

Lesson of the Flowers

Worthy Matron:

The Star Points, and the Emblem Bearers will present The Lesson of the Flowers, so appropriate at this time of the year.

Adah:

This flower that Jesus bids us consider was the Chalcedonian Lily, very common in Palestine, with scarlet flowers, like those that grow wild in our pastures.

1st Emblem Bearer:

In upland meadows bright flowers I see
Like lilies that bloomed in Galilee;
When I see them, shining in gold and red,
I think of the words that Jesus said:

Both in concert:

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Matt. VI:28-29

Ruth;

This flower was not a rose, but the narcissus, like our white flowers of that name. This is the flower of which Solomon speaks when he says "I am the Rose of Sharon."

2nd Emblem Bearer:

In garden-borders, in rows of white,
The dear narcissus is spring's delight;
This lovely blossom in odors sweet,
The promise of old still seems to repeat:

Both in concert:

The desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Isa. XXXV:2

Esther:

This grows in Palestine. The hills of Jerusalem are covered with beautiful pink, white and yellow roses.

3rd Emblem Bearer:

Where lovely roses, in colors fair,
Are budding and blossoming everywhere,
By the brook of the fields in the bright June day,
Their voice to the children shall sweetly say:

Both in concert:

Hearken unto me, ye children, and bud forth as a rose, growing by the brooks of the fields.

Ecclesiasticus XXXIX: 13

Martha:

This is a wakeful tree, because it is the first to awake from winter's sleep, and put on its beautiful garment of rose-colored blossoms.

4th Emblem Bearer:

The flowering almond, we call it now;
Spring's brightest, earliest blooming bough.
The prophet found it a symbol true,
That God would hasten his work to do.

Both in concert:

And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree. Then said the Lord unto me, Thou hast well seen, for I will hasten my word to perform it.

Jer. I:11-12

Electa:

These plants had small fragrant seeds, and were those that we now call by the same name.

5th Emblem Bearer:

In fragrant gardens I love to go,
Where mint and anise and cummin grow;
But Oh! how sad it would be to hear
Such words as these from the Master dear:

Both in concert:

Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin and have omitted the weightier matters of the law--- judgment, mercy and faith.

Associate Conductress:

This was not our common mustard plant. It is a shrub, still found by the Sea of Galilee. The seed is small, but the shrub grows so large that birds can, and do, lodge in the branches.

Chaplain:

Sometimes I stop by the way to heed
The simple bloom of the mustard seed;
And think how, from the simplest things that grow,
Such lessons as this our Teacher drew:

Both in concert:

The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which man took, and sowed in his field: which indeed is the least of all seeds; but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air do come and lodge in the branches thereof.

Matt. XIII: 31-32

Conductress:

When winter goes by, and spring is here,
And over the earth the flowers appear,
While birds are singing and breezes play,
These beautiful words again we say:

Conductress and Marshall in concert:

For Lo! the winter is past; the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth. The time of the singing of
birds is come.

Cant. 11:11-12

Bible Bearer:

When spring and summer have hastened on,
And beautiful buds and blooms are gone,
With fragrant breath, as they pass away,
The autumn blossoms to us shall say:

All in concert:

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the Word of the Lord
endureth for ever!

Isa. XI: 8

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