Through Pearly Gates

Memorial Service

Written by
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Diagrams by
MILDRED GARDNER

NOTE:—Unless presented at an open meeting, it is better to have this ceremony precede the formal opening of the chapter when the bible has not been opened and can therefore be removed from the altar. Following the ceremony the Conductresses may remove the floral star to a stand or pedestal provided for the purpose in The East in front of the Worthy Patron’s station and replace the bible. Or this may be done by two of the lay members while the officers are retired.

If preferred the memorial may follow the regular work.

SCENE:—Chapter Room.

SETTING:—Chairs and pedestals removed from the floor, altar draped with white, Star frame on center of altar.

NOTE:—The star may be a wire one as supplied and used by florists or a wood form painted white and studded around points with small gilt upholstering nails to hold flowers in place, or other convenient device.

OTHER PROPERTIES:—Flowers of blue, yellow, white, red, and fronds of green wired in shape of points to fit points of star, and pink ones for center.

Six sprays of smilax with pink roses or carnations entwined for draping sides of altar.

Wreath of green size to encircle points of star.

COSTUMES:—White dresses or robes

CHARACTERS:—Worthy Matron, Associate Matron, Star Point officers, Conductresses, Secretary, Treasurer, Warden, Marshal and Chaplain.

PROCEDURE

Each Star Point officer carries flowers suited to the color of her point wired in shape of point to fit frame on altar.

Conductresses, Secretary, Treasurer, Marshal and Warden each carry long spray of smilax with pink rose or carnation entwined for draping altar.

Associate Matron carries bunch of pink flowers to fit Star center.

Worthy Matron carries wreath of green size to encircle points of Star.
The Worthy Patron will summon attention with a single blow of the gavel and announce that the officers will at this time pay tribute to the memory of those of our sisters and brothers who during the past year have been called to their reward.

Soft music precedes the entrance of the officers from the Sentinel's and Preparation rooms and continues during the Chaplain's march to the East. The Chaplain enters first, advancing as per Diagram I, to the East, faces west and stands.

This is the cue for the other officers to enter. (See Diagram I.)

Also it is the cue for the Organist to play "The Vacant Chair," page 42 Star Gleams, (not sung) and the officers march in to this accompaniment, following diagonal lines as shown in Diagram I, advancing to within a few
paces of the altar, then without pause fall into formation shown with instructions Diagram II,

Officers step forward into solid triangle formation, (FIG. II) the Associate Matron and Associate Conductress separating to allow the Warder to step between them, the Worthy Matron and Conductress doing likewise to admit the Marshal to the line. This forms the base line of six.

Electa, Martha, Ruth and Adah fall in back of these, forming second line.

Secretary and Treasurer on third line, Esther forming the apex of the triangle.

Separate the lines enough to make the triangle perfect.

Stand in this formation while soloist or voices sing the Memorial Hymn "For there shall be no more night." (Page 71 Star Gleams.)
As the song is finished the triangle around the altar is formed. (Fig. III.) The Worthy Matron and Associate Matron taking the lead, the others following as shown.

The Conductress and Associate step forward and place long sprays of smilax with pink roses or carnations entwined, draping each the corner of the altar nearest her, the first saying:

"In loving remembrance of our departed sisters and brothers." (as the occasion may be.) The Associate will name one of the deceased.

As they return to position the Secretary and Treasurer will step forward placing sprays at the opposite corners each mentioning a name.

Last the Marshal and Warder perform a like office each naming one.

N. B. This takes care of six names. It will always be necessary to make adaptations to suit the needs of the occasion as for instance: if there are more than six to be commemorated let one or more officers take two names each. If only one or two it were better to let the Conductress say:

"In loving memory of Sisters — — — — and — — — etc, the others placing their sprays without speaking.

The Star Points in their order now place their flowers at the several points of the star giving as they do so the lyrics supplied for the purpose.

Next the Associate Matron places the pink center, and last the Worthy Matron places the wreath over all, each with appropriate lyrics supplied.
When the Worthy Matron has returned to position *soloist or voices* sing: "Behold, behold, the pearly gates swing wide, etc."

**See Music Diagram**

On the first "Behold" the Chaplain in The East will raise her right hand with an arresting gesture.

At the second "behold" she will lower her arm, extending it straight from the shoulder and bring her left palm to meet her right, then as "the pearly gates swing wide" slowly swing her arms outward with a sweeping movement in keeping with the words and movement.

**Fig. IV**

The first "Behold" is also the signal for the gates to commence opening, which is done in this manner.

The six officers comprising the line in front of the altar led by the Worthy Matron and Associate, separate and swing outward (backing) until in line with Electa and others on the north and with Adah and others on the south, forming a perfect triangle and simulating the opening of the gates.

At the conclusion of the strain the Chaplain advances to the altar, gives prayer and returns to former position in East.

Officers now retire as per dotted lines (Fig. IV'), Esther following the Treasurer and Chaplain falling in behind Secretary.

While Officers march out soloist or voices sing "Oh, Morning Land."
N. B. Octavo copies of "Oh, Morning Land" to be used as solo, duet or quartette. Soprano and tenor and Mixed Voices.

Through Pearly Gates,

MEMORIAL SERVICE

CARRIE BAXTER JENNINGS

marcato

Be- hold! be- hold! The pearly gates swing wide! The

pearly gates of par- a- dise,

No more the gloom ob- scures the heav'n-ly ray

forza, molto rit. con express.

For God shall wipe a-way All tears from their eyes. A - men.
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Lyrics

ADAH—
Faithful in life they were, and true,
And now their sun of life has set,
Fidelity bestows her tithe of blue
To say "We'll not forget, no, not forget."

RUTH—
Constant they were to every plighted vow,
And though we spend no hours in vain regret,
We will be constant too, and reverent bow.
The flowers of gold say: "We will not forget."

ESTHER—
The pure in heart have passed to their reward;
They know not summer rain nor winter snows;
Still will we hold them in our fond regard;
Blossoms of white hallow their soft repose.

MARTHA—
What once they held by faith
They now have seen
This bit of fern
Shall keen their memory green.

ELECTA—
In life we loved them well
And now for us they wait
Where Love and Truth e'er dwell
Beyond the sunset gate.

ASSOCIATE MATRON—
These living blossoms fair and sweet
Symbol the heart of our bright Star;
Kept warm for these till we shall meet
When we too shall have "Crossed the Bar."

WORTHY MATRON—
This circling wreath of living green
Symbols a yet unbroken band,
For though from out our ken they passed
Across the mystic border land,
They still are ours and only wait
To open for us the pearly gate.
Our Father:-

We thank Thee for Thy blest assurance that beyond the Pearly Gates Thy beloved shall find rest.

Grant that this service shall further inspire us to so live that we may all be reunited in the beautiful "Morning Land."

—Amen