

Temple Israel – Charleston, W.Va. – Yom Kippur services Sept. 24 & 25,
2023

Shavuah tov!

Our Yom Kippur Services on Sunday, September 24th and Monday,
September 25th, 2023 took place as scheduled.

Alan Fleischmann and Gary Winter manned the tech for the services.

There were a lot participants in the services; I won't name everyone for fear of missing anyone, but we are deeply appreciative of all who took a role and everyone who worked behind the scenes to make the services run smoothly and feel so special. I certainly felt spiritually nourished, and basked in the strong sense of community and unity that emanated from those present, both in person and online.

As always, many thanks to Bob Morris and David Stern for their musical support throughout the service, providing beautiful music and elevating the service, as always. I also want to express my appreciation to Yaniv Gutman, the violinist who joined us to play Kol Nidrei on Sunday night – it was very special.

Access Notes

The board voted that the building will be open for both in-person and online attendance at worship services, and also for other meetings as announced. Refreshments are being served (as announced).

The board also voted to return to the policy suggesting masking (optional) in the building, and asked those attending to be respectful of other's desires regarding social distancing. They do require that you be fully vaccinated to the current recommended standard, and please be considerate and stay at home if you are having any symptoms or are not feeling well.

In person or online, if you want to have a role in our services, please be in touch with Ronni Spudich about lighting candles, Betty Stern about an Aliyah, or me about serving as a Gabbai or leading any part of the service.

Temple Israel Yom Kippur Services

All of the services were live streamed to the Temple Israel Facebook page. This includes Yom Kippur Eve (Kol Nidrei), Yom Kippur Morning (Shacharit), Yom Kippur Afternoon (Minchah), Yom Kippur Memorial (Yizkor), and Yom Kippur Concluding (Ne'ilah) services. The Yom Kippur Torah Study was available only to those joining in Zoom online, and no recording is available.

There was a technical problem for one service. The Yom Kippur Afternoon Service was virtually unlistenable because of the presence of Feedback throughout most of the service. It became so awful that the techs stopped the service and re-started it, which for some reason seemed to correct the problem, but it took them time to determine that solution, which meant that for the majority of the service it is essentially unlistenable, and the recording is in two parts: part 1 is the first 14 minutes or so of the service. It then cuts off. Part 2 is the last 3 minutes or so of the service. It is clear, but picks up at nearly the end of the service. I would suggest skipping the Afternoon service, as it is really too unpleasant to listen to the first part, and there is almost nothing left in the service for the second part. For that reason, I am not including links to the Afternoon (Minchah) service.

Sincere and deep apologies to all who were in the Sanctuary and those online, as well as anyone trying to connect on either Zoom or Facebook at a later time for this. We are working to prevent it recurring.

Unfortunately, although the tech team tried many things, they did not know what was required until we had gotten fairly far into the service. That is when they decided that stopping and re-starting the broadcast was the only choice, and once they did that it resolved the issue. The problem with that is all who were online had to sign on again, and we had no way to tell you that. We are working to make sure we don't get into this situation in future; we are seeking information on how to avoid this happening, and hopeful that we will learn how to avoid it completely. Baruch Hashem, it did not affect any other service for the holidays.

– **Scroll down to find the service recording posted on the Temple page here: <https://www.facebook.com/2550469431660054/>.**

In addition, there is a zoom recording of each service.

Click here for the Zoom recordings:

Erev Yom Kippur (Sunday, September 24th, 2023):

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YgdoYZgjhgbI-oCtkyvOvPrW3pQu6WLN/view?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Morning (Shacharit), (Monday, September 25th, 2023)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19bz4A1sVdlXZxGMwUJMFo2roRB6t8EWC/view?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Memorial (Yizkor), (Monday, September 25th, 2023)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JqLz9ptT3ebcSvPlwSZZJCQCGdCDJT29/view?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Concluding (Ne'ilah), (Monday, September 25th, 2023)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j69RV67csKKNGDmgxDfhjWM4wBLi8I99/view?usp=sharing>

It was a pleasure to share this holiday with you, whether you came in person or attended online. As always, I would love to hear from you. If you want to chat for a few minutes, please let me know after the holidays - we have many options available: on the phone, in a zoom meeting, by text or email, or in person - whatever works best for you. You can just let me know that you want to talk and we can arrange a time, or tell me when you are free and how you would prefer to be in touch, and I can reach out to you. Please remember: I can't read minds, so if you don't tell me you want to talk, I won't know. And similarly, if you don't let me know that you want a visit or call, or to be added to (or removed from) the Mi Sheberach list, I also will not know.

I sent the SUNDAY REMINDER LINKS EMAIL on Sunday for the events in the period from Sunday-Friday of this week.

I will send a THURSDAY REMINDER LINKS EMAIL on Thursday for the period of Friday-Monday of the coming weekend, including our Sukkot service.

I will also send a SUNDAY REMINDER LINKS EMAIL on Sunday which will again include all of the events in the coming week, including our Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah service.

If someone wishes to be added to our email list, we can arrange that – just ask them to let me know directly (by email or text), so we are sure not to ‘spam’ anyone.

Wishing you a Shabbat Shalom, and a Gmar Chatimah Tovah!

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair