

Ma'ariv (evening) service for Shabbat. An Outline.

by Cantor Sheila Nesis

Please note:

- 1) This outline is not “the right way” to do it, but a way to do it. The best way to use this outline is to compare it with what happens in your synagogue. Hopefully there is enough newness and enough familiarity to help you build your own outline.
- 2) This outline does not include any English readings or moments of meditation or any other spoken parts that might be part of the service. We will talk about how and when it could be helpful and meaningful to add English readings or a *kavanah* (a text or words to set the intention of the moment or prayer.)
- 3) This outline does not include a time for a sermon or short D'var Torah, or a moment for a text study, or Torah reading. Depending on the custom of your own synagogue, all those can be included immediately after the *Amidah*.

Prayer	Melody	Other notes
Chatzi Kaddish	folk	The prayer's function is to separate what happened before in the service from what it's coming. (*some congregations only have it prior to the <i>Amidah</i> prayer.)
Bar'chu	Nusach or R. Nelson	Ask congregants to rise (I personally like to say “If you are able, please rise.”) You can ask congregants to remain standing or to be seated, depending on the custom of your synagogue.
Maariv Aravim	Nusach.	I'll share a creative piece in English by N. Aronson
Ahavat Olam	Traditional or D. Friedman	
Sh'ma	Traditional or D. Friedman, or Pick	The Sh'ma can be recited standing or seated, depending on the custom of your synagogue.
V'ahavta +Adonai Eloheichem Emet	chanted	Some congregations recite 2 verses, some all 3 verses of the V'ahavta.

Mi Chamochah	Carlebach or J. Nelson or many more!	
Hashkiveinu	C. Taubman or J. Klepper's chatimah	
V'shamru	Rothlum	
Amida: Adonai S'fatai Avot Gevurot Kedushah <i>(Kedushat hayom, Avodah, Hodaah, Shalom, T'filat Halev)</i> Magen Avot	Nusach. There are some interesting melodies for Adonai S'fatai that I will share as well: C. Taubman's, it can also be done to the tune of "The Sanctuary Song", and others.)	This is the central prayer of any worship experience, and it symbolizes the sacrifices offered at the time of the Temple in Jerusalem. It's shorter during Shabbat because all prayers of petition are omitted. It's recited standing and it has a particular choreography that we will review. Traditions vary from synagogue to synagogue: some will only do it as a silent prayer; some will recite the first three sections of the prayer collectively and then continue silently. Some will also offer this as a time for personal reflection and prayer.
Closing song after the silent Amidah	Elohai N'tzor or Oseh Shalom, or Yih'yu L'ratzon	Some but not all synagogues choose to do a song or prayer as we conclude the recitation of the Amidah.
Aleinu	traditional	"Please Rise"
Mourner's Kaddish	chanted	"Please Rise"
Final song	Oseh Shalom/Adon Olam/Niggun/ Other songs!	