



Shmini Atzeret & Simchat Torah

Tishrei 21-23, 5787

October 2-4, 2026



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Thanks because He is Good



Yesterday's thwarted hijack of a plane carrying almost all Israelis may have been unique in history. Some media reports are saying that never before have passengers taken matters into their own hands and stopped an attempted hijacking of a plane.

David Ben Gurion once said "In Israel in order to be a realist, you have to believe in miracles."

Pieces of the story are still emerging and many questions have to be asked by investigators, but the long and the short of it seems to be that a copilot attempted to gain control of a 737 with mostly Israeli passengers, in order to crash the plane and kill all aboard. Somehow passengers gained access to the cockpit and took control and landed the plane.

We have been saying and singing Hallel all week—"Hodu lashem ki tov, ki lo'olam chasdo" "Give thanks to G-d for He is Good, His kindness is everlasting!" and those words are certainly that much truer today.

Each day in our prayers, three times a day in the "modim" paragraph of the Amidah, we thank

G-d for "Your miracles are with us every day, and your wonders and favors every season; evening, morning and afternoon...." Truly, this is another one of those days. Let's say a chapter of psalms in thanksgiving.

Speaking of thanksgiving; some have said that Sukkot is the Jewish Thanksgiving—that's of course right, just reversed. Thanksgiving is the world's Sukkot. All during sukkot we've been articulating our thanks for all that we have, and recalling prayers and offerings in the Temple in Jerusalem that were offered on behalf of all the nations. We hope and pray for a better world for all; not just ourselves.

The necessary and logical outcome of all our selichot in Elul, our Shofar on Rosh Hashana, our fasting and repentance on and leading up to Yom Kippur, and our celebration on Sukkot is immense, profound, all-pervasive joy, which is the theme of Shmini Atzeret/Simchas Torah coming up this weekend.

For some reason, Simchas Torah is not the day when everybody feels compelled to come to shul—but maybe it should be! The day is taken up with dancing, singing, and eating—deeply connected to the joy that flows from our Jewish souls and our Jewish lives and being connected to each other and the entirety of our people. And to G-d, who is Good and does good for us.

Please join us for Hakafot, dancing on Saturday night and Sunday; as we rejoice with the Torah. We'll be joined by volunteers from Yeshiva University's Torah Tours program, who have added zest and spirit to our Simchas Torah celebrations for years. It's better when you are here...so come join in the joy!

Shabbat shalom

Chag sameach

A gut yontif

Friday October 2nd Hoshana Rabba

Shacharit: 7am

Breakfast learning in the sukkah: *approx.* 8:45am

Earliest Candlelighting 5:43

Mincha/kabbalat Shabbat 5:35 welcoming our Torah Tours team!

Candlelighting 6:38



Shabbat October 3 Shmini Atzeret

Shacharit: 9:15AM Torah
Kohelet/Ecclesiastes Stone p. 1278 or

Yizkor: 10:45AM (*approx.*)
Mincha: 6:45PM

5 Megillos: p. 126

Torah Reader: Yaakov Kanofsky
Chumash: Stone p. 1012
Maftir: Stone p. 896
Haftorah Stone p. 1245

Maariv and Hakafot 7:40PM

Candlelighting: after 7:38PM
- light from a pre-existing flame

Sunday October 4 Simchas Torah

Shacharit 9:15am Torah Reader: Yaakov Kanofsky

Chumash: Stone p. 1112 & p. 2

Maftir: Stone p. 896

Haftorah: Stone p. 1246

Mincha: 6:50pm

Ne'ilat HaChag/Ma'ariv/Havdallah/Yom Tov concludes 7:35

THANK FOR YOUR PATIENCE



**We are sorry to postpone this year's luncheon.
Please stay tuned for details.**

Kiddush on Shimini Atzeres is sponsored by Stephen and Lynn Markman in
honour of Stephen's 80th birthday



This year's KST Torah Tours Team:

Hi!! My name is Gaby Zlatin, and I'm from Englewood, New Jersey. I just started my first semester at Stern, and I'm majoring in psychology. I can't wait to join you guys for Simchat Torah!

Hi! My name is Allegra Fried, and I'm from Westchester, NY. I just started my first semester at Stern and I'm Pre-Law. I'm so excited for Simchat Torah and thank you for welcoming us with open arms!

Hey y'all! My name is Shneur Levy, I'm 24 and grew up in sunny Miami, Florida. I graduated YU with my Bachelors of Psychology and Associates in Judaic Studies. In college, I almost went for a Music and Art shaped major, but they didn't let me because I already had one major. I still love music and enjoyed doing three years of theater as an actor. Super hyped and excited to be with everyone!!

Hi y'all! My name is Brandon Melamed, I grew up Jacksonville, Florida, and graduated from YU two years ago. I majored in psychology and since graduating

have stayed living in New York City, spent a year working at the OC in Community Engagement and now work for Tikvah where I help plan and coordinate high school programs about Jewish identity, Zionism and politics. This is technically my ninth Torah Tours (-esque) program, I love seeing how other communities function and I'm so excited to join Kehillat Shaarei Torah for Simchat Torah!



**Next Shabbat:
Bereishit, New Beginnings**



In Two Weeks:
Noah, the Ark and the Covenant...
Wear Your Bow Tie!

Supporting the Chevrah

Sustaining Our Shabbat Kiddush, Week After Week.

The KST Chevrah helps ensure our community comes together around a warm, welcoming hot Kiddush every Shabbat at KST.

Kiddush is where community relationships deepen, newcomers to the Shul feel welcomed, and our community truly connects after davening.

Please consider supporting this cornerstone of Shabbat at KST.

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NEW

This week's upcoming yahrzeits

Yahrzeits

Thursday

Adrian Lichtman for grandfather Marks Lichtman

Allan Cooper for wife Helen Louise Cooper

Friday

Harry Klompas for father Berl Klompas

Irene Weiss for grandmother Annie Lopis

Saturday

Carol Gruss for father Abraham Gerson

Doreen Silver for Mother-in-Law Rose Silver

Martin Scherer for grandmother Yocheved Scherer

Sunday

Andy Urbach for father-in-law Stephen Speisman

Shevi Urbach for father Stephen Speisman

Monday

Barbara Goldberg Berzen for mother Maisie Goldberg

Gayle Freedman for mother Anita Tinkel

Jeffrey Ostilly for father Mannie Ostilly

Ruth Chemel for sister Beryl Riven



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THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN

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