

## The KBI Choral Shabbat Ma'ariv Virtual Project

I love choral liturgy, and you have responded warmly to having a choir at KBI!

But in these uncomfortable pandemic times, there are challenges to offering choral prayer: the choristers cannot gather to learn new music; the internet doesn't allow us to sing together in real-time; it's not safe to sing on the bimah; it takes a significant amount of time to do virtual choir videos (though we love to do them); not all our choristers have the tech to record at home; and not all are comfortable recording in-person.

What can a Cantor do, then, to increase choral music on a more regular schedule, and do so in a way that transports us to our *shul*? Multi-track editing! -- recording and layering all the choir parts, and placing 'clones' on-screen in different configurations. Tech-savvy Cantors do this all the time now.

I've begun recording a choral Shabbat *Ma'ariv* service/playlist that one can watch and actually *daven with* on YouTube. I am not trying to exclude our choirs or show off, I assure you. I am trying to be 'visually familiar' about it... though I know it can be a bit strange to see a bunch of Cantor Greens around our bimah!

I invite you to check out each prayer as I release it (about weekly). Think of the music, not the faces! My greatest hope is to be able to ditch the project before it's done in favour of joining together for song *in shul!*

Here's the first video (*Bar'chu*, page 28 in the blue Sim Shalom Siddur for Shabbat):

[https://youtu.be/lpe\\_7allUiY](https://youtu.be/lpe_7allUiY)

Shabbat Shalom! *Daven* well!

Cantor Green