

Honors/Participants

Tallis Presentation:

Ark Door Opening:

Undressing the Torah:

Aliyot to the Torah:

Dressing the Torah:

Opening the Ark:

Kiddush:

Motzee:

Bar/Bat Mitzvah
of
Name

Date
Congregation Ner Tamid
Henderson, Nevada

Rabbi Sanford Akselrad
Cantor Jessica Hutchings
Accompanist Ricky Rhinehart

Shabbat Shalom ...

Today, my parents and I would like to thank all of you who have come from to share in this very special occasion, my Bar Mitzvah, especially to those of you who have traveled many miles to be with us.

Traditionally, this celebration marks my entry into religious adulthood. Today you will see me called upon to chant portions from the Torah, in addition to conducting most of today's service.

During the sixth century, the age of thirteen was established as the age at which boys enter Jewish adulthood and become subject to the commandments and responsible for their own promises.

The title bestowed on the young man who became of age was "Son (*Bar*) of the Commandment (*Mitzvah*)." The term "Bar Mitzvah" also indicates, that upon completion, an educational goal has been reached. This goal requires years of study with a concentrated period during the last year.

The Holy Ark is behind the pulpit. The Ark contains the Five Books of Moses, which we call the "Torah." Each scroll has been inscribed on parchment. An entire Scroll is read in weekly portions during the course of the year. Above the Holy Ark hangs the Eternal Light symbolizing the light of learning and Haftorah. The Torah service begins with the removal of the Torah from the Holy Ark.

Several individuals, or couples, will be called to the Torah to recite the blessings before and after a portion of the Torah is read. This honor is called an "Aliyah." I will recite the last Aliyah today. It will be the first time I will receive the honor of being called to the Torah. The other Aliyot are printed on the back of this program.

The Tallit, or prayer shawl, that you see some people wearing is a fringed garment that reminds the wearer of their bond and duty to God and God's commandments. There are 613 knots in the fringes of the shawl, which represent the original 613 commandments given to Moses by God.

A Kippah, or head covering, is worn in the synagogue, traditionally by men, as a sign of respect. They are available at the entrance to the sanctuary.

The service will conclude with traditional prayers, including the Kaddish. This prayer is recited at the end of every service in praise of life and in memory of those who have passed away. Today we remember **(those who have passed) list names**

Shabbat services are followed by "Kiddush" or sanctification. Shabbat is the period from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. Shabbat gives us the opportunity to reflect, study Torah, and bring peace to our lives. **The entire congregation is invited to take part in the Kiddush and luncheon following services. Today's Kiddush is being sponsored by (if you are doing this)**

Thank you so much for coming today. I cherish this moment in my life. I am so glad that I can share it with my family and friends.

Name