

Havurah Shalom



- Your honor:** **Goleil (wraps/dresses the Torah scroll)**
- When to go up:** When the Gabbai calls first “HaMagbiah” and then “HaGoleil” or “HaGoleilet” (after the Torah readings are completed).
- What to wear:** Wear a kippah and a tallit (prayer shawl). If you are not wearing them, we have them at the back of the sanctuary.
- What to do:** When you are called to the Torah, you’ll be asked your Hebrew name and your parents Hebrew names.
- The magbiah will lift the Torah and display it and you participate from the bimah as you would at your seat
 - As the magbiah moves to sit, follow them and see if you can help them stabilize the scrolls a bit as they sit – you can grab the roller handles at the top if it looks like it will be helpful – and the gabbai will be there too possibly performing this function.
 - When the magbiah (person lifting the Torah) has sat down, approach them and grasp the 2 handles of the Torah.
 - Roll the Torah pretty tightly with help from the magbiah – you grasping the roller handles on the top and the magbiah rolling them using the bottom roller handles.
 - The gabbai will hand you each article to put on the Torah when you are ready for them. The front (side with the text on it) of the Torah will be facing the magbiah and you’ll be facing the back of the Torah. Therefore, the front of the articles you are putting on the Torah will be facing the magbiah.
 - Fasten the belt around the center of the Torah, with buckle toward the front – you can reach around the Torah and buckle or sometimes easier to buckle at the back, facing you and then slide the buckle around to the front.
 - Put the cover on the Torah, getting the 2 rollers through the 2 holes in the top with the front facing the magbiah.
 - Put the “yad” (pointer on string) onto the left hand roller (left as you face the back of the Torah)
 - You are done!
 - Step back to let the magbiah stand to return Torah to the ark.

- **Shake hands with the gabbai and others on the bimah (unless they are distracted) and return to your seat as the Torah is put away.**

A little about these roles:

“Hagbah” is the term for raising the Torah, which is performed by the magbiah; “gelilah” is the word for rolling up and tying the Torah scroll and replacing its cover and ornaments, which is done by the goleil. Talmud does not appear to separate these two functions, referring primarily to the latter (Meg. 32a). Indeed, at one time, the person who received the last Aliyah may have performed both of these duties. However, having one person responsible for both holding the Torah and tying the binder around the scroll could be fraught with hazard and presumably led to the decision to share the honor between two people. Although these activities do not require the recitation of a blessing, Hagbah and gelilah are considered religiously significant roles. Some Rabbis viewed the honor of gelilah as having the spiritual reward of all the aliyot combined, and thus this task was traditionally reserved for the most distinguished members of the congregation. Over time, hagbah became the more coveted task.