

Yom Kippur Guide to Tefillah at Home and Halachic Times

Sunday, September 27th; Erev Yom Kippur

- Weekday Mincha includes Vidui which can be found in the Yom Kippur Machzor.
- The seudah hamfseket (pre-fast meal) should be eaten after Mincha.
- It is customary to bless one's children prior to Yom Kippur. The text can be found in the Machzor.
- There will be a live stream of Kol Nidrei prior to Yom Kippur available at www.yih.org/vtorah. Those participating should wait to recite the beracha of Shehechyanu until the commencement of Yom Kippur.
- Those who normally wear a tallit and/or kittel should do so when davening at home. The beracha on the tallit should be recited before accepting Yom Kippur.
- Those who recite Yizkor light a candle before Yom Kippur. Even those who don't recite Yizkor should have a 25-hour candle lit in their home so it can be used for Havdalah.
- Candle lighting should take place at 6:52pm, 18 minutes before sundown. The beracha should conclude **להדליק נר של יום הכפורים**.
- There is a mitzvah of tosefet Yom Kippur which means that one should accept Yom Kippur and observe all of the prohibitions of Yom Kippur at least a few minutes prior to sundown. As such, even those who don't light candles should accept Yom Kippur by reciting Shehechyanu at least a few minutes before sundown (sundown is 7:09pm).
- It is customary to recite Tefillah Zakah (found in the Machzor) as a means of accepting Yom Kippur.

General Yom Kippur Davening Instructions

- In each of the five tefillot (Ma'ariv, Shacharit, Musaf, Mincha and Neilah), Selichot are recited after the Silent Amidah. At Ma'ariv, it is a standalone Selichot and in the daytime, they are part of Chazarat HaShatz (Chazan's repetition). When one is without a minyan, the Selichot may be recited, omitting the paragraphs containing the Thirteen Attributes (ה' ה' א-ל רחום וחנון)—Most congregations only recite the Thirteen Attributes at Ma'ariv and Neilah).
- There is a tradition to recite Vidui ten times over the course of Yom Kippur: five during each silent Amidah and five during the Selichot that follow each Amidah. As such, one davening without a minyan should prioritize Vidui (at least Ashamnu) in choosing which parts of Selichot to recite.
- There are many beautiful piyutim that are recited in Chazarat HaShatz. These piyutim, together with their accompanying tunes, may be recited when davening without a minyan. Singing them or reciting them can greatly enhance one's Yom Kippur davening.

Yom Kippur Night

- Shehechyanu (traditionally recited at the end of Kol Nidrei) should be recited before Ma'ariv.
- Ma'ariv for Yom Kippur with Vidui.
- Selichot may be recited (see general instructions above).
- Ma'ariv concludes with Avinu Malkeinu, L'David Mizmor, Aleinu, L'David HaShem Ori and Adon Olam.
- If Keriat Sh'ma was recited before nightfall (7:46pm), it should be repeated after nightfall.

Monday, September 28th; Yom Kippur Day

Shacharit

- On Yom Kippur, the שיר של יום and לידוד ה' אורי are recited at the beginning of davening. Shir HaKavod are omitted when davening without a minyan.
- Shir HaMa'alot is recited after Yishtabach.
- Birchot Keriat Sh'ma for weekday (המאיר לארץ).
- Shacharit Amidah for Yom Kippur with Vidui.

- Selichot, Vidui and piyutim from Chazarat HaShatz may be recited after the silent Amidah (see general instructions above).
- Avinu Malkeinu is recited at the conclusion of Shacharit.
- The Torah reading is Vayikra 16:1-34, the maftir is Bamidbar 29:7-11 and the haftarah is Yeshaya 57:14-58:14.
- Yizkor can be recited without a minyan. One should make sure to pledge money to tzedakah before reciting Yizkor.
- Av HaRachamim should be recited (even if one does not recite Yizkor) followed by Ashrei.

Mussaf

- Mussaf Amidah for Yom Kippur with Vidui. Mussaf should be recited before the seventh hour (2:11pm)
- Selichot, Vidui and piyutim from Chazarat HaShatz may be recited after the silent Amidah (see general instructions above). One should make an effort to recite ונתנה תוקף.

Mincha

- Mincha should be recited sometime after Mincha Gedolah (1:41pm) and leaving enough time to start Neilah before shekiyah (sunset) which is at 7:09pm.
- The Torah reading for Mincha is Vayikra 18:1-28 and the haftarah is Sefer Yonah.
- Mincha Amidah for Yom Kippur with Vidui. Mincha concludes with Avinu Malkeinu.

Neilah

- Neilah must begin after plag hamincha (5:55pm) and before shekiyah (7:09pm).
- Neilah begins with Ashrei, U'Va L'Tzion followed by the Amidah. Please note the change in text of some of the insertions and the special text of Vidui.
- Selichot, Vidui and piyutim from Chazarat HaShatz may be recited after the silent Amidah (see general instructions above).
- Neilah concludes with a special Avinu Malkeinu followed by Sh'ma, Baruch Shem Kevod and HaShem Hu HaElokim.
- If one can blow shofar, the shofar should be blown after 7:49pm. If one cannot blow shofar, it is not required.

Motzaei Yom Kippur

- Weekday Amidah should be recited including Atah Chonantanu.
- Havdalah consists of three berachot: HaGafen, HaEsh and HaMavdil (no besamim/spices). The beracha on fire should be recited on a candle that was burning the entire Yom Kippur (נר ששבת). You can accomplish this by lighting a yahrtzeit candle before Yom Kippur (whether you say Yizkor or not) and using that candle for Havdalah. The fast ends at 7:49pm.
- Kiddush Levana is recited on Motzaei Yom Kippur.
- It is customary to begin building/ planning for one's sukkah immediately after Yom Kippur, in order that we go directly from one mitzvah endeavor to the next.