

## Temple Emanuel OUTDOOR B'nai Mitzvah Details and Logistics

The clergy team of Temple Emanuel is excited to continue celebrating the important moment of Bar and Bat Mitzvah during these strange and difficult times. We are blessed to be able to host safe and meaningful outdoor ceremonies on our Temple grounds. As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to Cantor Sacks – [sacks@emanueldenver.org](mailto:sacks@emanueldenver.org) – Steve Brodsky – [brodsky@emanueldenver.org](mailto:brodsky@emanueldenver.org) – or Patricia Lackner – [lackner@emanueldenver.org](mailto:lackner@emanueldenver.org).

### PREPARATION AND REHEARSALS

#### Preparation

Each student will receive an annotated siddur for the outdoor ceremony and a picture of their Torah portion from the Torah scroll that will be used at their ceremony.

#### Rehearsals

**All students will have two rehearsals during the week of their Bar/Bat Mitzvah – Thursday afternoon on Zoom for the cantor and student and Friday morning IN PERSON for the rabbi, cantor, student, and all participating family members.** Your officiating cantor will send you the Zoom link for the rehearsal in the weeks leading up to your ceremony.

### FRIDAY EVENING PARTICIPATION

#### Ceremonies May 15-May 29

**Torah Blessings Video:** Our Friday evening worship will still be virtual during this timeframe. We will invite each Bar/Bat Mitzvah family to create a video of one or both Torah blessings so that we can honor you during the Friday evening service.

#### Ceremonies June 5 and Following

**In-Person Candle Lighting and Kiddush:** Beginning in June, we will host in-person outdoor worship on Friday evenings. We invite all B'nai Mitzvah students and their immediate family to participate in the ceremony by lighting the candles at the beginning of the service and leading the Kiddush at the end of the service.

### SATURDAY MORNING DETAILS

#### Guest Information – Attending in Person – 50 People Total (excluding clergy)

The ceremony will be on the Temple Lawn between the Grape Street and Forest Street parking lots (parallel to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue) between two large, beautiful trees (and in the shade of the Sanctuary roof). Please park in the Grape Street parking lot on the right-hand side as you are facing the building. There is a sidewalk from that side of the parking lot that leads to the ceremony site. **Please remind guests that we require mask and social distance protocol at all times before, during, and after the ceremony. We will not be able to provide extra masks for those who forget.**

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## **Guest Information – Streaming**

Guests are invited to attend our virtual B'nai Mitzvah ceremonies by watching the streamed ceremony. We have two viewing options:

- Temple Emanuel Denver Website Channel 2 – <https://www.emanueldenver.org/watch-live-2>
- Temple Emanuel Denver B'nai Mitzvah Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Emanuel-Denver-Bnai-Mitzvah-103895837984920>

The Temple Emanuel Denver Website offers a viewing experience without a Facebook login but does not include an opportunity to comment during the ceremony or read comments by others. The Temple Emanuel Denver B'nai Mitzvah Facebook Page includes the ability to comment and read comments by others during the ceremony itself.

## **SUGGESTED TEXT FOR INVITATIONS (just copy and paste) FOR STREAMING GUESTS**

*Join us for a live-streamed ceremony as we celebrate STUDENT NAME becoming a BAR/BAT Mitzvah. Guests are invited to watch and participate at [Temple Emanuel Denver Website Channel 2](https://www.emanueldenver.org/watch-live-2) or [Temple Emanuel Denver B'nai Mitzvah Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Emanuel-Denver-Bnai-Mitzvah-103895837984920).*

## **Family Participating in Ceremony**

We suggest that you and your immediate family arrive at Temple 30 minutes prior to your ceremony time. We will have a pop-up tent and a table set up for the ceremony leaders (mostly clergy and student, although sometimes also for parents) and two stationary wireless microphones. We will also have 50 folding chairs ready to be arranged in socially distant set-up that works for your family. We will practice from the actual Torah once, review the set-up, and sign the B'nai Mitzvah certificate before the ceremony officially begins.

## **Family Honors**

Our outdoor ceremonies continue to offer the opportunity for family members to participate and be honored as part of the ceremony. Our outdoor ceremony includes:

- The Torah Pass for Grandparents and Parents – socially distant and reformatted as a blessing that grandparents and parents speak out loud to the student
- Aliyot/Torah Blessings – the chance for different family members to bless the Torah before and after the student reads the Torah portion
- Parent Blessing – a space for parents to offer personal words to their student

## **Photography/Videography**

We will be able to take a small number of photos outside before the ceremony. If you would like, you can also have a stationary photographer and/or videographer photograph and record from a distance during the ceremony. A reminder that since we are streaming the ceremony, we will have a video of the ceremony recorded that we can share with you after that day.

If you would like to take some photographs inside our building – in the Feiner Chapel or in the Grape Street foyer, please schedule an appointment during the week with Patricia Lackner – [lackner@emanueldenver.org](mailto:lackner@emanueldenver.org). The Sanctuary is not available for photographs at this time.

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## **Programs and Kippot**

We have created a one-page disposable handout with the Torah blessings and Mourner's Kaddish for guests to use during the ceremony. If you have created a program, you are welcome to put copies on the hand-out table. We will not be able to provide kippot for the ceremony, but you are welcome to bring your own!

## **Recordings**

A recording of your ceremony will be archived on the [Temple Emanuel Denver B'nai Mitzvah Facebook Page](#). This video will include all the comments made on Facebook during the ceremony.

We will also post just the video of the ceremony (no comments) on the [Temple Emanuel Denver Service Recordings Page](#).

*The clergy will review all other details and questions during check-ins and meetings leading up to your ceremony. Please feel free to ask us any questions. The best way to reach any member of the clergy team is to contact Patricia Lackner and ask for a phone/Zoom appointment – [lackner@emanueldenver.org](mailto:lackner@emanueldenver.org). Patricia is also extremely knowledgeable about our options and our program – please feel free to ask her your questions as well!*