

The Lord's Prayer

Choir sings last two verses of "Beyond the Sunset." District Deputies come ~~from rear to form~~ a triangle in East.

Worthy Grand Patron: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path," says the Psalmist. May we let the light of the Lord's Prayer shine into our hearts today, that we may truly learn to pray.

(First District Deputy walks alone to light her candle, others follow in twos) as Worthy Grand Matron reads each part of Lord's Prayer.)

Worthy Grand Matron: "OUR FATHER" — The first words of the Lord's Prayer tells us this is a universal prayer. God is the Father of ALL races and ALL nations — not MY Father, but OUR Father. (Two D. D. advance and light the blue candle)

Worthy Grand Matron: "WHO ART IN HEAVEN" — The blue candle reminds us of the blue skies. God is above the blue, but His love and Holy Spirit surround us everywhere — guarding, protecting and keeping watch over His own.

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light the green candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "HALLOWED BE THY NAME" — Green is the most enduring of colors. The cedars and the pine are green throughout the year. So is the name of God everlasting. As long as the earth shall stand, His name will be spoken. That there may be a closer bond between Him and us — His children — He asks us to revere His name.

(Next two D. D.'s advance to light the purple candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "THY KINGDOM COME" — Purple is the royal color. We worship our Heavenly Father and pray that we may do our part in making His great and wonderful Kingdom come — to our hearts, our homes, our communities and our nation and the entire world.

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light the brown candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH" — Brown represents the earth. In the springtime, through His will, it blossoms forth in the beauty of trees and grass and flowers. So can this world become a place of harmony, of love and good will among men, only as His will is done in our hearts. Then only can we truly pray, "Thy will be done as it is in Heaven."

(Next two D. D.'s advance to light the yellow candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD" — Yellow is the color of the yellow grain from which our bread is made. This is a prayer for those physical foods needed to sustain our bodies — the present Home of the soul. Not only do we pray for nourishment for our bodies, but also we ask for the "Bread of Life," the spiritual food we all must have. Let us pray, "By Thy hand we all are fed. Give us, Lord, our daily bread."

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light the silver candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS" — Silver is the color with which we pay our debts. This is one of the hardest parts of this prayer for most of us. How often we need to say, "Forgive me for my lack of faith; forgive me that I did not trust Thee; forgive me that I worried instead of praying." May we put aside the wrongs done to us and then sincerely pray — "Forgive me - as I forgive."

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light the red candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION"— Red stands for sin — the results of temptation to which we have yielded. If we resist temptation, we are stronger and more useful. If God leads us we can be victorious.

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light the black candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL" — The black candles represent the dark and evil deeds from which we pray to be delivered. Wrong thoughts are seeds from which evil grows. Good thoughts bear good fruits in our lives. So let us think on those things that are pure - lovely - gracious - and worthy of praise.

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light white candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: "FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER" — White represents the Great white throne — the seat of God's power when all other kingdoms have failed, this one will remain. Can we give our full allegiance to the Eternal Kingdom?

(Next two D. D.'s advance and light the orange candles)

Worthy Grand Matron: Orange is the most dominant color of a beautiful sunset, and the most glorious of all sunsets is but a faint reflection of the glory of God, our Father. These things are His handiwork. This last phrase is like a great doxology sung at the close of the prayer — like a great organ sounding a grand AMEN.

Worthy Grand Patron: No prayer is so full of divine radiance as the Lord's Prayer. It can be said in less than a minute and yet it contains within itself every petition that we can ask of our Lord. The Lord's Prayer is like the chimes of a great cathedral calling the world to prayer. Let us heed that call.

SOLO: THE LORD'S PRAYER, Malotte, sung by Eileen Neste (20).

(All D. D.'s remain in position until end of solo).

The Grand Conductress attended at the Altar.

The Grand Marshal proclaimed the Grand Chapter of Eastern Star called from Labor to Refreshment, to reconvene at 7:15 P. M.