us to this joyous day!

Recessional

Adon Olam – C. G. Lidarti; arr: P. Curtis & D. Lefkowitz
Cantor David Lefkowitz
Cantor Nancy Abramson
The Park Avenue Synagogue Congregational Singers

אָדוֹן עוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר מִלְּךָ, בְּטָרֶם כָּל יֵצִיר נִבְרָא. לַעֲת נַעֲשֶׂה בְּחַפְצוֹ כֹּל, אֵי מִלְּךָ שְׁמוֹ נִקְרָא.	You are our Eternal God, who reigned before any being had been created; when all was done according to Your will, then You were called Ruler.
וְאַחֲרֵי כִכְלוֹת הַכֹּל, לְבַדּוֹ יִמְלֹךְ נֹרָא. וְהוּא הָיָה, וְהוּא הוֹה, וְהוּא יִהְיֶה, בְּתַפְאָרָה.	And after all ceases to be, You alone will rule in majesty. You have been, are yet, and will be in glory.
וְהוּא אֶחָד וְאֵין שֵׁנִי, לְהַמְשִׁיל לוֹ לְהַחְבִּירָה. בְּלִי רֵאשִׁית בְּלִי תְּכֵלִית, וְלוֹ הַעֲזוֹ וְהַמְשָׁרָה.	And You are One; none other can compare to or consort with You. You are without beginning, without end. To You belong power and dominion.
וְהוּא אֱלֹהֵי וְחֵי גֹאֲלִי, וְצוּר חֻבְלֵי בְּעַת צָרָה. וְהוּא נֹסֵי וּמְנוּס לִי מִנֵּת כּוֹסֵי בַיּוֹם אֶקְרָא.	And You are my God, my living Redeemer, my Rock in times of trouble and distress. You are my standard bearer and my refuge, my benefactor when I call on You.
בְּיָדוֹ אֶפְקִיד רוּחִי, בְּעֵת אִישׁוֹן וְאֶעֱרָה. וְעִם רוּחִי גֹוְיָתִי, יְיָ לִי וְלֹא אִירָא.	Into Your hands I entrust my spirit, when I sleep and when I wake, and with my spirit my body also; ADONAI is with me and I shall not fear.

The congregation will kindly remain seated during the Recessional.



Reception
Lemberg Auditorium
(Lower Level)

**Distinguished Delegates of Seminaries and Universities,
Religious, Communal, and Professional Organizations**

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| Sol Adler
<i>92nd Street Y</i> | Rabbi Rebecca Joseph
<i>The Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
<i>New York Board of Rabbis</i> |
| Rabbi Julia Andelman
<i>Congregation Shaare Zedek</i> | Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky
<i>Congregation Anshe Chesed</i> | William Rapfogel
<i>Metropolitan Council
on Jewish Poverty</i> |
| Rabbi Andrew Bachman
<i>Congregation Beth Elohim</i> | Rabbi Joshua Katzan
<i>Congregation Habonim</i> | Russell F. Robinson
<i>Jewish National Fund</i> |
| Randall C. Belinfante
<i>American Sephardi Federation</i> | Rabbi Jan Kaufman
<i>The Rabbinical Assembly</i> | Pastor Anthony Romeo
<i>Church of Advent Hope</i> |
| Elise Bernhardt
<i>Foundation for Jewish Culture</i> | Reverend Douglas T. King
<i>Brick Church</i> | Rabbi Jay H. Rosenbaum
<i>Temple Israel of Lawrence</i> |
| Sam Bloch
<i>American Gathering/Federation of
Jewish Holocaust Survivors</i> | Rabbi David Seth Kirshner
<i>Temple Emanu-El of Closter, NJ</i> | Rabbi Peter J. Rubinstein
<i>Central Synagogue</i> |
| Rabbi Joseph Brodie
<i>The Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Dr. Alisa Rubin Kurshan
<i>UJA-Federation of New York</i> | Irwin Scharf
<i>United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism</i> |
| Edward Cardinal Egan
<i>Archdiocese of New York</i> | Reverend Christiane Lang
<i>Brick Church</i> | Cory R. Schneider
<i>Women's League
for Conservative Judaism</i> |
| Chancellor Arnold M. Eisen
<i>The Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Rabbi William H. Lebeau
<i>The Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Rabbi Julie Schonfeld
<i>The Rabbinical Assembly</i> |
| Rabbi Ezra Finkelstein
<i>Midway Jewish Center</i> | Shira Nadich Levin, Esq.
<i>Cooley Godward Kronish LLP;
daughter of Rabbi Judah Nadich, z"l</i> | Consul General Asaf Shariv
<i>Consulate General of Israel
in New York</i> |
| Reverend Gregory Fryer
<i>Immanuel Lutheran Church</i> | Rabbi Robert N. Levine
<i>Congregation Rodeph Sholom</i> | Rabbi Stephen Shulman
<i>Continuum Hospice Care</i> |
| Dr. Nancy Gad-Harf
<i>American Society for Technion</i> | Rabbi Carol Levithan
<i>The JCC in Manhattan</i> | Rabbi Michael Siegel
<i>Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago</i> |
| Rabbi David Gelfand
<i>Temple Israel of the City of New York</i> | Rabbi Joy Levitt
<i>The JCC in Manhattan</i> | Rabbi Reuven Siegel
<i>The East 55th Street
Conservative Synagogue</i> |
| Rabbi Edward M. Gershfield
<i>The Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Rabbi Richard A. Marker
<i>International Jewish Committee</i> | Rabbi Jonathan Stein
<i>Temple Shaaray Tefila</i> |
| Ann Goldman
<i>Women's League
for Conservative Judaism</i> | Dr. David Marwell
<i>Museum of Jewish Heritage</i> | Dr. David Steinberg
<i>Long Island University;
son of Rabbi Milton Steinberg, z"l</i> |
| Rabbi Joel S. Goor
<i>Metropolitan Synagogue of N.Y.</i> | Leah Nadich Meir
<i>The AVI CHAI Foundation;
daughter of Rabbi Judah Nadich, z"l</i> | Reverend Todd Stout
<i>Church of Advent Hope</i> |
| Dr. Alfred Gottschalk
<i>Hebrew Union College-
Jewish Institute of Religion</i> | Dr. Paul Mendes-Flohr
<i>University of Chicago</i> | Carol Kahn Strauss
<i>Leo Baeck Institute</i> |
| Dru Greenwood
<i>UJA-Federation of New York</i> | Rabbi Joel Meyers
<i>The Rabbinical Assembly</i> | Rabbi Jan Uhrbach
<i>The East 55th Street
Conservative Synagogue</i> |
| Rabbi Richard Hammerman
<i>World Council of Synagogues</i> | Michael Miller
<i>Jewish Community Relations Council,
New York</i> | Rabbi Avraham Weiss
<i>Hebrew Institute of Riverdale</i> |
| Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch
<i>Stephen Wise Free Synagogue</i> | Hannah Miryam
<i>American Sephardi Federation</i> | Bruce Weiser
<i>UJA-Federation of New York</i> |
| Reverend Dr. Alvin O'Neal
Jackson
<i>Park Avenue Christian Church</i> | Melanie Nasberg
<i>Hadassah, New York Chapter</i> | Rabbi Marc Wolf
<i>The Jewish Theological Seminary</i> |
| Richard Janvey
<i>Congregation B'nai Jeshurun</i> | Rabbi David Posner
<i>Congregation Emanu-El
of the City of New York</i> | |

Park Avenue Synagogue

Steven M. Friedman, <i>Chairman of the Board</i>	Elliot J. Cosgrove, <i>Senior Rabbi</i>
Brian G. Lustbader, <i>President</i>	Michael J. Graetz, <i>Interim Rabbi</i>
Marcia Eppler Colvin, <i>Vice President</i>	David H. Lincoln, <i>Rabbi Emeritus</i>
Paul M. Corwin, <i>Vice President</i>	David Lefkowitz, <i>Senior Cantor</i>
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Park Avenue Synagogue

The Park Avenue Synagogue — Agudat Yescharim (the Association of the Righteous) — was founded in 1882. From modest beginnings, it has grown into the flagship congregation of the Conservative Movement.

In 1882 a group of German-speaking Jews founded a synagogue and named it Temple Gates of Hope. A church building at 115 East 86th Street was converted into a synagogue and soon the new congregation was known as the Eighty-Sixth Street Temple. Some twelve years after its founding, the synagogue joined together with Congregation Agudat Yescharim, which was to be the Hebrew name of the congregation and which appears on the cornerstone of the school building at the corner of Madison Avenue and 87th Street. The sermons in this congregation were still preached in German. Later amalgamations were to come. A nearby synagogue, the Seventy-Second Street Temple, itself a product of the earlier merger of Beth Israel and Bikkur Cholim, two congregations that had their beginnings on the Lower East Side in the 1840s and had moved uptown to Lexington Avenue and 72nd Street in 1920, merged with the Eighty-Sixth Street Temple — Agudat Yescharim.

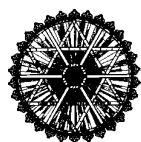
In 1923 the Eighty-Sixth Street Temple petitioned the State of New York to have its name changed to Park Avenue Synagogue, and three years later a new sanctuary was constructed on 87th Street and dedicated in March 1927. This building remains our present sanctuary. In 1928 the last of the mergers took place when Atereth Israel, a congregation of Alsatian Jews who worshipped in their building on East 82nd Street, added their strength to the Park Avenue Synagogue.

Designed by architect Walter Schneider in 1926, the synagogue building is Moorish in architecture and is one of the last synagogues to have been built in this style, which first became popular in the 1850s in Europe. It features one of the most beautiful cast stone facades in New York and a hand-painted *Bimah*. Moorish decoration is used throughout the interior of the sanctuary, from Arabesque dados to a “mugarnas” design for the octagonal domed ceiling.

In 1954 a new building was dedicated to the memory of Rabbi Milton Steinberg, who had come to Park Avenue Synagogue in 1933. This building was incorporated in 1980 into the Rita and George M. Shapiro House, housing the educational facilities of the synagogue. This building is dedicated as a living memorial to the more than one million Jewish children who perished in the Holocaust. It expresses Park Avenue Synagogue’s hope that their memory will inspire new generations of educated and proud Jews and ensure the continuity of Jewish tradition, history, wisdom, and heritage.



*Park Avenue Synagogue expresses appreciation to
Lynn Schneider, Karen Smul, Mark Fraier, and many volunteers for their gracious assistance.*



Park Avenue
Synagogue ק"ק אגודת ישראל