

Tri-Valley Cultural Jews
Your Secular Humanistic Jewish Community



Family Shabbat

Song: *“Shabbat Shalom/Gut Shabbes Ahykh”*

Shabbat Shalom (2)
Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat Shalom
(repeat)

Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat Shalom (2)
Shabbat Shalom (2)
Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat, Shabbat Shalom

Gut shabbes ahykh (2)
Gut shabbes alleh-men, Gut shabbes ahykh
(repeat)

Ah gut shabbes, gut shabbes alleh-men (2)
Gut shabbes ahykh (2)
Gut shabbes alleh-men, Gut shabbes ahykh

(Sabbath peace. Good shabbes to all, good shabbes to you all.)

Candle Lighting:

We rejoice in our heritage which has given us the tradition of lighting the Shabbes candles.

Song: *This Little Light of Mine*

This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine (3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

This little light is the light of peace, I'm going to let it shine (3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

This little light is the light of freedom, I'm going to let it shine (3)

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Wine/Juice:

We rejoice in our heritage which has given us the cup of wine as the symbol of our happiness. We rejoice in our heritage which has given us the Sabbath, a day of rest, the first among our holidays and a reminder of the Exodus from Egypt.

Challah:

We rejoice in our heritage which teaches us to love our earth which gives us wheat and to honor the farmers who grow it and the workers who make it into bread.

Blessing the Children:

Parents: Tell your children about someone you'd like them to be like in some way. It could be a relative, friend, historical figure or someone you've heard of who did something kind, brave or important this week.

Now, because the people we most want our children to be like is themselves, tell your children what you particularly like about them.

Reading:

We do not bless you. You bless us.

You bless us with your quick understanding and quicker laughter.

You bless us with your inquisitiveness that punctures our casual acceptance of the wonders of nature.

You bless us with your sense of fairness that reminds us of our own obligations to support justice.

You bless us with your natural empathy that reproaches our own cynicism.

May you always laugh as easily, stand as firm, and love as dearly as you do today.

Song: "Hiney ma tov"

*Hiney ma tov u'ma nayim shevet amim gam yakhad
Hiney ma tov u'ma nayim shevet amim gam yakhad*

Hiney ma tov, shevet amim gam yakhad (2)

(How good it is and how pleasant for different nations to live together.)



Tri-Valley Cultural Jews

What We Offer

- A welcoming community for those whose connection with being Jewish is through history, culture, family and commitment to progressive social values.
- An inclusive atmosphere comfortable for non-traditional families and households in which not everyone is Jewish.
- Potlucks and programs: speakers, movies, discussions & great food!
- Holiday celebrations and access to Secular Jewish life cycle ceremonies.
- Jewish Culture School culminating in a Secular Bar/Bat Mitzvah.
- The opportunity to participate in progressive social action.
- A chance to learn about Jewish subjects without any expectations of prior knowledge or belief.
- Membership in the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations and the benefits of membership, including scholarships.
- A diverse, caring and interesting group of new friends.

What We Stand For

- Judaism is the creation of the Jewish people. All generations are responsible for carrying it forward and adding to it.
- Only natural forces and human beings are responsible for what happens in this world. People have the responsibility and ability to solve human problems through striving for equality, social justice and peace.
- We believe in the equality and dignity of every human being, and in the power of community.
- Religion is a private matter properly taught in the family. The state should have no religious functions. We support the separation of church and state.
- A Jew is someone who identifies with the history, people, culture and fate of the Jews.
- The freedom and dignity of the Jewish people must go hand-in-hand with the freedom and dignity of all peoples.
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Jewish Culture School

- A hands-on, community building experience for kids 5-14
- Music, dance, crafts, cooking, literature and discussions of ethical issues
- Humanistic teaching style
- Parents welcome
- Optional Bar/Bat Mitzvah program
- Welcoming to all, including dual-heritage children and non-traditional families