

SHAAREY TPHILOH



Happy Passover / Chag Sameach!!

March 27-April 4, 2021
1522 Nisan, 5781

*Services on hold because of the pandemic.
Next year may we spend the holiday together!*

Shabbat HaGadol

Shabbat Candle Lighting: Friday, March 26, 6:43 pm

First 2 days of Passover

Last time you can eat chametz: Saturday, March 27, 10:12 am

1st Night Candle Lighting: Saturday, March 27, not before 7:45 pm

2nd Night Candle Lighting: Sunday, March 28, 7:47 pm

If joining either Seder by Zoom, please email Rabbi Shub at rabbishub@gmail.com by
10:00am on Friday, March 26.

Instructions on how to participate are [here](#).

Last 2 days of Passover ~ 6th and 7th day of the Omer

7th Night & Shabbat Candle Lighting: Friday, April 2, 6:51 pm

Photo courtesy of [Ri Ya on Pixabay](#)

A Message from Rabbi Shub for Pesach 5781

This is year two of the COVID-19 pandemic, and by all appearances, *beezrat Hashem*, the last time that we will be prevented from gathering with friends and loved ones around a seder table; the last time we bring electronics into our *yom tov*. This year is truly different from all other years.

We do not have to look far in our tradition to find changes to our holiday observance. We do not need to look to any catastrophic events in Jewish history either to find an analogue to the differences that this year's Passover holds to normal Pesach celebrations. We can simply read the Mishnah.

If we read the tenth chapter of Mishnah Pesachim, we see that the meal (including the paschal lamb) came right after kiddush, and before *maggid*. Today, we begin by asking questions and studying Torah. The meal comes later. The lamb sacrifice, which was once the central practice of the seder night, was replaced by *maggid* with its four questions, four children, ten plagues, and Dayenu. Torah study supplanted animal sacrifice as the central practice of Judaism and of the first nights of Pesach.

Torah study is more edifying and more inspiring of spiritual and intellectual growth than eating a plate of roasted lamb. The questions that we explore last us a lifetime. And yet we still end each seder by declaring Next year in Jerusalem!

Zoom may bring us the company of those who are far away. Still, we do yearn for a Pesach without it. We will have it. We may need patience, but we will have seder with friends and family again. Next year in person!

Passover Reminders!!

[A Note from Rabbi Shub about Pesach](#)

There are some special considerations for Passover this year because it begins right after Shabbat. Click [here](#) to find out the details.

Sell your chametz!

[Mechirat Chametz Form](#)

Click [here](#) to download, sign, and sell your chametz. It is in [PDF form here](#) for easy printing. You can also email maineshul@gmail.com to have the form emailed to you. Once done signing, please email the form

to rabbi@mainesynagogue.org or maineshul@gmail.com or send it in by mail to:
Shaarey Tphiloh, 400 Deering Ave., Portland, ME 04103.

Don't forget!!

Each nights seder begins after candle-lighting time.

Chametz and Matzah

The latest time you can eat *chametz* is 10:12 am on Saturday. Nullify it by 11:29 am on Saturday. Do not eat matzah until the seder. Ashkenazim eat egg matzah before the seder; Sephardim and Mizrachim do not. Rice and other *kitniyot* may be eaten Saturday before the seder.

If you have any questions, please [email Rabbi Shub](mailto:maineshul@gmail.com) as soon as possible.

Shul Membership Survey

We are updating our synagogue records. Please help us in this endeavor by clicking [here](#) (or type in: <http://bit.ly/STUpdate5781>) to fill out our survey form so we may better serve you and your family.

****Your privacy is important to us. Any information you share will of course not be shared with any other person or entities.****

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