

Minyan Dorshei Derekh Davening Guidelines – 2017 Edition (Provisional)

*We seek spiritual vibrancy through spiritual practice—
sharing daring, inspiring, and comforting prayer experiences
—excerpted from Dorshei Derekh's vision statement*

Minyan Dorshei Derekh values both tradition and innovation in our services. We encourage diverse modes of spiritual practice, including chanting, meditation, movement, and quiet prayer. These guidelines are intended to encourage and appreciate innovation while preserving a sense of continuity and rootedness in tradition. Considerable flexibility exists within the structure below, helping to support the minyan commitment to balancing experimentation and continuity. Dorshei services may vary substantially from week to week, but will generally preserve the required components listed in these guidelines. All davening leaders are expected to observe these guidelines unless an exception is approved by the mazkirut.

- We value that our services are led by participants. A person must attend Dorshei services at least 3 times before leading davening.
- Experienced davening leaders are available to mentor and assist new leaders. One or more people can lead the service.
- Non-electric musical instruments are always allowed (per the [GJC policy](#)), at the discretion of the davening leader.
- The davening leader may select a gabbai rishon in advance.

Timing: Start promptly at 10:00, and definitely no later than 10:05, no matter who's there. Generally begin *Shohen ad* (p. 241) by 10:35 (although it could be slightly later if you plan a shorter shaharit). Begin Torah service (p. 383) by 11:00-11:05. Begin returning the Torah (p. 433) by 12:05 (you may need to signal to the d'var torah leader if they are not finished by this time). Begin introductions and announcements by 12:20.

Guide to Categories:

Required: Must be done in Hebrew, with minor variations allowed, as printed in Kol Haneshamah, unless otherwise noted.

Required*: Required in some form. A translation, variation, or interpretive version is acceptable.

Customary: Usually done, but not required.

Sometimes: Done fairly often, but not unusual to omit.

The leader is free to select from among Customary and Sometimes items, as well as any other material, subject to the timing requirements.

All page numbers are from *Kol Haneshamah: Shabbat Vehagim*.

Page	Category	Notes
		Start promptly at 10:00, and definitely no later than 10:05, no matter who's there.
141	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Mah tovu</i> . Often an opening niggun or kavanah precedes or replaces <i>Mah tovu</i> .
153-161	Required*	<i>Birchot Hashachar</i> required in some form
163	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Asher yatzar</i>
165	<i>Customary</i>	Elohai Neshama
169	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Birkat Limud Torah</i> : Only say if followed by some study
175	<i>Customary</i>	<i>Eleha adonay ekra</i> is frequently sung
177-179	Required*	<i>Baruch She'amar</i>
181	<i>Customary</i>	Closing bracha often chanted aloud
183-229		This <i>Pesukei Dezimrah</i> section should include some selections from these pages, and/or other nigunim, chants or songs of praise.
231	<i>Customary</i>	Psalm 150
235-241	Required*	<i>Nishmat Kol Chai</i>
241	<i>Customary</i>	<i>Barehi nafshi</i> through <i>kisey ram venisa</i>
		Should usually get here no later than 10:35.
241-243	Required	<i>Shohen ad</i> : Required: first line chanted aloud, time for remainder silently. Customary: first few words and last few lines of each paragraph chanted aloud.
245	<i>Customary</i>	<i>Hatzi Kaddish</i> , aloud. (Requires a minyan)
247	Required	<i>Barechu</i> (Requires a minyan)
247	<i>Customary</i>	<i>Yotzer</i> blessing.

253 or 257	Customary	<i>El adon</i> or <i>Haaderet veba'emunah</i> , not both. On <i>Shabbat</i> only; omit on weekday <i>hagim</i> .
261	Sometimes	<i>La'el asher shavat</i> . On <i>Shabbat</i> only; omit on weekday <i>hagim</i> .
263	Sometimes	<i>Hame'ir la'aretz</i> : Weekday <i>hagim</i> only; omit on shabbat.
265	Sometimes	<i>Titbarach tzureinu</i>
267	Customary	<i>Kadosh kadosh kadosh</i>
269	Customary	<i>Or hadash</i>
269	Required*	<i>Yotzer hame'orot</i> blessing
273-275	Required*	<i>Ahavah rabah</i> through <i>Ohev amo yisrael</i> blessing
277-285	Required	<i>Shema</i> : first line required aloud. <i>Ve'ahavta</i> paragraph sometimes chanted aloud. Remainder generally done silently. Required to chant final 3 words (<i>adonay eloheyhem emet</i>) aloud.
287-289	Customary	<i>Emet</i> section in whole part, or an alternative
291	Required*	<i>Mi hamohah</i> til end of page required. Top 2 lines customary. Give any instructions for the <i>Amidah</i> before <i>Mi hamoha</i> .
295-299	Required	Beginning of <i>Amidah</i> is chanted aloud. On yom tov (whether or not on shabbat), substitute festival <i>Amidah</i> , pages 327-353.
303-305	Required	<i>Kedusha</i> is required. Customary to do a mix of aloud and silent, but the following 3 lines are always sung aloud: <i>Kadosh kadosh</i> ; <i>Baruh kevod</i> ; <i>Yimloh adonay</i> .
307-323	Required	Allow time for the remainder of the <i>amidah</i> to be done silently.
321	Customary	Customary to sing <i>sim shalom</i> , <i>oseh shalom</i> , or a nighun at end of silent <i>amidah</i> .
357-379	Required on hagim	<i>Hallel</i> is done only on <i>hagim</i> and rosh hodesh. Opening blessing is required. Singing some of printed psalms required. Closing blessing required.
381	Sometimes	<i>Kaddish titkabal</i>
		Should get here by 11:00-11:05. Exception: <i>Hallel</i> may cause it to be slightly later. Before continuing with the Torah service, solicit volunteers for the following roles (if you have not already assigned them): 1st and 2nd gabbai, 3 aliyot, hagbah and gelilah.
383	Required*	<i>Eyn kamoha</i>
385	Required*	<i>Vayhi binso'a ha'aron</i> or <i>Pithu li</i>
387	Sometimes	<i>Bey ana rahetz</i>
391	Required on hagim	<i>Adonay adonay</i> and <i>Va'ani</i> required one time on weekday yom tov.
393	Required	<i>Shema, Ehad, Gadelu</i>
393	Required*	Torah processional singing required. <i>Leha adonay</i> or Hear O Israel is customary.
		Now the gabbai takes over and runs the torah reading service. Then the darshan gives the d'var torah. This should end by 12:00-12:05.
417-423	Sometimes	Prayers for congregation, country, Israel, and peace. Be mindful of time.
425	Required*	<i>Birkat Hahodesh</i> when Rosh Hodesh falls in the coming week
433	Required	<i>Yehalelu</i>
435	Sometimes	<i>Mizmor ledavid</i> : Shabbat only. Be mindful of time.
437-439	Sometimes	<i>Ledavid mizmor</i> : Weekday <i>hagim</i> only. Be mindful of time.
441	Required*	<i>Etz hayim hi</i>
	Required*	Alternative musaf, e.g., poem, singing, reading, prayer, meditation. Should not be another d'var torah or discussion. Be mindful of time.
443	Sometimes	<i>Eyn Keyloheynu</i>
445-447	Required	<i>Aleynu</i> required aloud through 2nd line on p. 447 (<i>hakadosh baruh hu</i>)
449	Required*	Leave time for <i>Al ken</i> to be done silently. <i>Vene'emar</i> customarily sung aloud.
451	Required	Mourners' <i>kaddish</i> . Be sure to announce the page, give people time to turn to it , and say the <i>kaddish</i> aloud along with others who choose to recite it.
		Now comes introductions and announcements. Should get here by 12:20.
459	Required*	<i>Adon olam</i> or another closing song.