

THE ALTAR OF MEMORY

Worthy Matron:

Sisters and Brothers, at this time we will dedicate a portion of this meeting to the memory of our departed members, who, in days gone by, have met with us in the holy bonds of fraternity. It is fitting at this time that we bring to the attention of this Chapter the virtues that characterized their lives and made their service to our beloved Chapter a thing to be remembered. Sister Associate Matron.

Associate Matron (with a bow):

Worthy Matron.

Worthy Matron:

Will you and the officers of this Chapter assist me in paying a loving tribute to those whose names have been inscribed in the records of ETERNITY?

Associate Matron:

Worthy Matron, it will be my pleasure and my privilege, as well as my duty, to assist you in laying upon the altar of memory the names of our departed members whose loyalty to our beloved Eastern Star still shines with a lovely radiance even though their faces are no longer seen within our Chapter room. The officers of Bismarck Chapter will assist in this memorial ceremony upon your invitation.

Worthy Matron:

Sisters and Brothers, the altar tonight shall be called the altar of memory. This candle that I light in the East shall be called the CANDLE OF MEMORY. (Lights candle before her.) Brother Marshal, **Marshal (with a bow):**

Worthy Matron.

Worthy Matron:

Will you approach the East. (Gives lighted candle to Marshal.) Accept from me this light of memory which you shall carry to the Sisters of our Star who represent the five distinguished heroines of our Order and, after all their candles are lighted, return the Candle of Memory to the East.

(Marshal accepts candle from W.M. and faces west.)

Marshal:

Sisters and Brothers, as we conduct this memorial service, may we hear the voice of Him whose coming was heralded by the Star of the East, speaking to us in His ever comforting words:

"I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die." And "In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am, there ye may be also." And let the comforting assurance come to us, "That if our earthly house of this tabernacle was dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

(Marshal goes to each Star Point and lights their candle, returns to the East, placing Candle of Memory on the pedestal in the East, still lighted, returns to his station.)

Worthy Matron, my duty has been performed.

(At conclusion of song, all remain in the circle until the Chaplain has returned to her station; then all return to their seats. Conductress, without instruction, extinguishes candles on the altar and W.M. extinguishes candle on the pedestal in the East.)