

Parents' Blessing

When the child has finished reciting the Haftarah, the congregation joins the family in reciting the *She-heheyanu*, expressing gratitude for reaching this moment. There is also a traditional blessing that parents may recite if they choose to incorporate on p. 442 (right side of the page) in our synagogue's prayer book, Siddur Lev Shalem. Parents may also compose their own words of blessing, **not to exceed one minute**. The emphasis in this moment should be "blessing" over "biography." While the community welcomes thoughts that highlight the uniqueness of each child, we ask that parents not share an extended list of a child's attributes and accomplishments, but rather focus on spiritual and moral aspirations for them. The rabbi is happy and eager to assist parents in preparing this blessing.