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BEHOLD THE CROSS Copyright 1945

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Worthy Matron:

When we approach the Easter season, we are reminded that regardless of the condition of the world, it is a new day, a new hope, and a new vision. It is a triumph of right over wrong. The first Easter morning was the dawn of a new ministry. Instead of the end of life, it was the beginning of many lives consecrated to His service, in a hundred lands and in a thousand tongues. The cross, which had been a symbol of suffering, was transformed that Easter morning into an emblem of hope, and joy, and peace. Christ's death was but a prelude to His resurrection.

Through life we ever view the cross Where our Christ yielded up His breath, And yet we count it gain, not loss, For there's no life except by death.

We see no vision but by faith,
May faith be curs on Easter morn,
And may we see beyond the cross.
The joy of life and peace reborn.

As soon as Worthy Matron is through speaking, officers form corss around Altar as follows:

| | East | | East |
|--------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Fig. 1 | | Fig. 2 Asso.Con | . Con. |
| Electa | Adah Ruth Martha Esther Asso. M. | | |

Officers forming cross carry white lilies. (Other flowers may be used) As soon as officers are in form of cross, Fig. 1, Conductress and Associate Conductress take positions in front of dais, Fig. 2. These officers may also carry flowers if desired.

Associate Conductress speaks:

The cross of Christ still gleams as when on Calvary It stood in view beyond the yonder hills, And love's pure light from that dear cross was streaming To pardon sin, and banish earthly ills.

We turn our eyes to that dear cross still shining, To that dear cross where love is just the same, And as we bring our offering of repentance, We praise and sanctify His Holy Name.

Conductress speaks:

The wondrous cross is still our love revealing, With love as true as in the days of yore, When on that cross He gave His life a ransom, Such love as this was never known before.

Now may our hearts make answer to His pleading, That we shall turn from sin and seek His way; That we repent while still He offers pardon, And turning, cling to that dear cross always.

While officers remain in position, soloist sings:

Tune: This Is My Father's World.

Behold our Savior's cross,
On it His life He gave,
That all may humbly turn to Him
The erring one to save;
Behold our Savior's cross,
Because He loved, He died,
He rose again, let us rejoice,
And bless this Eastertide.

Behold our Savior's cross,
May it our hope renew,
For on it Jesus died to save,
To prove His love is true;
Rejoice, He lives again,
May we His word proclaim,
May we in this dear cross believe,
And glory in His name.

At close of song, officers in form of cross pass to East between Altar and dais. As they do so, Conductress and Associate Conductress collect their flowers in passing. Officers turn south and north, then west, the ones on south forming line between Adah's station and dais, and those on north forming line between Electa's station and dais, remaining in this position until Conductress and Associate Conductress have placed flowers in basket at foot of dais. A lighted cross in front of dais may also be used. A cross may also be made of cardboard and the flowers placed within the cross.

When flowers are placed in position, officers return to stations.

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