

O. E. S. GRAND
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MEMORIAL AND DEDICATION CEREMONY

27A
7.35

W. M. At this time we shall present a short memorial service to pay tribute to our associates who have passed into the glory of understanding of the Eternal. No longer may we consult with them about our temporal affairs and problems. They have gone from us and from the petty trials of life. We know they shall not return but that we shall go to them. Happy in this glorious belief we perform this ceremony, not in sorrow but in loving remembrance of our association with those who have gone on before to welcome us to our Eternal Home.

The message of our Star is conveyed by our five star points with their five exquisite colors -- blue, white, green, yellow and red. Star points rise.

ADAH: | Adah was not afraid to die. Her blue ray holds the promise of spiritual strength with which to be faithful to all moral obligations. (Lights her blue candle on altar)

RUTH: Ruth, a young widow, knew sorrow. Her glorious golden glow holds the promise of needed strength for faithful obedience to the demand of honor and justice. (Lights yellow candle)

ESTHER: Queen Esther, the wife in our Order, faced death face to face to save her dear people from death and disgrace. Her pure white ray reminds us of the virtue of fidelity to kindred and friends. (Lights the white candle)

MARTHA: If Martha were here she would still say "Lord, if Thou had been here they need not have gone away". Her ray of green promises to dispel our fears thru faith in immortality. (Lights the green candle)

ELECTA: | At Electa's red point, we are taught we should love and despair not for truth, but to lift eyes above until we see that He who, for Himself, overcame all of evil's vain boast as to power or fame, is most certainly able to care for His own, to take them and keep them ever safe in His home. (Lights the red candle)

SEC"Y: Not broken ties, but just a veil between
Our earthly vision and that world unseen;
A little time to wait while loved ones there
Keep tender watch until we, too, may share
The perfect peace of God, the perfect love
That's known to those who dwell with Him above.

MUSIC: Short vocal selection, Song of choice.

W. M.: Sisters and Brothers it is an unusual privilege we have this evening to dedicate our new Altar Cloth (or whatever you may have to dedicate) given in memory of one of our recent departed (Sister or Brother). Our chain of fraternal friendship lingers on in memory. Our Sister (or Brother) and (continue with a short resume of her or his work in the Star).

MUSIC: Another short selection (vocally) suited for this, or these words to the tune to "Beautiful Garden of Prayer"

continued

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In our Chapter room beauty is growing,
For our love is a blossom so fair;
And tonight we add more, for the Star we adore,
And we dedicate each with a prayer
With fidelity fair, and with Constancy rare,
and with Courage befitting a queen
With a Faith o'er despair, and a love all can share
All combine in a service serene.

Marshal rises, takes Altar Cloth to Altar as Chaplain enters labyrinth. Chaplain removes Bible, Marshal adjusts Altar Cloth, Chaplain returns open Bible to Altar and kneels, as Marshal stands by Ruth's chair.

CHAPLAIN: We dedicate so solemnly
This Altar cloth to Thee
That in our work of hand and heart,
We heed Thy just decree.
Obedient here before Thy throne,
I kneel tonight in prayer,
To Thee the beauty and the pledge,
That we Thy love may share.

MUSIC: Soft music while Chaplain and Marshal return to stations.

All: Sing the following words to tune "Take Time to Be Holy"

This our dedication
Our pledges convey;
Accept it as homage,
And bless it, we pray.
We offer our promise
While looking above;
Accepting Thy blessings,
The gift of Thy love.

W. M.: Have someone make motion of acceptance.