



UNION FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

Statement on Halle synagogue attack

The Union for Progressive Judaism and the Council of Progressive Rabbis for Australia, New Zealand and Asia express their solidarity with the Jewish communities in Germany in the wake of the Halle Yom Kippur attack, which resulted in two deaths.

In particular, we pray for the members of the Judische Gemeinde Halle synagogue. Not long after we spent our day of fasting, prayer and spiritual renewal, they faced a gunman at their door seeking to destroy them.

Many in our communities are either survivors or the children of survivors of the Shoah, and their wounds are still deep. The fact that this occurred in Germany greatly multiplies the horror of the event, especially for them.

The attack was also an attack on Germany itself, which has tried so hard to distance itself from its Nazi past.

The experience confirms to us why we must be eternally vigilant with our security precautions. Praying behind locked doors avoided this becoming a massacre.

May God bring forth the day when we may pray openly and safely as Jews in all societies.

Roger Mendelson
President

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Chair, Rabbinic Council of Progressive Rabbis