



Wendy Georgette Kennebrae

Wendy Georgette Kennebrae, known to all as *Georgette*, grew up in a military family and fell in love with the world - its people, languages, cultures, and religions. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and a joint master's degree from Brandeis University. Prior to rabbinical school, Georgette cherished a beautiful life chapter as a stay-at-home mother, and a career in higher education at the University of Denver.

Georgette is forever grateful to those whom the Divine has placed on her path to the rabbinate. She thanks her spiritual guides for modeling the power of chaplaincy and life-affirming spiritual paths. She thanks her RRC professors for their encouragement and support, allowing her to be her full self. She thanks her friends for being dear spiritual *chevrutas*, sharing sacred heart-to-hearts of religion and life. She wishes to express here a heartfelt "thank you" to her parents and siblings who have loved her for who she is and who she has become. She expresses a tender "thank you" to her partner for embracing this poetic journey with her. Her deepest "thank you" is to her three incredible children: it began with Philadelphia cheesecake - which culinary delight marks the next part of their family adventure!?

I thank G d that I may stand in spiritual awe of my Esther moments: Perhaps I was made for such a time as this (Esther 4:14). Exercising leadership and courage when it would have been easier for her to remain silent, Esther faced the realities of her world with love for her people and herself. May I, too, answer the call of our times with conviction, care, and compassion. I embrace this holy work ahead of me with strength and sacred song: *Ozi v'zimrat Yah* (Psalm 118). May we all remember *olam chesed yibaneh* - building this world with love (Psalm 89:3), and may I forever lean into The Holy Mystery, leaving space for the oh?!* in G d.