

1983 Chaplain Tribute

Adapted from program Written by James and Sue Grib

The Badge of the Chaplain's station is the open Holy Bible within the five rays of our star. The Bible is God's gift to mankind. It is the greatest material gift mankind has ever received, or will receive. Within its pages are contained the precious wisdom and secrets of possessing greater living, greater happiness, greater joy and the greatest of all – the promise of eternity. These excel all the riches of gold, power and title. It is the light upon our pathways which will guide us through the labyrinth of human life and upon its teachings our beloved Order of the Eastern Star is founded. Out of the Sacred Pages come the heroines of our Order. Each one brings us a lesson direct from God through which we may gain understandings that serve us well in our earthly travels and make real the hope of a glorious life eternal. They give us the incentive to walk close to that Great Light and to its teachings that our lives may be void of offense toward God and Man. The Bible is a symbol of the very presence of God among us and in placing it on our Altar we renew our faith in and allegiance to God. As such, we place it on our altar tonight and hold it in utmost reverence.

(Place a cross among the altar while the hymn "Beneath the cross" is played.

The cross, the emblem of suffering and shame was gloried by Christ because God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him shall have everlasting life. The promise that the cross holds for us is a stabilizing force and serves as a rock in the storms of life we each must face.

Sing: "Nearer My God to Thee"

Give us dear Lord we pray
Knowledge needed for each day.
Grace we ask and purpose true
Diligence to work things through.
Patience, please, so great our need.
Let kindness mark our every deed
And in all things said and done
Keep us faithful to thy Son.