



Dear Friends,

As you undoubtedly know, we have *Aliyot* as part of the Shabbat Morning Service whenever Torah is read. By an "*Aliyah*," we mean that we invite members to participate in the Torah Service and when there is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, family members are invited to participate.

Here is the procedure that we follow and we suggest that you contact those you would wish to have involved from your family in the *Aliyah* so that they can begin to prepare themselves:

- Each Bar/Bat Mitzvah family is invited to have two sets of *Aliyot* during the Torah service. Each *Aliyah* consists of two to four individuals, male or female, Jewish adults (13 years and older) who recite the Torah blessings in Hebrew and English.
- If there are non-Jewish family members or friends that you would like to participate in an *Aliyah*, they are invited to recite the "*Shehecheyanu*" in English and/or Hebrew and will be called to the bimah with the other *Aliyah* participants. A copy of that blessing is included.
- The *Aliyah* participants proceed in this fashion:
  - First participant chants or reads the First Hebrew Blessing.
  - Second participant reads the English translation of the First Hebrew Blessing.
  - Third participant chants or reads the Second Hebrew Blessing.
  - Fourth participant reads the English translation of the Second Hebrew Blessing.
  - If there is a *Shehecheyanu* it will follow the English translation of the Second Hebrew blessing.
- We do urge that *Aliyah* participants rehearse their parts carefully so that they can be fluent. We appreciate chanting if possible, as that is our custom here at United Hebrew.
- *Aliyah* participants should sit on an aisle seat to facilitate their walking easily to the pulpit. Please let us know if an accommodation needs to be made for someone unable to walk up to the pulpit.
- The *Aliyah* participants will be called by name. When they stand at the pulpit, they should face the Congregation in this fashion:

SECOND ENGLISH  
BLESSING PARTICIPANT

SECOND HEBREW  
BLESSING PARTICIPANT

SHEHECHEYANU  
BLESSING PARTICIPANT

CANTOR

PULPIT

FIRST ENGLISH  
BLESSING PARTICIPANT

FIRST HEBREW  
BLESSING PARTICIPANT

CONGREGATION

- When the “Aliyah” participants conclude, they should shake hands with the Rabbis and the Cantor and return to their seats in the Congregation.
- Besides the Aliyot, we have additional honors at the beginning of the Torah service. These participants need not be Jewish or 13 years old. One who opens and closes the Ark curtain at the beginning of the Torah service. One who undresses the Torah before the reading and helps redress the Torah after the reading. One opens and closes the Ark curtain at the end of the Torah Service.

Below you will find an “Aliyah Participant” form. Please return it to our office at least two weeks prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. If you have any questions, call Tara Mann at 469-0700.

**Aliyot for the B-Mitzvah of** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of the B-Mitzvah** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please fill out this form and return to Tara Mann at least 3 weeks prior to your family rehearsal with the Cantor. Please only give English names as they will be called during the service.*

**First Group:**

**1<sup>st</sup>** Hebrew Blessing before the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**2<sup>nd</sup>** English Blessing before the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Hebrew Blessing after the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**4<sup>th</sup>** English Blessing after reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Additional Blessing – Shehecheyanu** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Group:**

**5<sup>th</sup>** Hebrew Blessing before the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**6<sup>th</sup>** English Blessing before the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**7<sup>th</sup>** Hebrew Blessing after the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**8<sup>th</sup>** English Blessing after the reading of the Torah \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Additional Blessing – Shehecheyanu** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Aliyot:** Open and/or close the Ark – Assist in the dressing of the Torah

Relationship to B-Mitzvah \_\_\_\_\_