

This happy occasion is observed annually by many chapters. After the exchange march each officer stops at her station with the guest officer next the chair. The Worthy Matron, removing her badge, adjusts it on her guest and introduces her. Each officer, in turn, does the same. (A small gift or flowers for the guest is appropriate.)

Worthy Matron: Sisters, Brothers and friends, I am happy to welcome so many members and guests tonight, for we have planned to go on a journey that will lead through the years that lie ahead. I ask each one present to come aboard the Friend-Ship anchored tonight in the port of Chapter. Here we will enjoy the boon of companionship and strengthen the ties of brotherly love.

(Officers and guest officers may form a circle around the labyrinth or they may remain at their stations for the following ceremony.)

Worthy Matron: The pilot and the crew await you,
There is joy and pleasure for all;
Please join our happy caravan,
Then this night you will often recall
The dawn of each day paints the sky in blue,
Then we wait from darkness to light,
With friends who have journeyed with us
On the ship that brings us delight.

Worthy Patron: Our commandant invites you
To join our friendly crew;
A real old-fashioned welcome
Is waiting here for you.
The pilot and the crew await,
Joy and pleasure now call;
Please join our happy caravan,
There is room on our ship for all.

Adah: The azure blue of the heavens
Forecasts fair weather tonight;
Let us sail with our Matron's caravan,
With friends who are happy and gay.

Ruth: Then in the lovely morning,
When the sun turns life's ocean to gold,
We rejoice in the bond of comradeship
And sail for life's greatest goal.

Esther: High noon turns the ocean to sparkling white;
We gather from friends' smiling eyes
Jewels of priceless value--
These we most highly prize.

Martha: We pause awhile in the shadows
Of trees that grow by the shore;
They tell of faith in our loved ones,
And friends who are true evermore.

Electa: The sun sinks low in the evening,
Colors illumine the sky,
Painting the heavens in crimson;
It tells of a love ever nigh.

Associate Matron: The West is glowing in color,
When we reach the end of the day;
It bespeaks the joy of friendships
Made on life's busy way.

Secretary: I shall inscribe in our records
The names of the friends of our crew;
Each one has brought joy and gladness.
Tonight we are pleased to book you.

Solo: "My Friend" (Or any other number appropriate.) One verse or the chorus only.

Worthy Matron: *Gavel. Guest officers are seated and regular officers to their seats.

P.S. Small ships may be used as favors - place cards - part of decorations.

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FRIENDS

"If I knew you, and you knew me--
If both of us could only see,
And with an inner sight divine
The meaning of your heart and mine,
I'm sure that we would differ less
And clasp our hands in friendliness;
Our thoughts would pleasantly agree
If I knew you and you knew me."

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Here's a wish that every morning
May greet you with a song,
That the rosy hours of gladness
May keep you all day long.
That the eventide may bring you
A mind that's free from care
With Eastern Star friends about you
And God's blessing everywhere.

"A friend is a present you give yourself,"
That's one of my old-time songs;
So I put you down with the best of them,
For you're where the best belong.
Among the gifts I've had given to me
Most comforting, tried and true,
The one that I oftenest think about,
Is my gift to myself of "YOU."

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There are no friends like the old friends
And none so good and true;
We greet them when we meet them,
As roses greet the dew;

No other friends are dearer,
Though born of kindred mold;
We love, we trust the new ones--
We treasure most the old.

MY WISH FOR MY FRIEND

May the dreams you have dreamed in the long, long years,
When your heart with hope was high,
The dear, strange dreams that no one knew,
Of wonderful things that you dared not do,
Come true as the year goes by.

May the love that burned in your heart of dreams,
Like fire on the hearth of home,
Lie warm and sweet, a living sign

Of human faith, and of love divine,
In the heart of the year to come.

We want Chapter to be "A Place Where Old-fashioned Friendliness Still Survives." Therefore, we invite you to come to the dining room and enjoy the social hour. The committee has prepared refreshments and all are welcome.

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All this past week a song has been running through my mind--

"Count your many blessings
Name them one by one
And it will surprise you
What the Lord has done."

There is so much for which to be thankful, so much of loveliness, of beauty, and tonight so much of friendliness. Etc.,

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Our Eastern Star Chapters are not made with hands, but are made up of friends and companions, those whom we have met along life's highway and those who are seeking higher and better things of life with us.

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CLOSING THOUGHT ON "FRIEND'S NIGHT"

"I need the lives of others to make my life complete,
I need the smiles of yours to light my humble street,
And all the joys I treasure would cold and sordid be,
Unless some others waited to share the victory.

Fame were an empty glory without my friends to praise,
From them must come the splendor that crowns my toil of days.
I'm not too great nor humble, but what at night I find
That with the lives of many my life is intertwined."

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I've had a lovely evening with you
Whose memories will never fade
And happy thoughts will abide with me
Because of you, the friends I've made.