

A Guide to Passover at Beth Immanuel 2023 -5783

Tuesday April 4: Last Supper and Bedikat Chametz—Casting out the Leaven

On this day we clean out the leaven and leavened things (*chametz*) and any items which contain ingredients made from wheat, barley, spelt, rye, and oats. A person should have all the *chametz* removed from his home by evening and conduct the ritual search for *chametz* after dark, with the candle, feather, wooden spoon, and linen. After removing *chametz* pronounce the declaration:

Any leaven or chametz in my possession that I have not noticed, removed, or known about is to be nullified, becoming ownerless property, like the dust of the earth.

Take time to remember the Master's last meal with his disciples and his arrest in Gethsemane. Confess your sins to prepare for the festival:

- Luke 22:1-54; John 13-18:13
- 1 Corinthians 11:18-34

Wednesday April 5: Erev Pesach—Eve of Passover

On Erev Pesach, we prepare for the Seder and the eight days of Passover. It is a pious thing for all disciples of Yeshua to fast on the anniversary of his crucifixion and to break their fast at the seder meal. Firstborn males fast on this day until the Seder. At the time of morning prayers, we remember the hours of the crucifixion by reading and praying over the passion narratives.

- Mark 15; John 18:13-19:42
- Psalm 22

After morning prayers, we destroy the *chametz*.

After praying Minchah on Erev Pesach, we recite "The Order of the Passover Offering."

- Mark 15; Order of Pesach Offering
- Psalm 22

During the evening prayers (Ma'ariv), we use the festival Amidah and add Hallel (Psalm 113-118). Seders start after sundown.

- Hallel: Psalms 113-118
- Passover Seder

During the course of the seder, we take matzah and the four cups in remembrance of our Master, according to his commandment.

Thursday April 6: Pesach 1—Yom Tov (Resurrection Eve)

The first day of Passover is a *Yom Tov*. We recite the full *Hallel* (Psalms 113-118) and read from the Torah. We also say the *Prayer for Dew* during Mussaf prayers, after which we discontinue saying "who makes the wind to blow and the rain to fall" in the first blessing of the Amidah.

- Hallel: Psalms 113-118
- Torah Reading: Exodus 12:21-51
- Maftir: Numbers 28:16-25
- Haftarah: Joshua 3:5-7; 5:2-6:1; 6:27

During the evening prayers (Ma'ariv), we recite Hallel again, count the first day of the Omer along with the recitation of Psalm 67, and we remember the resurrection of our Master by reading Matthew 28:1-4. Those who conduct the second Seder do so in remembrance of the Master's resurrection, according to his commandment.

- Count Omer Day 1 with Psalm 67
- Hallel: Psalms 113-118
- Matthew 28:1-4
- Second Seder

Friday April 7: Pesach 2—Yom Tov [Omer 1] (Erev Shabbat)

On the second day of Passover, we rise early and recite the *Full Hallel* and remember the appearance of the risen Messiah to his disciples with special readings from the Gospels. In the Diaspora, the second day of Passover is also a *Yom Tov*. This year, the second day of Passover coincides with Erev Shabbat.

- Hallel: Psalms 113-118
- Torah Reading: Leviticus 22:26-23:44
- Maftir: Numbers 28:16-25
- Haftarah: 2 Kings 23:1-9; 21-25
- Gospels: Mark 16:1-8
- Count Omer Day 2 with Psalm 67 after dark
- Candlelighting / Kabbalat Shabbat

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Saturday April 8: Pesach 3—Shabbat Chol HaMo'ed [Omer 2]

The third day of Passover this year is Shabbat Chol HaMo'ed. We recite the *Short Hallel* (Psalms 113-118 omitting some sections), read the book of Song of Songs, and read from the Torah. The haftarah about the valley of dry bones alludes to the resurrection of Yeshua.

- Short Hallel:
 - Psalm 113-114
 - Psalm 115:12-18
 - Psalm 116:12-19
 - Psalm 117-118
- Song of Songs
- Torah Reading: Torah Reading: Exodus 33:12–34:26
- Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25
- Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:1-14
- Gospel: Luke 23:42-56

During the evening prayers (Ma'ariv), we count the third day of the Omer along with the recitation of Psalm 67, and we remember the resurrection of our Master with a special Maariv/Havdallah Resurrection observance.

- Count Omer Day 3 with Psalm 67 after dark
- Psalm 16, Psalm 21, Psalm 30
- Matthew 28, Mark 16
- Havdallah- Resurrection Commemoration

Sunday April 9: Pesach 4—Fourth day of Passover [Omer 3]

On “the day after the Sabbath” during Passover, we celebrate the resurrection with special Gospel readings, recite the *Short Hallel* and read from the Torah.

- Short Hallel
- Torah Reading: Exodus 13:1-16
- Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25
- Gospel: Luke 24
- Count Omer Day 4 with Psalm 67 after dark

Monday April 10: Pesach 5—Fifth day of Passover [Omer 4]

On the fifth day of Passover we recite the *Short Hallel* and read from the Torah.

- Short Hallel
- Torah Reading: Exodus 22:24(25)-23:19
- Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25
- Count Omer Day 5 with Psalm 67 after dark

Tuesday April 11: Pesach 6—Sixth day of Passover [Omer 5] Erev Yom Tov

On the sixth day of Passover we recite the *Short Hallel* and read from the Torah.

- Short Hallel
- Torah Reading: Exodus 34:1-26
- Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25

We light candles before sunset and, after dark, we welcome the seventh day of Passover with a festive meal including a festival kiddush over wine and matzah.

- Count Omer Day 6 with Psalm 67 after dark

Wednesday April 12: Pesach 7—Yom Tov [Omer 6]

The seventh day of Passover is a Yom Tov. On the seventh day of Passover, we recite the *Short Hallel* and read from the Torah, commemorating the anniversary of the crossing of the Red Sea.

- Short Hallel
- Torah Reading: Exodus 13:17–15:26
- Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25
- Haftarah: 2 Samuel 22:1–51
- Gospel: John 20:1-14
- Erev Shabbat meal with unleavened bread
- Count Omer Day 7 with Psalm 67 after dark

After dark, we welcome the last day of Passover with another festive kiddush in conjunction with the Erev Shabbat Kiddush meal including wine and matzah.

Thursday April 13 Pesach 8—Yom Tov [Omer 7]

On the eighth day of Passover, we recite the *Short Hallel* and read from the Torah. The haftarah brings a special prophecy about the Messiah.

- Short Hallel
- Torah Reading: Deuteronomy 15:19–16:17
- Maftir: Numbers 28:19-25
- Haftarah: Isaiah 10:32–12:6
- Gospel: John 20:15-20

In the afternoon of the eighth day, we study Tractate Sanhedrin 97 and conclude the festival with a special third meal called the *Meal of Messiah* with fish, matzah, and wine in your homes. At this meal, a person should strive to attain new revelation about the Messiah and his advent. The festival concludes after sunset.

- Count Omer Day 8 with Psalm 67 after dark