

Minhagim of Congregation Tiferes Yisroel
as given over by
Rabbi Menachem Goldberger

Sukkos, Hoshanah Rabbah, Shemini Atzeres, Simchas Torah

Sukkos

- It is a mitzvah to eat and sleep in the Sukkah.
- Our minhag is not to wear tefillin during chol hamoed.
- It is our minhag to wear Shabbos/Yom Tov clothing during chol hamoed.
- Binding the lulav: Most kehillos hold the lulav with three haddasim to the right of the spine, and two aravos to it's left, according to the Shulchan Aruch. Rabbi Goldberger binds his lulav differently, according to the minhag of the ARIZAL.
- Waiving the lulav: the lulav is waived as follows, according to nusach sfard, following the minhag of the ARIZAL: While facing east....right, left, forward, up, down, back. Waive in each direction 3 times, each time returning the lulav to your heart and standing facing forward. We turn completely around for the back waiving, and never point the lulav down for the down waiving; kneel instead.
- Waiving during Hallel: 4 times total - once during the first Hodu laHashem, twice during Ana Hashem, and once during the last Hodu laHashem.
- for the Hodu waiving: one direction for each word. Do not waive the lulav when reciting the word "Hashem"; e.g. right, while saying "Hodu", then stand still for "Hashem", then continue for each word in each respective direction.
- For the Ana waiving: two directions for each word. Do not waive the lulav when reciting the word "Hashem"; e.g. right and left while saying "Ana", then stand still for "Hashem", forward and up while saying "Hoshiah", down and back while saying "Na".

Hoshanah Rabbah

- Some have the minhag to stay up and learn Torah H"R night.
- There is also a minhag to read Mishneh Torah (the entire book of Devarim) from a sefer Torah on H"R night.
- The rings are removed from the lulav before Hallel.
- We hold the lulav and esrog for the first seven hoshanah hakafos, and the tachanunim that follow, until "taaneh emunim". At "taaneh emunim", we put down the lulav and esrog and pick up the bundle of five hoshanahs (aravos).
- Upon completion of the tachanunim, the hoshanahs are beaten on the floor exactly 5 times.
- There is a fleishig morning seuda. Rabbi Goldberger's minhag is to recite the first paragraph of Aleinu forward and backward 7 times: e.g. word by word forward, then word by word backward...7 times.
- Kreplach are eaten at this seudah.

Shemini Atzeres

- Following maariv on Sh"A night, we have seven short hakafos, while dancing with the Torah.
- The Rabbi dances the beginning of the first hakafa alone.
- It is our minhag to eat in the Sukkah, but you should not sleep in the Sukkah.
- Do not say the bracha "leyshev basukkah".
- Farewell to the Sukkah after minchah. The Rabbi leads nigunim in the shul sukkah every year at this time.

Simchas Torah

- No longer use the Sukkah.
- Hakafos at maariv and shacharis, with the Torahs.
- The Rabbi dances the beginning of the first hakafa alone, both maariv and schacharis.
- At our shul, the hakafos continue well into the afternoon, followed by mussaf and mincha.

- This is followed by a joyous S"t meal, either at home or collectively in shul.
- S"t is the yahrtzeit of our Rabbi's Rebbe, Moreinu Harav Shloime Twerski, zecher tzadik livracha, who passed away in 5742 on this day. Zechuso yagaen alenu v'al kol Yisroel.

Gebentscht Yor !!