**(Music:** classical)

**Listen**: Today you are invited listen to composer Ernest Bloch’s\* five-minute long ["Abodah" for violin and piano](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-Wq0KQuxqs&feature=youtu.be) based on the [Avodah Service](https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/avodah-service/) on Yom Kippur, played by Yehudi Menuhin\*\*

The Avodah Service appears at the center of the Musaf service on Yom Kippur. It recounts the Temple ritual including the single time during the year that the High Priest uttered the holy name of God, after confessing his own sins and the sins of his family and all of Israel. The service also describes the drawing of lots for the twin sacrificial goats, when one is sent into the desert and the other is sacrificed.

**Deepen the Experience:** For singles or households of all ages

***Do you like to draw?*** Listen again, this time with a marker, pen or crayon and some paper. Try not to look at the paper while you are drawing, just let the music guide your hand and let the line or lines take shape. How does this experience affect your engagement with the music and its meaning? When you have finished, describe how those lines reflected your feelings or thoughts.

***Do you like to move?*** Prepare to listen by pretending to dip your nose into an imaginary pot of paint. Turn on the music and as you listen, let your nose paint a line in the air\*\*\* in response to the music. How does this embodied experience affect your engagement with the music and its meaning?

***Questions to ponder:*** How do the melody, the tones in the violin and the pacing or rhythms of music draw you further into the spiritual work of the Holidays?

\*For more information on Ernest Bloch, see: <https://www.jewish-music.huji.ac.il/content/ernest-bloch>

\*\*For more information on Yehudi Menuhin see: <https://www.jewishlivesproject.com/profiles/yehudi-menuhin>

\*\*\* Movement exercise based on choreographic exercise by [Liz Lerman](https://jwa.org/people/lerman-liz)