

## Rose Lecture

(to be used for Grand Assembly Ritual Competition)

*(Begin by standing on first step in East, below Chaplain)*

My Sister(s), I extend to you a hearty welcome into our Assembly. Rainbow teaches duty fourfold; duty to God, country, parents and to each other. It also teaches harmony and friendship. The Rainbow grasp of friendship goes beyond the doors of this Assembly room, across the vast lands of the United States, and across the great expanse of oceans to other girls in every part of the world. You are now a link of this undying chain of friendship. Ever remember that "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link." For this evening, I would like to give to you a short verse entitled "My Hand in God's":

Each morning when I wake I say,  
I place my hand in God's today,  
I know He'll walk close by my side,  
My every wandering step to guide.

He leads me with the tenderest care,  
When paths are dark and I despair,  
No need for me to understand,  
If I but hold fast, to His hand.

My hand in His, no greater way,  
To go on safely through the day,  
By His great bounty I am fed,  
Warmed by His love, and comforted.

And when at day's end, I seek my rest,  
I realize how much I am blessed,  
My thanks pour out to Him and then,  
I place my hand in God's again.

*(Walk over and stand in front of new sisters.)*

Tonight as you knelt at the White Altar of Holy Promise, you pledged your life to Love and Service. You held the hand of God. So, now, each morning when awake and look upon the pages of your Bible, remember that you once held the hand of God. And then again place your hand in His and look forward to a new day with renewed faith and courage.

*(Hand rose to each new sister.)*

On this occasion I have placed in your hand a rose. This small red rose of Rainbow, symbolizes a girl's love and devotion for her mother, who through prayer and sacrifice, has made this day possible for her to enjoy. So tonight when you tell your Mother, or someone who has taken her place, about this Rose Lecture, give her your rose...and, when you kiss her goodnight, remind her that you LOVE her.

*(Walk to the Altar. On word "place" lay the remaining rose upon the Altar)*

And now, in memory of every girl's mother, and those who have passed into the Golden City beyond, I place this remaining rose upon the Altar, and bid you welcome into Rainbow... with the hope that the words "Love and Service" will guide you through a happy and successful life.