

### ANNIVERSARY CANDLE CEREMONY

In preparation for this Candle Ceremony there should be white candles, five candles of emblematic color, and gold candles for each Charter and Fifty Year Member, all together numbering as many years as Chapter is celebrating.

Each Star Point has candle the color of her point; all other officers white candles; the gold candles placed in candle holder on Worthy Matron's pedestal. There may be two seven candle candelabra in East, on each side of Worthy Matron; also a group of white candles on Associate Matron's pedestal in the West.

Each Chapter needs to arrange candles in manner that seems best for their individual needs.

The officers all hold candles, need not have candle holders. After transaction of Chapter business, the Worthy Matron announces:

W.M. We will now have a Candle Ceremony in recognition of the Fiftieth (or Twenty-fifth) anniversary of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_.

Anniversaries are always interesting; each one has a lasting interest to each of us who participate in their celebration.



Achievement of any kind is a crown of effort, and to the sisters and brothers of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_, there is much of joy and satisfaction as we recall our yesterdays in EasternStar.

During the fifty years of our existence we have grown greatly in numbers, have built homes for the aged and dependent, and have cared for the orphans of Masons and Eastern Stars.

We have conscientiously endeavored at all times to radiate the true spirit of sisterly and brotherly love and freely extend a friendly hospitality to each and everyone who came our way.

We feel a just pride in our every achievement and are happy in the realization that in the sight of Him whose Star we follow:

"We have lived in deeds, not years,  
In feelings, not in figures on the dial."

Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, you may now present our Charter and Fifty Year Members.

(Present West of Esther's Station.)

W. M. Dear sisters and brothers, we are honored in having you as our special guests this evening.

Fifty years ago you were among the other like-minded sisters and brothers who brought your gifts of God-given talents for service to our sacred Altar, and there were cemented with a common bond of Fraternal love into a Chapter family that has prospered and grown with the years.

We welcome you and are proud that you are with us on this special occasion.



W.P. To you, as pioneers in Eastern Star, we extend a hearty welcome and rejoice that it is our privilege to have you with us this evening. May you find joy and satisfaction in the expressions of appreciation as manifest in the fraternal love of the members of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_.

Charter members are seated near East, to the right of the Worthy Matron. Solo or quartet; suggest "Auld Lang Syne" or "Old Refrain". At this time someone selected presents fifty year pins, if prescribed by Grand Chapter.

W.M. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, you may present our Past Matrons and Past Patrons.

W.M. I deem it both a pleasure and a privilege to extend to you in behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_ a most hearty welcome. To welcome you to our Chapter is like welcoming the architects and builders to a structure on which they have labored hard and long in their efforts to bring it to as near perfection as possible.

You have each one given of your personality, your talents and your time and love; each one of you has left the imprint not only of your labor but of yourself upon the structure of our Chapter. We, who have succeeded you, have taken up the work where you left off and have endeavored to carry it on in an acceptable manner. Tonight we want to thank and honor you for your untiring years of faithful service.

"We don't forget in days gone by  
'Twas you who set the pace,



And that your splendid efforts  
Caused you to win the race.  
And while we know 'tis for the best  
That old give place to new -  
Tho' your official years are past  
We sincerely welcome you."

W.P. Sisters and Brothers, our Past Matrons and Past Patrons, our Worthy Matron has extended to you our warm welcome; I, too, am proud and happy to add my word of greeting. Our Chapter needs and feels the inspiration of your presence now, as we always have in the past. May the bond of fraternal love grow stronger with the years.

Past Matrons and Past Patrons seated near East, to the left of Worthy Patron. Song while seating Past Matrons and Past Patrons, suggest "Let Us Call You Sweetheart". W.M. requests the Secretary to give History of Chapter (previously written).

After history, six Past Matrons, previously selected, march to position West of Esther's station, leaving a space between group of three and three.

Two candle lighters, previously selected and seated in southwest and northwest of room, light their candles, march toward six Past Matrons in line. This is a signal for all officers to rise, hold unlighted candle, previously placed at their stations. Candle lighters light candles of six Past Matrons, beginning at south and north end of line, meet and pass thru space between group of three and three, march to west, light candles of Associate Matron and Associate Patron, then north and south toward East, lighting the candles of all officers in their respective sides of Chapter room, finishing with Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. Candle lighters stand in northeast and southeast corner of room. The Past Matrons



who have remained west of Esther now march three on south and three on north, taking position beside Star Points; the first Past Matron on north pauses beside Associate Conductress, remains in this place until later she acts as Chaplain, giving the prayer at the Altar.

At this time someone selected, a Past Matron or a Past Grand Officer, who has been stationed in the East, steps to position to light the Gold Candles on Worthy Matron's pedestal, using Worthy Matron's lighted candle and gives the following speech:

Sisters (names sisters and brothers) and brothers, we greet you and honor you tonight as pioneers, who fifty years ago, with unfaltering faith in the future of our Order, pledged your allegiance to its teachings and henceforth were known as "Followers of His Star in the East".

You were among the early candleholders for the lights of the future, carrying on the benificent purposes to which our Order is dedicated. Tonight you are the living representatives of this loyal group of fifty years ago, who have been known all down through the years as \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_. We rejoice with you in the growth and accomplishments of our fraternal family. You have just reason to be proud of your many years of loyal service. Honoring our Charter and Fifty Year Members, I light these Candles of Remembrance.

"May all that is noblest and best in life  
Be your portion to share;  
May God's blessing attend you,  
Is ever our wish and prayer."



Star Point's candles are now lighted by the Past Matron who stands beside each Point. Past Matrons give the following speech and then light candles.

TO ADAH "We learn from the lesson of Adah  
To be faithful and never to break  
The vow we assumed at our Altar,  
Keep sacred the pledges we make."

Honoring the "Adahs" who have served \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, I light this Blue Candle of Remembrance.

TO RUTH "From the beautiful story of Ruth  
We learn to be constant and true,  
Nor stray from the path of duty,  
But steadfast our work to pursue."

Honoring the "Ruths" who have served \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, I light this Yellow Candle of Remembrance.

TO ESTHER

"Loyalty we learn from Queen Esther  
Is a virtue that's treasured of old,  
Much dearer than all royal splendor  
More valued than silver and gold."

Honoring the "Esthers" who have served \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, I light this White Candle of Remembrance.

TO MARTHA "We learn from the lesson of Martha  
That Faith is our only safe guide  
On our journey to that eternal home  
Where in glory we hope to abide."

Honoring the "Marthas" who have served \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, I light this Green Candle of Remembrance.



TO ELECTA "From Electa we learn to be generous  
And kind to the poor and oppressed,  
To love and to cherish each other,  
Bring cheer to the sick and distressed."

Honoring the "Electas" who have served \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, I light this Red Candle of Remembrance.

The Candle Lighters now light candelabras in southeast and northeast while Associate Patron gives the following speech:

A. P. Honoring the Past Matrons and Past Patrons of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, we light these Candles of Remembrance.

Candle Lighters pause in southwest and northwest corners of room. Now that all the candles are lighted, the Worthy Patron gives the following:

W.P. As we observe the glow from these fifty symbolic candles of remembrance, our thoughts turn to the quotation: "How far that little candle throws its beam, so shines a good deed in a naughty world." These well known words of Shakespeare live on in our busy work-a-day world of today.

It is through history that you and I can look back and trace beams of light almost to the very beginning when God said: "Let there be light and there was Light." We can see the bright light flashing in the Valley of the Nile, kindled thousands of years ago. And from the hills of Judea we can see the glory of the Light of the World as it reveals itself to humanity with its message of "Peace on Earth, Good will to Men." The Heroines of our Order, following the Light Divine, have each one been inspired to noble deeds.



Tonight we, as followers of "His Star", are entrusted with the privilege of lighting the way for others, as we enter into a new decade of Chapter life. May our lessons of truth be as a beacon light ever guiding and inspiring us as we earnestly strive to follow His Light Divine.

Soloist or quartette sings "Follow the Gleam".  
As the beginning of the chorus of the song the Past Matron acting as Chaplain, carrying her lighted candle, slowly approaches the Altar, kneels and gives the following prayer:

CHAPLAIN Almighty and all gracious Father, we thank thee for the joy of fellowship that comes from mutual striving in worthy endeavor. We thank Thee for ideals that guided those who have come before us, that inspired them to institute the organization of Eastern Star. Help us to be truly grateful for their contribution to man's well being, and duly aware of our responsibilities as we strive to carry on what they have begun.

We thank Thee for these co-workers who have so generously fulfilled their duties in years past and ask for them that happiness of heart which comes from consciousness of work well done. We pray Thee for those of us who, in coming years, shall follow in their footsteps, that forgetting self we may work always for Him whose Star we are striving to follow. Grant Thy benediction and blessing upon all who served and all who are to serve, through Christ Jesus, Our Lord.

When all officers are in their stations, candles snuffed out, Past Matrons at Star Points march to their former places. Candle Lighters are seated. This closes the Ceremony.