Rosh Hashanah Greeting By Barbara Kavadias

The words take on an extra resonance this year Normally, I see you In the halls, at the doors, In the rotunda, in the pews, at the store My heart leaps, happy To feel your presence To see your smiling face And like the coming light elicits birdsong As the dawn brings on Wakefulness and prayer Shanah Tovah comes forth From my heart and lips It embraces you Ties us together in a timeless dance An eternal circle of lived memory Of celebration This year

I see you from a distance Masked I see you on Zoom Our connection is Muted. Disembodied

But the circle The dance

The season Draws me in I have to dig in, to listen But it is there Shanah Tovah bursts forth From my heart, my pen, My computer pixels

I wish you a good year A year of good health A year of hope A year of connection However we find it

Whatever form it takes May it be enough To keep our souls singing Our hearts happy To rid the world of evil And hate and lies

May it be enough To tide us over Until I can hug you again To sit next to you To sing with you To pray with you Our voices joined together In celebration and love Shanah Tovah!