

VENUS Chapter #14 Minor  
APRIL 7-1981

#24  
File #35

O. E. S. GRAND  
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Worthy Matron:

We pause in our deliberations to pay tribute to those who have recently reached the sunset of their lives, and have gone to join that great Order above. Our hearts go out to those who mourn, but we must not weep for we have come to commemorate the virtues exemplified in the lives of our loved ones while they were here with us on earth. Life is but a day with it's morning, noon, and eventide. In the morning we see the glory of the sun and go forth to meet the new born day. At noontide, we pause to rest a few moments in the shadows, and at evening we stand to watch the deepening shadows gather. The sun sinks in the west with the promise that another day will dawn. We know by faith that after the sunset comes the joy of another sunrise in the land which is eternal.

They have passed beyond the sunset  
To dwell forevermore;  
They are resting in the glory  
Of that bright and golden shore;  
Sometime, somewhere we shall meet them  
When our task on earth is done,  
Then we'll know beyond the sunset  
There's another rising sun.

"Abide With Me"

~~Another song may be used if desired~~. (Another song may be used if desired)

*Matron*

Associate Conductress approaches Altar with lighted candle. Placing it upon the Altar, she steps back a few steps and speaks:

By light of this little candle  
We see the sunset hour,  
The beauty of evening twilight  
Shines on each garden flower;  
We fancy that through the gateway  
We see the golden street,  
We hear the beautiful music  
So very soft and sweet;  
And through the evening shadows  
That country far away  
Seems to be so much nearer  
When comes the close of day;  
And in that lovely vision  
We see the gates ajar,  
And catch a glimpse of Heaven,  
That lovely home afar.

Conductress and Associate Conductress approach Altar and each place a lighted candle upon the Altar and step back to stations.

Each Star Point in turn approaches the Altar, says her verse, and places her flower.

Adah - "I am the Resurrection and the Life," saith the Lord, "He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."

Ruth - "Though I walk through the valley and the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for Thou art with me."

Esther - For I know that if my earthly house of this tabernacle be dissolved, I have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

Martha - "Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Electa - "In the day when I cried thou answeredst me and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul."



*Calling Chap*  
Chaplain kneels at Altar for prayer.

Prayer:

Our Father who art in Heaven, as our thoughts turn to our departed members, give us the courage and strength to continue with unfaltering efforts to do the work which is left for our hands to do. We thank Thee for the lives of our departed members and in honor of their memory may we consecrate ourselves anew to Thy service. Comfort those who mourn, and give them faith to believe that there is no death, for after the sunset comes the dawn of a new day with life everlasting.  
Amen.

During soft music or the singing of an appropriate song, Associate Matron takes flowers from the Altar and approaching the East places them in urn or basket at foot of dais. While soft music continues, officers return to stations.

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