



## High Holidays Honors Guide

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Your honors card indicates the approximate time of your honor. Your card also indicates the page number on which your honor will occur, so that as the service progresses you can gauge how soon your name will be called. Ten minutes prior to your appointed time, please move to the front of the sanctuary to the Honors section at the front of the sanctuary, to the left of the *bimah*.

Please note that when going up onto the *bimah*, men are expected to wear *kippot*. Jewish men are also expected to wear a *tallit*.

### Ark Opening – Return Torah

1. At the appointed time, the Rabbi will call the names of the two families who will participate in the ark opening.
2. As soon as he does so, please proceed to the *bimah* and walk directly to the ark. Your children may accompany you to the *bimah* for this honor.
3. Two different families receive the honor for each ark opening. Please take your place on one side of the ark only, allowing the family with whom you are sharing the honor to take their place on the other side of the ark. **Do not open the doors, but instead wait for your cue.**
4. At the appropriate point, the Rabbi or Cantor will motion for you to open the ark doors.
5. **While you remain at the ark**, the procession of the Torah through the congregation will occur, eventually returning the Torah back to the *bimah* and into the ark.
6. After the Torah is returned to the ark, the doors continue to remain open until the Rabbi or Cantor indicates that you should close the ark doors. When doing so, please make sure that the doors meet in the middle of the opening, and that there are no gaps in the center or at either end.
7. As soon as you have closed the ark doors, you may return to your seats in the congregation.