

THE FINAL DAYS

The final three days of the holiday offer a wealth of traditions and rituals. Indeed, they are known by different names:

Hoshanah Rabbah - "the great saving" is often looked upon as a mini-Yom Kippur – our last appeal to the Almighty to pardon us for our sins and grant us a reprieve for a good year. This is the last of the seven days of Sukkot and we observe it by encircling the synagogue sanctuary seven times in special prayers and waving and beating the willow-*hoshana* branches on the ground to symbolize the eradication of evil from the world.

Shmini Atzeret - "the eight day of the assembly" is reckoned as the last holiday encounter between man and G-d before they part after the Sukkot festival. On this solemn day, special prayers –*geshem* – are recited for rain and good crops in Israel during the coming year. Yizkor Memorial prayers for the departed are also recited on this day.

Simchat Torah - "the rejoicing of the Torah" brings this holiday season to a joyous conclusion. On this day, we celebrate the completion of the last chapter of the Torah as we begin reading it anew for the coming year. The Torah scrolls are taken from the Ark and the congregation marches and dances with them seven times around the sanctuary.

Presented by the Department of Pastoral Care
Rabbi Zev Schostak, Director

GURWIN
JEWISH GERIATRIC CENTER
Caring for those who cared for us

Sukkot A Time of Rejoicing September 2002



Sukkot (Main Lounge)

Candlelighting: Friday, September 20 at 6:36 p.m.

Service: Shabbat, September 21 at 10:15 a.m.

Service: Sunday, September 22 at 10:15 a.m.

Shmini Atzeret (Rainbow Room)

Candlelighting: Friday, September 27 at 6:24 p.m.

Service: Shabbat, September 28 a.m. (This service will include Yizkor/Memorial Commemoration.)

Simchat Torah Celebration (Rainbow Room)

Celebration: Sunday, September 29 at 10:15 a.m.

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