

Suggestions for Using *Siddur Lev Shalem* on Sukkot

Our colleagues Ed Feld and Jan Urbach (Senior and Associate Editors of *Siddur Lev Shalem*) have done us all a great service by enumerating the special features of the new siddur as it is used in congregations on Sukkot for the first time. Thanks to Ed and Jan for providing advice that is particularly helpful at this time of the year!

As you prepare for services on Sukkot, you might want to think about some of the new additions in *Siddur Lev Shalem for Shabbat and Festivals*.

1. First and foremost, we hope you enjoy the new layout: beginning with the Amidah for Shacharit, you can now go straight through till the conclusion of the service: Hallel, the Torah Service and Musaf are all there consecutively; no more need to flip back and forth.
2. In Hallel note the new icon indicating where to shake the lulav.
3. Excerpts from Ecclesiastes can be found in the Appendix (page 426).
4. For the first time in any siddur, we've added special meditations in Yizkor geared to the specific holiday (page 334).
5. There is a special Shir Shel Yom for Sukkot and one for Shemini Atzeret (pp. 118-119). Though it is meant for the morning, you might want to use it in the evening to distinguish that holiday at the beginning of the service. (The lines in the middle of the psalm for Sukkot have been transliterated for possible congregational singing. These lines highlight the universalistic character of the day. It is possible to sing them to the same tune as that for V'samachta b'hagekha, which is included on the same page.) Those congregations that wish to recite the daily Shir Shel Yom can find these psalms in the Appendix.
6. The alternative Musaf for Festivals includes traditional piyyutim arranged for the first days, for the intermediate Shabbat and for Sh'mini Atzeret (pages 336-368). Even if your congregation davens a traditional Musaf, you might want to include all or part of one of these piyyutim to close the service, or to include a special reading for the day selected from those pages.
7. Lenny Cahan included women in the traditional Ushpizin recited on entering the sukkah and we've reprinted his innovative liturgy (page 424). The festival Kiddush is in the "Home" section of the siddur on pages 79 and 81.
8. For Shemini Atzeret, we've included three versions of Geshem. The traditional Ashkenazic poem (page 377), a version of the Ashkenazic poem that has been adapted with new stanzas including the matriarchs (page 379), and the traditional Sephardic service (page 381). The piyyut used in the Sephardic liturgy is particularly accessible and relevant to contemporary concerns for the environment. For those congregations using the Ashkenazi version, the acrostic

portion of the Sephardi poem could be sung congregationally to conclude the service instead of Adon Olam.

9. The Hoshanot (beginning on page 383) have been fully translated, with commentary explaining the meaning of each piyyut and of the hakafot, providing a wealth of material for teaching. As in *Siddur Sim Shalom*, there are directions for conducting the morning service on Hoshana Rabbah (page 392).
10. We have included suggested songs for each of the hakafot of Simchat Torah (pages 404-405); these include transliteration.

Enjoy the Hag!