

Chaplain 1999

Written by Phyllis Ekov

In serving as Chaplain, you are messengers of God. You have learned that prayer is the greatest power and that loving and trusting him will give each of us peace of mind in our own pathways of life. The prayers written years ago by the founder of our order lend dignity and sacred beauty to our opening, our initiatory and closing ceremonies.

Our badge is the open Bible that is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. May we hold the teaching found in our Holy Bible close to our hearts and may the light of God's word guide us in wisdom and in understanding. May the teachings of our order remind us to turn often to the word of God. This wisdom from on high softens the hardness of man's world and lights our path to the journey of life, through which are often called to help others on their way by giving them aide and comfort. The foundation stone of our beautiful Eastern Star is the Bible. We seek to tell God's promises and rewards as we perform the duties of our work. Without the Bible, our lectures would have no meaning, our obligations would have no power. But, given under the light of the word of God, our pledge glows with spiritual radiance that gives strength to go into the world and meet our duties in the spirit of brotherhood. Yes, the word of God is the light of the world.

Song: Here I am Lord.

Narrator: The cross points the way to salvation. It is the truth, the way and the life. A reminder that God loves us so much that he sent his only Son to die for us on the cross so that we may have the peace that passes all understanding. We must hold onto hope, hold onto faith as God promises His love will always be with us if we but ask. Yes, here I am Lord, and we know you will be our light. Put your dearest wih in God's hands today and discuss it with Him when you faithfully pray. Let us pray.

God of all mankind, grant us wisdom as we journey down life's pathway. Lead us into doing that which can best glorify you and serve our fellow man. May all our acts be pleasing to Thee as well as for the advancement of our beautiful order. Let us always remember to work together in love and friendship. These are precious gifts for us to share. Teach us to walk by faith, not by sight and may we be of service to others bringing happiness and love to all mankind. Heavently Father, you are the light of the world. Amen.

Helen Steiner Rice in her poem "Beyond our Asking: writes;

More than hearts can imagine  
Or minds comprehend,  
God's boutiful gifts  
Are ours without end.  
Whatever we ask for  
Falls short of God's giving,

For his greatness exceeds  
Every facet of living.  
Just give Him a chance  
To open his treasures,  
And he'll fill your life  
With the greatest of pleasures.  
For God has a storehouse  
That's filled to the brim  
With all that we need  
If we'll only ask Him.

Song: Let my Heart be Good Soil

Narrator: yes, Lord, let our hearts be good soil with the love and faith of the presence of our Lord, Jesus Christ in our hearts, we will feel peace within.