

1958 Memorial

We walk life's pathway together
With those who for many a day
Have been our close friends and leaders
Along the upward way.
Then comes the clear call to service
In a higher and better sphere
And we miss those faithful comrades
Whose friendship we held so dear;
And yet we feel their sweet presence
As we travel along the road
Which some day will bring us to them
In the Paradise of God.

Once again it is time to pause a few moments as we pay tribute to our Sisters and Brothers who have gone on before us to that beautiful home over there.

We pay tribute to: (name and information)

Earth's long and weary night has passed away
All their pain and earthly cares have been forgotten
In that land of quiet joy and endless day.

From our chain this link has fallen
In our land her/his Star has set
But enshrined in memory's tablet
Her/his true worth we'll ne'er forget

Somewhere the record is written
Of her/his work in our beautiful Star
Somewhere the reward will be given
And the crown of service she'll/he'll wear.

The chapter extends sincere sympathy to the families of (name).

In the words of Helen Keller: "There's always tomorrow, with its promise of better things. Let us think then of death as one more tomorrow filled with infinite promise and fulfillment."

1958 program:

I pass this way but once
And then the Silent Door
Swings on its hinges
Opens – closes –

And no more
I pass this way
For no man travels twice the great Highway
That climbs through the darkness
Up to the light

Solo: Lead kindly light

No one hears the doors open
When they pass beyond our call;
Soft as the dropping petals of a rose
One by one our loved ones fall.
But the memory of each loved one
Like the fragrance of the rose
God sends to linger with us
Till our own life's door shall close.

Let us have faith that our Heavenly Father is aware of our deep abiding belief and that we too who believe shall never perish but have everlasting life.

At this hour we pause and pay loving tribute to the memory of those who have passed into the life of complete understanding. Our hearts are grateful for our many blessings, believing that God doeth all things well. We thank Him for every link in our golden chain, and if He in His great wisdom has seen fit to sever one by one these links in death, we know the parting is temporary and the meeting eternal, always remembering Jesus saith, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in Me, tho he were dead, yet shall he live."

Life is only the prelude to Eternity and we all move toward that Higher Chapter above, we pause in loving remembrance of our Sisters and Brothers who have gone before us to dwell in the House of the Lord forever. Reverently we pay tribute of love and respect to those from our own golden chain who have followed the Silent Messenger to that Land Beyond Recall: (names). To those who have entered the Great Chapter above, we pay love's deepest tribute.

Prayer: Our Father, as we come into Thy presence today, with hearts saddened by the loss of loved ones, may we feel the Everlasting Arms upholding us by Thy grace, and Thy love sustaining us. We give Thee thanks for the devotion, the courage and fidelity to duty of our dear and faithful dead. We thank Thee for the friendship and love of those who have passed beyond. We know Lord, that at the last, all the lost chords of earth will be found in heaven. All the broken melodies of our lives will be blended in the harmony and beauty of Thy Glory.

By this hope we live. Wilt Thou look upon us in Benediction and Blessing, so that at last, we too may find ourselves in that Celestial Order above. Amen.

Near a broken column an ivy once grew,
Budded and twined in God's free light,
Watered and fed by morning dew
Shedding its greenness day and night.

As it grew and matured fair and tall
Slowly rising to loftier height
It came to a crevice in a wall.
Through which there shown a beam of light.

Onward it crept with added strength,
With never a thought of fear or pride;
It followed the light through the crevice length
And unfolded itself on the other side.

The light, the dew, the broadening view,
Were found the same as before
And it lost itself in beauties new
Breathing its fairness more and more.

Shall claim of death cause us to grieve
And make our courage faint or fall?
Nay, let us faith and hope receive;
As the Green Ivy Twines Beyond the Wall.

Scattering beauty far and wide,
Just as it did in days of yore
Just as it did on the other side
Just as it will forevermore.

Solo: No Night There