

# Flag Ceremony

*(Mother Advisor, Drill Leader and-Musician enter in regular manner. All other officers follow, forming 2 double lines in the West, facing East.)*

**MOTHER ADVISOR:** Sister Drill Leader, you will carry our flag to its place in the assembly room, after which the officers will assume their respective stations.

*(Drill Leader retires to SW door and picks up flag. The double line of officers face each other, with hands over hearts, as flag is carried through the double aisle to the station of Patriotism. As soon as deposited, Drill Leader returns to front of first line of officers (South), and officers take their respective stations – first line (D.L.) up south side, second line (Faith) up north side.)*

**WA:** There are many flags in many lands,  
There are flags of every hue,  
But there is no flag in any land,  
Like our own red, white and blue.  
It is fitting that we pay tribute to this most glorious of flags -- our own "Stars and Stripes". Sister Drill Leader, you will present our flag at the Altar.

*(Drill Leader carries flag to Altar entering from south.)*

**WA:** This beautiful flag is a symbol of American liberty, civilization and enlightenment -- signifying freedom and justice for all. Please join with me in giving the Pledge of Allegiance and in singing the "Star Spangled Banner." *(Raps up assembly.)*

*(At conclusion of Star Spangled Banner, W.A. seats assembly and D.L. places flag in stand at Altar and retires from south to her station. Flag is at center of Altar, about 6' west of it.)*

**WA:** Sisters of the Bow, do you have a tribute to our country's flag?

*(Love approaches Altar, stands a bit south and west of flag to give tribute. As does Religion and Nature. Other four stations stand on north side in corresponding position. After giving tribute each girl places a flower on Altar, between Bible and flag, in order at colors and in the shape of a bow.)*

**LOVE:** Flag of my country! I pledge allegiance from the first ray in the bow. My color is red, the symbol of love --- love of God, love of country, love of our fellowman. As my tribute to you, I deposit on the Altar of Rainbow this floral offering -- the red of love. (*Deposits flower.*)

**RELIGION:** Flag of my country, I pledge allegiance from the second station in the bow. My color is orange, a symbol of Religion. Wherever your colors proudly wave, people of all nations see in your folds freedom of religion and the freedom to worship as one pleases. As my tribute to you I deposit this orange flower, emblem of religious freedom.

**NATURE:** Flag of my country, I pledge allegiance from the third station. This color is yellow, symbolic of Nature~ in all her glory. In your folds we see reflected the grandeur of God's great outdoors. As my tribute to you I deposit this yellow flower, a symbol of "America, the Beautiful."

**IMMORTALITY:** Flag of my country, I pledge allegiance from the fourth ray of the bow. My color is green. It was the Master of Life who said, "He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." As my tribute, I deposit this green fern, symbol of Immortality, with the prayer that the country it represents will be eternal and everlasting.

**FIDELITY:** Flag of my country, I pledge allegiance from the blue ray of Fidelity which symbolizes loyalty. We pledge ourselves to our country's lofty and unselfish ideals, its government. and its institutions. I deposit this blue flower, and with it pledge my loyalty to you.

**PATRIOTISM:** Flag of my country, I pledge allegiance from the sixth station that of Patriotism. My color is intensified because true patriotism may demand even our lives on the altar of sacrifice for our country. As I deposit this flower of indigo. we rededicate our lives to our country and to you.

**SERVICE:** Flag of my country, I pledge allegiance from the seventh ray. This color is violet and tells us that only when we give ourselves in service can we hope to find true happiness. I deposit this violet flower, pledging continued loving service.

**WA:** Thank you sisters of the bow, for your floral tributes. And now, Sisters Faith, Hope and Charity, what have you to say?

*(The three take this position around Altar -- flag is on west side of Altar)*

FLAG

HOPE

CHARITY

FAITH

**FAITH:** Flag of my country, I represent Faith, faith in our country, faith in our government, faith in its institutions. Because Faith is such an important part in our lives, we are able to stand up for what we believe is right. I deposit this flower of red, one of your own colors, as a symbol of our Faith in you and in America.

**HOPE:** Flag of my country, I represent Hope. In your --stars and stripes" I see Hope for its future, for just as you have stood for ideals that were high and lofty in the days of Washington and Lincoln, so you will continue to be a haven in the future *for* the poor and oppressed. I deposit this flower of purest white, another of your colors, with the sincere belief that you are truly the "Hope" of the world.

**CHARITY:** Flag of my country, I represent Charity, and recognizing the importance of Charity in our lives, I am proud to be an American. Our country protects the weak, relieves the suffering, helps the poor, and works *for* the betterment of mankind. I deposit this flower of blue, the last of your three colors, as a symbol of your charity to all mankind.

**WA:** Sister W.A.A., we have heard the tributes of the seven color stations and of Faith, Hope and Charity. Do you have anything to offer *from* your station in the West?

**WAA:** In this beautiful flag I see the history of our nation. The azure field proclaims liberty, a star *for* every state bespeaks unity, and the stripes of red tell of our love for our heroes, both past and present, and *of* our love for one another. Hail to this flag, and may our "Stars and Stripes" ever serve as a beacon of light, and inspiration to the entire world. How proud I am to be an American!

**WA:** You have spoken well. We should be proud to be Americans -- proud of our "Stars and Stripes." For this beautiful flag stands today, as in Washington's time, for a religion which gave us a Christian nation, an education which gave us our public school system, a patriotism which fought for American principles and institutions, and a freedom which gave us the Declaration of Independence. Forget not what it means and for the sake of its ideals, be true to your country's flag, your flag and mine! And now, let us stand for a moment with bowed heads while our Chaplain leads us in prayer.

**CHAPLAIN:** (From the East) Our Father, we thank Thee for the heritage which is ours and for the privilege of living in America. We thank Thee for this flag which is a symbol of the liberty of the individual that stands for the very highest of human attainment. May we never dishonor this most precious flag, but may we by act, word and deed show our love for our country and this flag, ever remembering that it was Thee who made all things possible. We pray thy blessings upon each one assembled here tonight and may we go forth with humble hearts, thankful for all that Thou hast given to us.

**ALL:** Lord, help us to keep our Promise.

**WA:** Sister Drill Leader, you will return our flag to its place in the assembly room as we sing together "God Bless America." (3 RAPS)

*(If presenting as an addenda at some function other than Rainbow, the following procedures are used to close the ceremony. After depositing the flag at Patriotism, Drill Leader returns to her station. The W.A. raps up the officers and members. Drill Leader goes to Patriotism's station to retire flag, Hope goes in to Altar and picks up Bible. Officers on north, led by W.A.A" and on the south led by M.A., retire to West and form double line. Drill Leader carrying flag and followed by Hope, carrying Bible, pass between the lines. When the flag and Bible are through the lines and to the door, officers all turn south and march out.)*