

1. YOU ARE CALLED TO THE TORAH

You will be told in advance what number your aliyah is. There are seven aliyot on Shabbat morning. Come forward to the Torah reading table as soon as you are called.

2. FIND THE PLACE

The reader will open the scroll and show you where s/he will begin reading. Take the [tzitzit](#) (corner fringes of the [tallit](#)) and touch them to the word the reader points out and kiss the tzitzit. The reader will close the scroll.

3. HOLD THE EITZ CHAYIM

When reciting the Torah, it is customary (and your privilege) to hold the bottom ends of the wooden rollers, one in each hand.

4. RECITE THE FIRST BLESSING

You say:

Ba-re-chu et A-do-nai ha-me-vo-rach.

Congregation responds:

Ba-ruch A-do-nai ha-me-vo-rach l'o-lam va-ed.

You say:

Ba-ruch A-do-nai ha-me-vo-rach l'o-lam va-ed.

Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai, E-lo-hay-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sheer ba-char ba-nu mi-kol ha-a-mim v'na-tan la-nu et to-ra-to. Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai no-tayn ha-to-ra.

Praise the Lord, to whom our praise is due!

Praise be the Lord, to whom our praise is due now and for ever!

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has

chosen us from all peoples by giving us the Torah. Blessed is the Lord, Giver of the Torah.

5. THE READER READS

While the reader reads, you may be asked to hold one of the wooden rollers, to keep the scroll open. You are welcome to look into the scroll while the reader reads. That is your privilege.

6. THE SECOND BLESSING

When the reader finishes reading the aliyah, s/he will point out the last word with the yad (pointer). Take the tzitzit in your hand, touch them to this word, and kiss them. Then recite this blessing:

**Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai E-lo-hay-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam, a-she-
na-tan la-nu to-rat e-met v'cha-yai o-lam na-ta b'to-chay-
nu. Ba-ruch A-ta A-do-nai no-tayn ha-to-ra.**

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life. Blessed is the Lord, Giver of the Torah.

7. AFTER THE BLESSINGS

When you have completed the second blessing, move to the right to make room for the next person called to the Torah. Having blessed the Torah, you are now honored with being invited to stay at the reading table for the next aliyah. At this time, one of the gabbaim (the people at the reading table who assist the reader) will read a prayer called a Mi Shebeirach ("The One Who Blessed..."). You might be asked for your Hebrew name, which may be given in the form: [Your name] ben/bat [your mother's name] and [your father's name]. You may use the name of only one parent if you so choose. When the next aliyah is completed, you may return to your seat. It is customary to take a longer route back to your seat than that which you took to ascend to the bima, signifying your

reluctance at leaving the Torah. It is also appropriate to shake hands with all bema attendants including the Cantor and Rabbi.