

Shabbat Service:
Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzmaut
compiled by David Reinhart

Hatikvah Niggun

This Sunday evening, Israel commemorates its Yom HaZikaron, their Day of Remembrance for Fallen Soldiers and Victims of International Violence and Terror. Yet, 24 hours later, this solemn day gives way to pure celebration, as Yom HaZikaron turns to Yom HaAtzmaut, Israeli Independence Day. Tonight, on this Shabbat, we too remember these days. Though we may not be Israeli citizens, we, as Jews, have an innate, unbreakable connection with the Jewish Homeland. As such, tonight is our opportunity feel the sadness of Yom HaZikaron and the joy of Yom HaAtzmaut.

Interspersed throughout our service are quotes on the Modern State of Israel and the Jewish Homeland. These are not stand-alone pieces, rather prayers in their own right.

Candle Lighting

Hinei Mah Tov

Quote 1

In Israel, in order to be a realist, you must believe in miracles. Anyone who doesn't believe in miracles is not a realist. If an expert says it cannot be done, get another expert.

-David Ben-Gurion

L'cha Dodi

Quote 2

It is true we have won all our wars, but we have paid for them. We don't want victories anymore. ... For, we do not rejoice in victories. We rejoice when a new kind of cotton is grown and when strawberries bloom in Israel.

-Golda Meir

Chatzi Kaddish

Barechu

Quote 3

We are destined to live together, on the same soil in the same land. We, the soldiers who have returned from battle stained with blood, we who have seen our relatives and friends killed before our eyes, we who have attended their funerals and cannot look into the eyes of their parents, we who have come from a land where parents bury their children, we who have fought against you, the Palestinians. We say to you today in a loud and clear voice: Enough of blood and tears. Enough.

-Yitzhak Rabin

Ahavat Olam

Shema

V'ahavta

Quote 4

Israel was not created in order to disappear- Israel will endure and flourish. It is the child of hope and the home of the brave. It can neither be broken by adversity nor demoralized by success. It carries the shield of democracy and it honors the sword of freedom.

-John F. Kennedy

Mi Chamocha

Hashkiveinu Reading

Quote 5

I marvel at the resilience of the Jewish people. Their best characteristic is their desire to remember. No other people has such an obsession with memory.

-Elie Wiesel

V'shamru

Amidah

Quote 6

Peace is the beauty of life. It is sunshine. It is the smile of a child, the love of a mother, the joy of a father, the togetherness of a family. It is the advancement of man, the victory of a just cause, the triumph of truth.

-Menachem Begin

Shalom Rav

Silent Prayer

Oseh Shalom

Sermon

Torah Service

Quote 7

Israel has created a new image of the Jew in the world - the image of a working and an intellectual people, of a people that can fight with heroism.

-David Ben-Gurion

Aleinu

Yeish Kochavim

Mourner's Kaddish

Quote 8

Here, in the Land of Israel, we returned and built a nation. Here, in the Land of Israel, we established a State. The Land of the prophets, which bequeathed to the world the values of morality, law and justice, was after two thousand years, restored to its lawful owner - the members of the Jewish People, On its Land, we have built an exceptional national Home and State.

-Yitzhak Rabin

Hatikvah