O.E.S. GRAND
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"CANDLELIGHT SERVICE" - ESTARL NIGHT
Prepared by
Daisy Johnson

(This service can be given after the Chapter is closed - just before the retirement of the officers.)

Worthy Matron: Along with the special projects for the year, and I quote our Worthy Grand Matron: "We must concentrate upon the obligations we have already assumed:-

First, the ESTARL or IN HIS NAME project, providing scholarships for young people to train in the field of religion. Surely, there is no more worthwhile work in this world today than to put our thoughts and our efforts into the training of our young people who have the love of God in their hearts and who want to serve him in some field of Christian service." (End quote).

"Sister........you will prepare the room for the 'Candlelight Service.'"

(Have someone especially appointed to prepare the room. Place two plates (offering plates if you can get them, or other containers for taking up the offering) on the altar. A large white candle in the center of the altar. Five smaller ones on each Star Point station. Also, ask those (the six girls taking part in the ceremony) to retire as the room is being prepared. Soft appropriate music to be played during the time the room is prepared. When the Chapter room is in readiness the Worthy Matron will rise and speak: -

“To continue our support of this great work may we rededicate ourselves. The Candlelight Service which we have planned for tonight is intended to further the deepening of reverence in our general attitude for the work of our Eastern Star Award for Religious Leadership and suggests the elements in this corporate expression of consecration. The large white candle placed on our altar is symbolic of His spirit - the Light of the world. At each Star Point station we have placed a smaller candle representing the reflection of His power and strength as we go thru a progressive experience of New Life."

Solo - quartet - or chorus "This Is My Father's World" (One verse)

(At the close of solo the six girls will enter Chapter room. Soft music for entrance. See diagram for position.) First speaker will take her position on the West side of the altar; Second speaker, at Adah's station; Third speaker, Electa's station; Fourth speaker, Ruth's station; Fifth speaker, Martha's station; Sixth speaker, Esther's station, Each speaker standing back of the pedestal at their respective stations.

First speaker: "Let there be light, Lord God of Hosts,
Let there be wisdom on the earth!
Let broad humanity have birth!
Let there be deeds, instead of boast!"

(Speaker lights the tall candle)

Jesus said: "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

(Each speaker, in turn, will light shelter candle from tall one and when she has finished speaking will return to her station and take her position back of her pedestal. Places candle on pedestal.)

Second Speaker: (Lighting small candle from tall one) I light the candle of Acceptance of this Light of all life. "For with Thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light." (Goes back to her station and places light on pedestal.)

Third Speaker I light the candle of Promise.

"I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's Light: Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In Him my star, my Sun;
And in that Light of life I'll walk,
Till traveling days are done."

Fourth Speaker I light the candle of Responsibility. The light of Christ is shed on all whose hearts lies Christian concern for the world of which we are a part. It was said of us "Ye are the light of the world...Let your light so shine before men, that they..... glorify your Father which is in heaven."
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#2 Candlelight Service

HYMN: "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee" (One verse sung by all or soloist)

Fifth Speaker: I light the candle of Constancy. Jesus promised: "...I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Isaiah said, "If thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon-day." In a world torn by war, the light of Christ grows brighter. Only, however, as it is reflected through you and me can it permeate all life and all people. The world is the realm through which we consecrate to carry the light.

Sixth Speaker: I light the candle of Consecration. With quiet hearts and confidence we commit ourselves to God. In silence let us consecrate ourselves anew. In this moment of silence and in the light of Thy countenance may we each dedicate ourselves anew to follow the light of Christ in every activity of our lives—in our homes, in conversation, in the letters we write, in our business transactions, in our church and community experiences, and in our work in our beloved Order of the Eastern Star. Keep in us, O Christ, a strong sense of the needs of the world and help us to follow Thy Light.

HYMN "Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord" (Stanza 4 — sung by all or soloist)

First Speaker: "O Thou who dost the vision send and givest each his task,  
And with the task sufficient strength, show us Thy will we ask.  
Give us a conscience bold and good, give us a purpose true,  
That it may be our highest joy, our Father's work to do."

(Soft music as the six girls retire to seats in Chapter Room.)

Worthy Matron "This is the thing which the Lord commanded: 'Take ye from among you an offering unto the Lord: whosoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it, an offering of the Lord; gold, and silver, and brass...''" Tonight's offering we bring that the Word and the Way of our Christ may continue to be made known through us — members of the Order of the Eastern Star (or, you may say "members of........ Chapter, O.E.S.")

(As the music swells the conductresses approach to receive the plates from the Altar; music sung or played, should continue, encouraging the reverent attitude to prevail throughout. As music continues, the Conductresses return the plates to the Altar and remain there during prayer — offered by Chaplain from her station.)

Chaplain: "God, our Father, our heads bow in humility as we remember our many blessings. Our hearts are obedient to be used of Thee. So we bring our gift tonight, knowing that even through us Thou canst build Thy temple in the hearts of mankind everywhere, for we are in the service of Jesus Christ. Amen."

Gavel * (Conductresses return to their stations. (Music)

Announcements — appreciation of attention, etc.

THE OFFICERS WILL RETIRE.