

## Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Service

**Reader 1:** Welcome to this celebration of Shabbat. We are grateful to be here together. Shabbat offers us the opportunity to connect with our friends and congregation family, even though virtually. In recognition of Yom HaShoah this week, tonight we honor the millions who perished in the Holocaust.

### Candle Lighting

As the sun sets, and the day gives way to night, the candles stand waiting to be lit. May the flames of the Shabbat candles bring warmth to our hearts, wisdom to our minds, passion to our souls.

Precious is the light in the world.

Precious is the light within each person.

Precious is the light of Shabbat. (*Candles are lit*)

### Wine

**Reader 2:** When we sip wine, we celebrate our heritage and our happiness.

Wine is a symbol of life, and a symbol of the power of people. L'chaim! To life!" (Sip wine)

### Bread

"Breaking bread" is how we learn to care for one another. We learn this lesson every Shabbat by sharing food in the spirit of home and family.

Precious is the work of our hands.

Precious is the bread of the earth. (*cut and taste challah*)

### Lighting of the Memorial Candles

**Reader 3:** We light six candles in memory of the light of six million people  
Extinguished in the Holocaust.

To mourn the dead, to reflect on the innocence and courage of the martyrs.

And we reassert our commitment to a world

Where all people will live together in peace and justice

With kindness, compassion, and charity, with mercy and love. [*Light candles*]

### Remembrance

**Reader 1:** As we commemorate the deaths of our brothers and sisters,  
we honor and remember all of the murdered--Jews and gentiles--victims, martyrs, heroes.

The number of living survivors of the Holocaust is naturally dwindling,

fewer than 400,000 today. One longtime CHJer, Lou Reens, is thankfully still among us.

Others we mourn, survivors who graced the congregation,

Jolly Zeleny, Michael Kovis, Zelig Preis and Andrew Sardi.

**Reader 2:** Martin Niemöller (1892–1984) was a prominent Lutheran pastor in Germany. He emerged as an outspoken public foe of Adolf Hitler and spent the last seven years of Nazi rule in concentration camps. He is perhaps best remembered for his postwar words:

*First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist.*

*Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out— because I was not a trade unionist.*

*Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.*

*Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.*

**Reader 1:** Now more than ever, we must apply the lessons from the past as the horrors inflicted on Ukraine continue for a second year. Many cannot believe that in the 21st century, we are facing these horrors again. The phrase “Never again” reminds us of our moral obligation to take a stand against atrocities wherever they arise.

### **Extinguishing the Candles**

**Reader 3:** We darken six candles in memory of six million Jews extinguished in the Holocaust.

#### **Anthem**

**Reader 4:** We end our service with a song set to the first words of a poem written in 1943 by **Hirsh Glik**, a young Jewish poet who joined the partisans in the Vilna Forest of Lithuania. Glick was inspired to write it when news spread of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Captured, he was deported to a concentration camp in Estonia. In July 1944, he escaped but was never seen again, presumed executed by the Germans. He was 22 years old.

After the war, the song became a hymn to those who fought and survived and to those who fought and perished. Today it is an anthem of Holocaust survivors and is sung in memorial services around the world. In the Soviet Union, the song was first publicly performed in 1949 by Paul Robeson, sung part in English, part in Yiddish. While the verse was translated into Russian in the Soviet Union, the song was never performed there again, neither in Russian, nor in Yiddish.

**Music** Zog Nit Keyn mol (Never Say)

### **Announcements and Sharing**