

## 1951 Grand chapter memorial service

We dedicate this meditation to the memory of all those  
Who walked with us for a time on the journey of life  
And around the same altar learned the lessons of our order  
With love and reverence we pay special tribute to the memory of:

Xxxxx

They have reached that restful haven  
That house not made with hands  
Where they bask in that matchless contentment  
Found only "in my father's house" and lands.

Not deep beneath the grasses  
Nor close walled within the tomb  
Rather in our father's mansion  
Living in another room.

Shall we doubt our Father's mercy  
Shall we think of death as doom  
Or the stepping o'er the threshold  
To a bigger, brighter home?

Shall we blame our Father's wisdom?  
Shall we sit enswathed in gloom?  
When we know our loved ones are happy  
Waiting in another room?

As a ceremony, an officer can place a white rose on the altar and say: "This white rose, spotless and pure, is an emblem of the light that dispels darkness – the promise of Life Eternal. It should remind us of the blessed assurance that comes to us as He says, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Light".

Place a circle on the altar and say: The flawless circle – in its completeness and beauty is the realization of supreme perfection. It is the symbol of eternity itself having no beginning and no end.

Let us Pray: Most Merciful God who notes even a sparrow's fall, give us grace to cheerfully commit ourselves to Thy providence. Teach us to remember that more light than darkness falleth from above for Thy daily gifts outweigh the heaviest loss. Strengthen us to so live that when the earthly house of this tabernacle is dissolved each of us may be worthy to dwell and to serve in a bigger, brighter room in My Father's house.  
Amen