

Shabbat

Our weekly Shabbat Services

Our Shabbat worship service is central to the life of our community. If it's your first time joining with us for worship on Shabbat morning, you'll probably have a few questions about what to expect. Services are on Saturday at 11 am.

What should I wear?

Most people come to our services dressed "business casual" but you'll notice variety in what people wear. Please do not come in jeans.

Step one: Getting Settled. What will I find when entering?

You will be greeted by an usher. They can help answer any questions you might have.

A Table with flyers (you can take)- announcing upcoming holiday observances and special events & teachings.

A Kippah (for Men)- All men are encouraged to wear a kippah while in the synagogue building. A kippah is a reminder that God is above, and a sign of submission to Him.

A Tallit is a prayer shawl for men, worn over the outer clothes in the synagogue. Here at Shuvah we pray for our children under a tallit every Shabbat. Women are welcomed to wear a women's tallit, distinctly feminine that does not contain a stripe in the design or appear to be male in design.

An usher will hand you a **Weekly Bulletin** it contains the name of the Torah reading for the week, dates & times of upcoming events, as well as announcements.

Is Childcare available for babies and toddlers?

Yes, the nursery opens at 10:45am & is available every Shabbat of the year throughout the entire service for babies & toddlers, ages 0-2.

Is there a Children's program?

Yes, children ages 3-9, participate in the main service until they are dismissed for Shabbat School - right after the Torah procession.

We also have a bible study class for children ages 10-12 that takes place during the sermon time on Shabbat.

Is there a Youth group?

Yes, for those in 7th grade -Senior high. This meeting takes place during the sermon time on Shabbat in the Youth room. There are also special events during the year just for teens.

How long is the service?

It lasts from 11am until about 1pm.

Step Two: Understanding the Service

How do I follow the service?

The Power Point (we call it our eSiddur), projected at the front of the sanctuary, is the simplest place to start. It contains transliteration and translation of Hebrew words in to English, song lyrics, Scripture readings, and other helpful directions.

What is the outline of the service?

Although our services are different each week, you will find that the outline of the service is consistent: Including Music & Davidic Dance.

Opening prayers – Barech/Ashrai/Matovu/ Tefilat Ha talmidim

Shema/ V'ahavtah

Amidah/ Kedushah

Mourners Kaddish

Prayer Over Children

Torah Service

Offering & Announcements

Sermon

Kiddush- blessing over the wine & bread

Aaronic Benediction -ending prayer

Oneg- food

What is the etiquette during the service?

Singing and Praying together. Join in with Hebrew and English songs and prayers as much, as you feel comfortable. The Lai, Lai, Lai's aren't difficult! We ask that you not play musical instruments such as tambourines or shofars.

Standing and Bowing. We stand a lot during worship. There will be clear cues for you to rise during worship. There will be clear cues for you to rise during specific portions of the service. You will notice many people bowing as an act of reverence before the Lord at different times during certain prayers. If this is unfamiliar to you, do not feel obligated to bow. You'll get the hang of it over time!

Dancing. We incorporate Israeli-style folk dance as a worship expression during certain parts of the service. We ask that you participate only if you are already familiar with the dance steps. Classes will be given from time to time.

What is the Mourner's Kaddish?

The Mourner's Kaddish is a prayer recited by those mourning the loss of a loved one. It is a prayer that never mentions death or sadness, rather it is packed full of words that exalt God. By praying it, we publicly affirm that even in grief and loss, we will not lose faith in God's sovereignty, power, and goodness. Feel free to stand during the Mourner's Kaddish if you are mourning the loss of a loved one.

Praying for our Children

All children under 13 (including children in the womb) are encouraged to come under the Chuppah for prayer. An assigned adult will pray for them.

What is the significance of the Torah Processional and what should I do during it?

After the Torah scrolls are removed from the ark, they are processed around the sanctuary. For us, the Torah Scroll is a visible reminder of the entirety of God's word (Tanakh and B'rit Chadashah) as well as Yeshua, "The word who became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14) When the Torah goes out into the congregation you are invited to come into the isles and touch it. When it passes by you, you are welcome (but not obligated) to reach out and touch the mantle of the Torah Scroll with your tallit, bible or Siddur, then bring your tallit bible or siddur to your lips as a sign of love and devotion to the Lord. This is an application of Psalm 119:103, which calls God's Word "sweet as honey to the lips." You are encouraged to continually face the Torah Scroll as it makes its way around the sanctuary and back up to the bimah.

What are the meanings of some Hebrew words & terminology I'll encounter in the service?

Ark- Large furniture at the front of the sanctuary housing the Torah and Haftarah scrolls
Bimah- A platform at the front of the sanctuary or the table on which the Torah is read.
B'rit Chadashah- New testament
Challah- Traditional braided bread
Chuppah- A Tallit (prayer shawl) on poles
eSiddur – Electronic prayer book projected at the front of the sanctuary (Power Point)
Haftarah- Weekly reading from the biblical Prophets that coincides with the Torah portion
Kaddish- prayer for mourners
Kiddush & Motzi- Special blessings for joy and sustenance said over bread and wine at the end of the service
Mashiach -Messiah
Ner talmid- Eternal light over the Ark representing the presences of God
Parashah or Parsha- Weekly reading from the Torah
Ruach Hakodesh- Spirit of God
Shabbat – Sabbath, Saturday
Shalom- Peace, Hello, Goodbye
Tanakh- Old Testament

Torah- First five books of the Bible

Tzedakah Box- Offering box located in the foyer for tithes offerings and visitor cards

Yeshua-Yeshua

Step Three: Getting Connected

Please fill out the visitor card.

It will help us to know you were visiting.

How can I meet people?

Join us after services for the oneg. “Oneg” literally means “delight” and it is a time to schmooze, enjoy some light refreshments, and get to know people.

How can I learn about upcoming events?

Check our Website and follow us on Facebook.