

9
7. 13

This pretty ceremony is to honor the Star Point Esther, or a Grand Esther. In a small Chapter the Chaplain and Star Point Officers take the principal parts, but in a larger Chapter a Drill team may put on the work.

Have prepared beforehand a cardboard church, with a tall spire. This should be large enough to hold five small electric light bulbs, and the spire should be large enough to hold one. When the lights are lighted, one should shine THROUGH each of two windows on each side (4), and one through the door. And a light should shine from the steeple. Have a series of two three-way sockets, and the wiring long enough that the Secretary or Chaplain could plug in each light, at the proper time. If the Chaplain takes part, the church should be on the Secretary's desk, and she should plug the lights into the sockets.

Worthy Matron: Tonight it is our honor to do homage to our Sister of the White Ray. Dear Sister Esther, you add joy to our meetings, you set a pattern of Loyalty for all to follow, and because you brighten the place wherever you are, we would add more light to the tribute we offer.

Six Sisters enter... or rise from rear of room. They move forward in a double line to a point back of Esther's chair, where they separate... three moving South and East, and three moving North and East. The last two merely move back of Esther's chair, and into the labyrinth (if this is permitted), if not, both stand back of Esther's chair. The others stand behind each Star Point chair, and move forward in the following order, when they speak... Adah, Electa, Ruth, Martha, Esther, and the one representing the Chaplain. (This is the light in the church steeple.

As soon as these Sisters assume these stations, Choir or Soloist sings first and last stanzas of Hymn # 358, in Methodist Hymnal, "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart."

Worthy Matron: Sister Marshal, you will escort our honored Guest to the East.

This is done... to a seat placed in front of the Worthy Matron's pedestal.

Worthy Matron: Tonight we honor one, whose Light
Sheds sacred radiance through the night;
She who now graces our Chapter floor...
Is as a Ray of Light, and more.
The virtues that she strives to teach
Are as a pattern that can reach
Into the heart of each one here, -
Another reason why she is so dear.

Sister from Adah's station approaches. She stands beside table where church has been placed, facing the honored Guest. As she speaks her lines, the light of the front south window is illumined.

Adah: Fidelity is the light I bring,
The light of courage rare;
Self-sacrifice the song I sing,
For these were Adah's share.

But, Esther matched my courage rare,
Gleams of the white ray shine
To make a radiance pure and fair,
As her virtues blend with mine.

She returns to station and Electa approaches. As she speaks the front light on the north side of church is lighted.

Electa: The light of love shines forth tonight,
It speaks of service, yours and mine;
And as it shines with holy light,
In each Star's heart is radiance bright.
Gleams of the White Ray, pure and clear,
Tells of your Loyalty sincere;
Where love and loyalty unite
The radiance grows this blessed night.

She returns to station, and Ruth approaches. As she speaks the second window on the south side of church is illuminated.

Ruth: How sweet the light of Constancy,
The light of service beams;
Blended with love, that, given free
Are soul-refreshing streams.
Gleams of the White Ray, shining bright,
Can fill our hearts with beauty rare;
So we pay homage on this night,
To Stardom's queen, loyal and fair.

She returns to station, and Martha approaches. As she speaks the second window on the north of church is lighted.

Martha: I add more radiance as a light of prayer,
This light of faith may now impart
Its rays,- and brightest hope prepare
The lovely lesson in each heart.
Gleams of the White Ray shining far....
Sisterly virtues blended here,
Adding more glory to a Star,
Now brings our love sincere.

She returns to station, and Esther approaches. As she speaks the light is made to shine through the door.

Esther: This light brings radiance to the rest,
Where purity and joy unite;
With Loyalty is service blest,
So is our Star made bright.
Gleams of the White Ray, radiant, bright,
Sending out messages of virtue right;
Loyalty, love and an earnest prayer...
These are the virtues the White Rays share.

She returns to station, and Chaplain approaches. As she speaks, the light in the church steeple is put on.

Gleams of the White Ray. - page 3.

Chaplain:

The pure White Ray, with light divine,
Speaks of fine service - yours and mine;
And as it shines with holy light,
In each Star heart is radiance bright.
Gleams of the White Ray will suffice
For Loyalty and sacrifice;
Sharing its beauty, we pledge anew
To show God's pattern in all we do.

She returns to station, and Choir or Soloist sings Hymn # 360, in Methodist Hymnal... " O Thou, to whose all searching sight...." First, Second and Last stanzas.

If there is to be a presentation, it is made at this time. It could be a gift, or a corsage, or, if there are several honored Guests, it could simply be a small boutonniere each.

Worthy Matron: No gift of ours could speak what is in our hearts. As the Gleams of the White Ray lights up the dark places, and makes them shine with glory,- so your service has a way of adding a brightness wherever you are. We all share in the words I say, when I pay tribute to your fine service, and hope that we may have the pleasure of your company again and again.

You have served with love abounding,
You have made each day more fair;
As a light and joy forever -
You have brightened Esther's chair.

Worthy Matron steps down, and bows to honored Guest, and leads her to a seat on the platform.

Honored Guest will wish to respond, and should be given the opportunity.

This concludes the ceremony.

Gleams of the White Ray in a pattern of glory,
A ribbon of road that Star feet have trod;
Wisdom and justice in life and in story,
Bright is the radiance leading to God.

I pray Thee, O God, that I may be beautiful within. -Socrates.

By the ancients, courage was regarded as practically the main part of virtue; by us, though I hope we are not less brave, purity is so regarded now. Courage, however kindled, is fanned by the breath of man; purity lives and derives its life solely from the Spirit of God. -Hare.