

# THRONG SYNAGOGS, MARK YOM KIPPUR

## Cleveland Jews Begin Ceremonies in Observance of Day of Atonement.

## Rabbi Gries at Temple Talks on Essentials of World Unity.

Services in all Cleveland synagogues last evening ushered in the observance of Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

The Day of Atonement is the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, and with the New Year holy day, is the most generally observed. At sundown yesterday orthodox Jews began a fast which will not terminate until this evening.

Jewish places of worship were thronged to capacity last evening and the attendance at today's services also will be large.

Services at The Temple, E. 55th-st and Central-av S. E., commenced at 7:30 o'clock last evening.

"The Book of Jonah is the appointed Biblical lesson for the Day of Atonement," said Rabbi Moses J. Gries in his sermon. "Modern Jews are not worried by the question of whether Jonah was swallowed by the whale, or whether we moderns swallowed the whale story.

"The Book of Jonah proclaims a God of mercy and justice without bond of race or creed—mercy and justice even to Ninevah, the enemy of Israel. The God of Israel is the God of all the world.

"A plea is being sounded for world unity and for Christian unity to bring mighty uplift to humankind. Essential to the unity of mankind is not the recognition of one supreme pontiff, or of one true church, as God's representative on earth and God's interpreter to the nations. Essential is the recognition and acceptance of one God."

Yom Kippur is one of the holy days designated by Moses. Authority for the observance is found in Leviticus. The ceremonials are described in Leviticus xvi. and its sacrifices in Numbers, xxix. The observance was not dependent on the sacrificial service.

Emphasis in the modern observance is laid upon penitence, confession, prayer and good deeds. The Day of Atonement is known as the sabbath of sabbaths.