

JEWS TO OBSERVE FEAST OF LIGHTS

Services in Commemoration of Chanukkah to Be Held at Temple Emanuel Tonight

Chanukkah, or The Feast of Lights will be observed this evening by the Jews of Duluth. The holiday, one of the lesser of the Jewish calendar, begins on the 16th this year, but as the Jewish calendation makes the day begin the evening before, services will be held tonight. Rabbi Lefkovitz will preach on "Right vs. Might" at Temple Emanuel, Second street and Seventh avenue east at 8 o'clock. The children of the temple will attend Chanukkah services Sunday afternoon at 2:45 o'clock.

Chanukkah, also known as the Feast of Dedication commemorates one of the most momentous periods and victories in Jewish annals. In 165 B. C. Judas Maccabeus led his forces into Jerusalem after three years of desperate fighting against the legions of Antiochus, king of Syria. The Syrian ruler, imbued with the idea that political unity was dependent upon one religion and one language in his dominions, had sought to force Greek customs, gods, speech and worship upon Judea, which through the fortunes of war had become practically a principality of the Syrian empire. That started the struggle of the Jews with their Maccabean leaders for religious freedom. When they marched victorious into their capital heathen altars were thrown down, the walls and fortresses were rebuilt and the temple rededicated. The twenty-fifth day of Kislev was set aside for the annual Feast of Lights, and the yearly renewal of devotion to Jehovah and of loyalty to the cause of Jewish freedom.

There is a legend that Judas Maccabeus found but a few drops of sacred oil with which to light the candelabra and that it miraculously burned eight days.

"The celebration of this Feast has no elaborate ritual in the synagogue or in the home. It has become a special Children's Feast," remarked Rabbi Lefkovitz last night. "Aside from the dramatic, musical and edible treats which are the inevitable accompaniments of the eight-day feast, the children are inspired with the moral and religious responsibility to continue the tradition and the practice of kindling the eight lights in their homes. It is upon them that the future task of keeping aflame the holy lights of freedom, religion and patriotism devolves. Their parents are proud to rehearse the story of Jewish heroism and valor, and find therein ceaseless inspiration and enthusiasm to hold fast to the flag of faith and to devote themselves unstintingly to the glory of their God and country."