

Sue Horowitz's lyrics for *Hineih Mah Tov* are read by everyone "Together." The lyrics are another expression of the harmony we seek "as we travel along the path of our lives."

PAGE 17/18: BLESSING OVER THE FESTIVAL CANDLES

Historically, women lit the candles and recited the blessing. Today, men and women may participate equally in the rituals and ceremonies of our ancestors.

Those participating in the blessing of the Festival candles traditionally rise before reciting the blessing.

In order to create the most inclusive experience for those unfamiliar with Hebrew or with family traditions, a Reader may recite the words for each blessing in Hebrew one phrase at a time, with everyone joining in unison after each phrase and then in English. (See instructions for each blessing that follows.)

PAGE 21/22: KIDDUSH: BLESSING FOR THE FIRST CUP OF WINE

Havdalah is a ceremony that marks the symbolic end of Shabbat. When the seder falls on Saturday night, an abbreviated *Havdalah* service is recited as part of the blessing for the first cup of wine (p. 88).

PAGE 23: RITUAL WASHING OF THE HANDS

When more than one person participates in the ritual, it is customary to fill the cup before passing it to the next person.

PAGE 23/24: PASSOVER SYMBOLS

Identifying the Passover symbols presents an opportunity to engage children in the seder. Children, if present, may be asked to hold up each symbol as its name is read.

An orange is sometimes added to the seder plate as a symbol of solidarity with gays and lesbians. (See A Passover Checklist, p. 2.) When an orange is added to the seder plate, you may hold up the orange and say:

"The orange on our seder plate is a symbol of our solidarity with gays and lesbians, representing the additional fruitfulness of a society that welcomes and includes members with diverse sexual orientations."

A second seder plate is sometimes placed on the table for vegetarians with a red beet substituted for the shank bone. (See A Passover Checklist, p. 2.) When identifying the symbols on the seder plate, the beet is raised instead of the shank bone.