

- Honoring The Flag -

To be given under Good of the Order

Have your large flag in the West to be presented by the Marshal as usual at altar. Sing one verse of Star Spangled Banner. Take flag to the East and salute it. (Same way we always present flag) Have white candles in holders at Ruth's and Martha's stations and small flags at the stations of Adah, Esther, and Electa. Place a flower frog upon the altar directly east of the open bible for Adah, Esther, and Electa to place their flags in after they each say a short verse (Verses for them in latter part of this program)

When the above is ready, Worthy Matron speaks, Sister Marshal, you may present the flag. (She does this just the way we do it in opening the chapter) As she goes to her station, the organist plays some suitable military march. Stars and Stripes Forever is a good march.

The one giving the tribute to the flag goes to the flag and gives the following tribute.

Flag Tribute:

Lift it high our glorious banner.  
Let it wave upon the breeze,  
Freedom's starry emblem ever  
Lift it high over land and sea  
Many a battle it has witnessed  
Many a story it could tell  
Of the brave who fought around it  
Of the brave who 'neath it fell.

Songs of joy or victories won  
Scenes of rest and peaceful nation  
Freedom now for everyone  
Then lift it high our glorious banner  
May it wave 'till time shall cease  
And its record for the future  
Be of happiness and peace

Then the following short history of the flag is read by some GOOD reader.  
Our Flag:

Our flag was first authorized by Congress on June 14, 1777.

This date is now observed as flag day throughout America.

Our flag symbolizes national independence and popular sovereignty.

It is not the flag of a reigning family or royal house but of a hundred eighty million free people welded into a nation, one and inseparable, united not only by community of interest, but by vital unity of sentiment and purpose; a Nation distinguished for clear individual conception of its citizens alike in their duties and their privileges, their obligations, and their rights.

It incarnates for all mankind the spirit of liberty and the glorious ideal of human freedom; not only freedom of unrestraint or liberty or pursuit of happiness and of justice and attainable by obedience to self-imposed laws.

It embodies the essence of patriotism. Its spirit is the spirit of the American nation. Its history is the history of American people. Emblazoned upon its folds in letters of living light are names and



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fame of heroic dead, the Fathers of the Republic who devoted upon its alters their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

The flag first rose over thirteen states on the Atlantic seaboard, with a population of some thirteen million people, Today it flies over 50 states, extending across the continent, and over great islands of the two oceans; and one hundred and eighty million owe it allegiance.

It has been brought to this proud position by love and sacrifice. Citizens have advanced it and heroes have died for it. It is the sign made visible of the strong spirit that has brought liberty and prosperity to the people of America. It is the flag of all of us alike. Let us accord it honor and loyalty.

Since we are an Order dedicated to Charity, Truth, and loving kindness, we can and we should be a strong factor in creating a world of loving kindness, and good will, thereby helping to dispel all war-making emotions.

After history of flag has been read, Worthy Matron calls up Chapter and all members sing America. Seat Chapter members.

Matron speaks again: Sister Star Points, we await your messages.

Adah and Electa march down to Esther's station, then the three, with their flags, approach the altar together. Electa - Esther-Adah (three abreast) Adah speaks first and places her flag in the frog - then Esther - then Electa.

Adah says: Fidelity (which is taught by Adah, fair daughter) is represented by blue, a color also found as the bright background for the stars in our flag. I pray that each of us when we see its true glow will remember the lesson taught by the daughter divine - and renew our pledges for faithfulness.

Esther's part: White, found in the stars and stripes, suggests purity as taught by Queen Esther. May I wish that it - in our hearts, in our flag, and in our Order, will keep us all from harm's way.

Electa's part: Red is a fervent color, and may we, as we see its gay hue, remember the love as taught by Electa. With burning trust and riteous desire for Good - let us always zealously defend our Order and Flag.

Worthy Matron speaks: Let us unite in prayer - Call up Chapter. As Chaplain goes to altar, Ruth and Martha rise and each places a candle upon the altar. Ruth puts her candle on south side of altar and Martha places her candle on north side of altar and they bow heads while chaplain gives the prayer. Then the chaplain, Ruth, and Martha, go to stations. Organist plays 'Sweet Hour of Prayer' while they march to their stations.

Chaplain's prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven, our hearts rise to Thee in Thanksgiving and gratitude to our country. We are so grateful to be its citizens and to have the privilege of loving and serving Thee in our own way. We thank Thee for the freedom we possess. May we ever use it to Thy honor and glory. Bless our country and those who are trying to advance the cause of right of liberty through the world. Amen.

Organist plays a march for Martha and Ruth to march to stations. Worthy Matron calls up chapter and all sing 'God Bless America'.