We remove the Torah scroll from the ark and the leader faces the congregation. The following two lines are recited by the leader and we then repeat them:

Leader, facing the ark:

The Torah is carried in a circuit around the congregation.

The Torah is placed on the reading table.

Leader:

Congregation and Leader:

day, Yemenite Jews called to the Torah read their own aliya.) The ancient rabbis instituted a practice of calling a kohen for the first aliya and a levi for the second, in order to mitigate arguments about who deserved the opening honors. Some congregations retain this practice; others call congregants to aliya without regard to status. It has become customary that each person called to the Torah uses either the corner of the tallit or the Torah binder to touch the scroll at the starting place (indicated by the reader) and then kisses the tallit or binder, reciting the brakhoth while holding the wooden handles of the Torah rollers. When the reading is completed, this gesture is repeated.

YOU WHO CLING (Deuteronomy 4:4. From Moses’ speech to Israel in the wilderness. In its context here, the verse is an assertion that it is through Torah that the fullness of life can be achieved.

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