

MAJORITY CEREMONY

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Majority ceremony may be given:
 - A. At a Regular Bethel meeting in place of Initiation (see Ritual p 59). No ONE but those eligible to witness a Job's Daughters' meeting may attend.
 - B. At an open Meeting without Ritualistic opening as follows:
 - 1) Meeting is opened by Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel guardian.
 - 2) Bethel Officers and Bethel Choir march in as per Ritual p 28-32. Ante room and Preparation room doors remain open.
 - 3) Flag is presented as per Ritual p 32-35.
 - 4) Reading of Special Dispensation.
 - 5) Majority Ceremony
 - 6) Remarks
 - 7) Closing Ceremony as per Ritual p 68.
 - C. As an Exemplification for persons eligible to attend a regular Bethel meeting (see C – BETHEL Art XII Sect 3a) (see C- BETHEL Art XII Sect 4):
 - 1) Opening Ceremony as per Ritual p 28-48.
 - 2) All business, Escort, Introduction and Honors may be omitted. At the discretion of the Executive members of the BGC.
 - 3) Reading of Special Dispensation
 - 4) Majority Ceremony
 - 5) Remarks
 - 6) Closing Ceremony as per Ritual p 68.
2. PREPARATION:
 - A. A Special Dispensation is required if the Ceremony is given at a time other than a regular Bethel meeting.
 - B. Guardian Director of Music and Honored Queen may plan appropriate music for the Ceremony.
 - C. Flowers and fern should be in East. One purple flower, one white flower and one fern for each Daughter receiving the Degree: Fern at Honored Queen's station, purple flower at the Senior Princess' station and white flower at Junior Princess' station.
 - D. Daughters receiving the Degree may be presented with a corsage prior to the meeting.
 - E. Order from the Grand Secretary and prepare Majority Member Certificates (new forms: 161, 162, or 163) (old forms: 17, 17a or 17b). Bethel may also wish to give each Majority Member a Majority Member Brochure, giving information on Majority Members' responsibilities, duties and privileges and with space for a record of her personal JD history.
 - F. Reserve seats for each new Majority Member on south side of Bethel room.
 - G. The Bethel room shall be set-up in regular manner as per Ritual.
 - H. Honored Queen should ask one of the new Majority Members to give remarks on behalf of the group.
3. INSTRUCTIONS:
 - A. For a Regular Bethel meeting, Daughters receiving the Majority Degree may sit in the Bethel room and retire to Preparation Room just prior to the Ceremony, or they may remain in the Preparation Room until escorted in. Recorder takes station on the floor when Majority Ceremony is announced.
 - B. For an Exemplification, Daughters receiving Degree remain in Preparation room until escorted in for the Majority Ceremony. Recorder takes station on the floor after Special Dispensation is read.

- C. For an open Bethel meeting, Daughters receiving Degree remain in Preparation room until escorted in for the Majority Ceremony. The Outer Guard is seated inside the Bethel room near the Preparation room door as per Diagram #66. Recorder takes station on floor after Special Dispensation is read.

MAJORITY CEREMONY

HONORED QUEEN: Majority Ceremony.

IF MAJORITY CEREMONY IS GIVEN AT A REGULAR
BETHEL MEETING AND DAUGHTERS RECEIVING
DEGREE ARE SEATED IN BETHEL ROOM,
PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

HONORED QUEEN: The Daughters who are to receive the Majority Degree will retire to the Preparation room.

IF MAJORITY CEREMONY IS GIVEN AT AN OPEN BETHEL
MEETING OR FOR AN EXEMPLIFICATION,
PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

HONORED QUEEN: Recorder (rises), you will read the Special Dispensation.
Recorder reads dispensation and returns to station on the floor and is seated.
HQ sounds **ONE RAP of gavel** [*].

HONORED QUEEN: Members and friends of Bethel No. _____, we have assembled here to wish God-speed to the Daughters who are to become Majority Members, by virtue of the fact that they have attained the age of twenty, or married and were members in good standing in the Bethel.

HONORED QUEEN: Guide (rises) and Marshal (rises), you will retire and escort the members who are to receive their Majority Degree into the Bethel room. *March music.*
HQ is seated.

See Diagram #66: Guide and Marshal retire to Preparation room (no raps are exchanged) and line up Daughters according to height. Special music may be played while Guide and Marshal are lining up Daughters. After all are in line and special music has concluded, March Music begins. Guide, escorts Daughters followed by Marshal, into the Bethel room. If Ceremony is given at a Regular Bethel meeting or for an Exemplification, Marshal closes Preparation room door. Guide marches to West Line, turns right, marches to South Marching Line, turns left, marches to East Line, turns left, and marches on East Line until Daughters are centered in front of the HQ. If necessary, form two or more lines. All face east.

GUIDE: Honored Queen (rises), I have the pleasure to present:
_____ who are entitled to receive their Majority Degree.

HONORED QUEEN: You have had active membership in our Order, whose cornerstone is truth and whose keystone is love. You have reached an important milestone in your journey through life. This hour has been set apart in order that we may confer this Majority Degree as a parting gift of friendship, and we hope, that as you go forth to assume your various obligations you will be guided by the teachings you received during your sojourn in Job's Daughters. Before the Altar you took a solemn Obligation and received your first lesson in our beautiful Order.

HONORED QUEEN: you will now be escorted to the Altar to receive our final blessings, after which the Officers will present you gifts of lasting memories.

See Diagram #67: Bethel Choir and Officers (may rise) sing “He Leadeth Me” while Guide, without further instruction, escorts Daughters followed by Marshal from East Line to west of Altar. Guide turns left on East Line marches to North Marching Line, turns left, marches to Altar Line, turns left, marches to a point between the Chaplain’s station and Altar, turns right and marches around Altar until Daughters are centered west of Altar. All face East. If necessary, form two or more lines. Guide and Marshal assist Daughters to kneel on floor.

HONORED QUEEN: Chaplain (rises), you will attend at the Altar.

HQ sounds **THREE RAPS of gavel [***]**. *Altar music.*

Chaplain attends at Altar as per Ritual and opens Bible, if not previously opened.

CHAPLAIN: Our Heavenly Father, we ask Thy blessing upon our Bethel and those assembled here. We especially ask that wisdom and guidance may be given to the daughters who are leaving our midst to enter upon a new field. May they practice in their daily lives the lessons they have learned in our beautiful Order. Bless our members and give us strength to continue in every good work so that we may grow and prosper. Amen.

Chaplain returns to station as per Ritual. *Altar music.*

Guide and Marshal assist Daughters to rise.

HQ sounds **ONE RAP of gavel [*]**. HQ is seated.

See Diagram #68: Without instruction, Guide escorts Daughters followed by Marshal around south side of Altar, going between Altar and Treasurer’s station, to Altar Line, turns left and marches on Altar Line until Daughters are centered east of Altar, making two or more lines if necessary. All face west.

Messengers use initiation floor work.

GUIDE: First Messenger (rises), have you a gift to offer these Daughters?

FIRST MESSENGER: The gift that I would offer is priceless and time only enhances its value. It is the gift of FRIENDSHIP. To make friends, we must possess virtues which others admire and the quality of our friends will be measured by the standard of our own character. The higher our own ideals, the more excellent will be the virtues of our friends. May friendship contribute to your happiness and may you walk down through the years comforted and blessed with friends.

Returns to station and is seated.

GUIDE: Second Messenger (rises), have you a word for these Daughters?

SECOND MESSENGER: The word that I would give you is HONOR. Character is not built in a day. Its foundation is laid early in life. Its chief element is honor. May you always have that fine sense of honor which demands justice to all and gives offense to none.

Returns to station and is seated.

GUIDE: Third Messenger (rises), What gift do you have to offer these Daughters?

THIRD MESSENGER: The gift I would give you is TRUTH. It is an attribute which anyone should cherish; it is the standard by which character is measured. Without this virtue, there is no confidence in

friendship, or security in promises or oaths. In this Bethel we have learned many truths which should guide us and light our pathway through our lives.

Returns to station and is seated.

GUIDE: Fourth Messenger (rises), you will give these Daughters your message.

FOURTH MESSENGER: My message to you is one which enriches our lives. It is the spirit of CHARITY. The perfect gift is to give yourself; to have your heart go out in sympathetic kindness to every human being. Charity stored away in the heart sweetens all the daily acts of life. May you always be blessed with an understanding heart and be filled with the spirit of charity.

Returns to station and is seated.

GUIDE: Fifth Messenger (rises), what is your farewell gift to these Daughters?

FIFTH MESSENGER: With all the other gifts bestowed upon you, you would not be happy without the gift I have to offer. I give you the gift of LOVE. Love is a requirement of every human heart. We learn that love is the perpetual melody of humanity. Through doubt and despair, through delusion and wandering, we come at last to know that God is Love. I would wish you love. May it enrich your life and broaden your vision until everyone with whom you come in contact will be blessed by knowing you. Guide, you will escort these Daughters to the East Line.

Returns to station and is seated.

See Diagram #69: Guide, followed by Daughters and Marshal, turns right on Altar Line and marches to North Marching Line, turns right and marches to East Line, turns right and marches on East Line until Daughters are centered in front of the Honored Queen. All face East.

GUIDE: Recorder (rises from station on floor), what have you to say?

RECORDER: According to my book, you have a good record in our Bethel. It shows that you have been in good standing during the time you have had membership in our Bethel, and we are pleased to place your name on our Honorary List.

Recorder is seated.

GUIDE: Librarian (rises), may we have a parting word from you?

LIBRARIAN: Upon our Altar lies the Book of Books. Within its pages you will find eternal life. Make it your constant guide in all things, so that you may ever be a true Daughter of Job, the “Fairest in all the Land.”

Librarian is seated.

GUIDE: Junior Custodian (rises), the jewel in the Junior Princess’ crown is white. Will you remind the Daughters of its message?

JUNIOR CUSTODIAN: White in all ages has been deemed an emblem of purity and a symbol of Joy. We wish you the joy of all good things and finally the greatest joy of all, that is work well done and a life well spent.

Jr Custodian is seated.

GUIDE: Senior Custodian (rises), the jewel in the Senior Princess’ crown is purple. Will you remind the Daughters of its message?

SENIOR CUSTODIAN: Purple is the emblematic color of our order. It is the symbol of Royalty. True royalty is founded in nobility of character, made up of virtuous habits and thoughts. Kindness, patience, thoughtfulness, willingness and many other virtues are essential to noble character. May your character always merit the cloak of royal purple.

Sr Custodian is seated.

After Sr Custodian is seated, Marshal, without instruction, steps out in front of Daughters, opposite Flag and gives tribute to the Flag.

MARSHAL: In the East stands our Country's Flag. Never falter in your allegiance, never waiver in your duty as a citizen; but by your loyalty, devotion and your staunch support, may it ever be unfurled to the breeze, the most beautiful Flag the sun ever shown upon.

On the word Flag, Marshal turns slightly with arm outstretched towards Flag, finished sentence, then returns to position in line.

GUIDE: Honored Queen (rises), these Daughters have heard the good words and wishes of our Messengers and other Officers, and I now present them to you.

HONORED QUEEN: Junior Princess (rises), have you a word of greeting for these Daughters?

HQ is seated.

JUNIOR PRINCESS: May you always remember the lessons taught in Job's Daughters. I represent Jemima (Je-mi' ma), one of Job's three daughters. May Purity and Truth remain faithful to your every thought, word and act. I give you the white flower, an emblem of Purity.

Jr Princess descends dais and presents each Daughter with a white flower, then returns to station and is seated.

HONORED QUEEN: (rises) Senior Princess (rises), what do you have to offer our Daughters as a parting gift?

HQ is seated.

SENIOR PRINCESS: As I represent Kazia (Ke zi' uh), the second daughter of Job, may the emblem of this epoch which represents prayer, be a constant reminder of Job's great faith in God. I present you with this purple flower, representing Royalty and Power.

Sr Princess descends dais and presents each Daughter with a purple flower, then returns to station and is seated.

HONORED QUEEN: (rises) As Honored Queen, I represent Karen-Huppuch (Ker en ha' puk), the third daughter of Job. After Job's tribulations, God rewarded him with great riches and a long life of happiness. May you share abundantly in life's richest blessings.

This ceremony marks a new epoch in your life. May the Gifts of FRIENDSHIP, HONOR, TRUTH, CHARITY, and LOVE, be the watch words of your lives and the lessons and experiences in Job's daughters render you valuable service. Your obligation does not cease with your activities in the Bethel, but should be observed forever. We hope that your interest in the Bethel will continue and it will be a pleasure to have you with us as often as opportunity will permit.

This sprig of green represents immortality and signifies that the pledge between us is everlasting. Once parting, we may never meet again, but let us have forever one more watchword: “Mizpah, May the Lord watch between me and thee, while we are absent one from each other.”

Honored Queen descends dais and give each Daughter a sprig of fern. She should also take the certificates with her (if necessary, she can hand them to the Guide until she is ready for them).

I know present you with your Majority Member Certificates, which we hope you will cherish among your treasurers.

HQ read names as she hands certificates to each Daughter.

HQ returns to station.

HONORED QUEEN: You will face west. Members and friends, please join with me in congratulating these new Majority Members. Applause.

HONORED QUEEN: Guide and Marshal, you will escort these Daughters to seats reserved for them, after which you will return to your stations. *March music.*

See Diagram #70: Guide turns left, marches on East Line to South Marching Line, turns right escorts Daughters to seats reserved for them on the south side of room. Guide and Marshal, side by side, return to stations and are seated.

Optional
*APPROPRIATE MUSICAL SELECTION MAY BE
GIVEN HERE*

IF MAJORITY CEREMONY IS GIVEN AT A
REGULAR MEETING,
PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

HONORED QUEEN: Chaplain (rises), you will attend at the Altar.

HQ sounds **THREE RAPS** [***] *Altar music*

Chaplain attends at the Altar as per Ritual.

CHAPLAIN:

Oh, Lord, be Thou Our Guardian on high

Be there to counsel us, to keep us free from fear.

Be with us as we part on our various ways, guide

and protect each one here assembled

Help us to help each other, may we practice in

our daily lives the trustful faith of Job.

Bless our leaders, our parents and those near

and dear to us.

In Thy name. Amen.

Chaplain rises and returns to station as per Ritual. *Altar music.*

HQ sounds **One RAP** of gavel [*].

HONORED QUEEN: This concludes the Majority Ceremony

HQ sounds **ONE RAP** of gavel [*].

The next order of business as per Ritual is Reading of Minutes p 61.

NOTES: Selected Majority Member should be asked for remarks under Good of the Bethel. When Officers have cleared the East Line, ABG may invite Majority Members to view Closing Formation from East Line. Officers, Bethel Choir greet Majority Members as they do new members following Initiation.

IF MAJORITY CEREMONY IS GIVEN AT AN OPEN BETHEL
MEETING OR EXEMPLIFICATION
PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

HONORED QUEEN: Remarks

HQ's remarks, include any necessary announcements Bethel Guardian
Associate Bethel Guardian
Selected Majority Member should be asked for remarks
Presiding Officer of host organization, if ceremony is given
for an Exemplification.

HONORED QUEEN: This concludes Remarks.

HQ sounds **ONE RAP of gavel** [*].

HONORED QUEEN: Chaplain (rises), you will attend at the Altar.

HQ sounds **THREE RAPS** [***]. *Altar music.*
Chaplain attends at Altar as per Ritual.

CHAPLAIN:

**Oh, Lord, be Thou Our Guardian on high
Be there to counsel us, to keep us free from fear.
Be with us as we part on our various ways, guide
and protect each one here assembled
Help us to help each other, may we practice in
our daily lives the trustful faith of Job.
Bless our leaders, our parents and those near
and dear to us.**

In Thy name. Amen.

Chaplain rises, closes Bible and returns to station as per Ritual.
Altar music.
Chaplain remains standing.

HONORED QUEEN: All present, except the Officers, (Bethel Choir,) Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian will please be seated until the Officers (and Bethel Choir) have retired.

Custodians remove chairs as per Ritual. *Music*
Retiring March and Closing Formation as per Ritual.
When Officers have cleared the East Line, ABG may invite the Majority Members to view the Closing Formation from the East Line.

BETHEL GUARDIAN: This concludes the Majority Ceremony.

BG **Nods.** Officers (and Bethel Choir) **Nod.**
BG sounds **ONE RAP of gavel** [*].

The Officers and Bethel Choir greet the Majority Members as they do new members following Initiation.