

Gift Presentation—A Garland of Friendship

By Kathryn D. Simons

(Written for Esther Chapter, No. 12, Ashville, N. C., by Sister Kathryn Daniel Simons, grand organist, honoring the district deputy grand matron, Sister Mae Willman. Fresh flowers were used, and the gift fastened to the flowers at Adah's Point.)

Flowers with fairly short stems are suggested, tied with yards of baby ribbon in half-yard loops.

Grand Organist

A Garland of Friendship I would weave for tonight

It shall be strong and true and shining and bright;

The colors must be lasting, enduring for years,

For Friendship is faithful, it comforts through tears.

(Moving toward Adah)

I shall seek for the flowers at the point of a Star

They each bring a lesson, ponder well what they are;

(To A.)

The first blossom will speak of a Friendship that's true,

Adah—

"This point will give you Fidelity's Blue."

G. O. (speaking slowly, looking at flowers:

"Fidelity" sweet was the life Adah gave

(To R.)

Let us pause at Ruth's station, a widow so brave.

I ask for a color, all golden and mellow,

Ruth:

"This point will give you Constancy's Yellow."

G. O. (looking at flowers):

From the blue of the sky and the gold of the sun

I have gathered rich color, but my task is not done.

(To E.)

Pray give me, fair Esther, a pure flower, shining bright.

MASONIC
Esther
GRAND LODGE
LIBRARY
This point will give you Loyalty's White."

G. O. (still talking to flowers):
No Garland of Friendship without Faith in him;
The life everlasting shall never grow dim.

(To M.)

Give me of your color, that Friendship may lean.

Martha:

"This point will give you Faith's Living Green.

G. O. (slowly to all Points):

Through all of our weaving, as we come to the end,
Each blossom we find in the heart of a friend—

(To E.)

Which flower, Electa, is your gift from above?

Electa:

"This point will give you the Red Rose of Love."

G. O. (moving to the East and facing guest):

So, a Garland of Friendship I have woven tonight;
May it prove strong and true, shining and bright.

For Esther (use your Chapter name) has gathered "Star Flowers" sweet with dew,
There's Love in this Garland, from our Chapter to you.

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