

THE PRAYING HANDS

This narration may be used to present or introduce Bethel Officers at open meetings such as installations, promotional meetings, etc. Any formation and/or seating arrangement may be used.

NARRATOR:

**In the days of yore in faraway lands
Our ancestors convened with God with Praying Hands.
They asked forgiveness for their sins;
For the strength to live they asked of Him.**

**For guidance too, and when problems arose –
With Praying Hands they'd strike a pose.
It mattered not what race or creed.
He answered each and every need.**

**Tonight this Bethel has chosen this theme
To show their trust in the architect supreme,
Who has created all things from the beginning of time
And to those Praying Hands given a world sublime.**

Bethel Choir:

**In ancient days, when evening was nigh,
The shepherds knelt down, raised their eyes to the sky
And offered up their thanks with Praying Hands
For guiding their flocks across the lands.**

**They then would lie down in the moon's silvery sheen
And, as they slept, of angels they'd dream
Floating gently o'er in their robes, gleaming white.**

**That vision there in the light of the moon
Lightened the shepherds' hearts
And dispelled all gloom.
The Bethel Choir emulates that dream tonight.**

Inner and Outer Guard:

**Guarding carefully our Bethel doors against all outward sin;
_____ and _____ know all who enter in.**

Junior and Senior Custodian:

**Custodians of our Urn and Dove,
_____ and _____ guided from above.
Will watch over them with all their love.**

Musician:

**For happy songs for all to hear
_____ plays the piano with notes so clear.**

Librarian:

**In her search for knowledge everywhere,
_____ finds treasures for us to share.**

Chaplain:

**In reverence she will bow her head and lead us when we pray,
For _____, guided by His word will know just what to
say.**

Recorder:

**On spotless pages in her book,
_____ enters all our deeds
And keeps a record bright and clear, for anyone to read.**

Treasurer:

_____ keeps a record of our wealth and guards it with
her love,
For she, too, has learned, that He is watching from above.

The Messengers:

The Messengers bring a tale of joy and faith and love for fellow
man;

Of happiness and truth sincere since first the world began.

_____ tells of Job's pleasure,

And _____ of his strife.

From _____ we hear of his temptations;

From _____ his final peace.

While _____ tells that trust and faith
will bring Job sweet release.

Marshal:

_____ as Marshal, you have a wonderful part,
guard our flag with all your heart.

Guard it with truth and love sublime;
keep it unsullied to the end of time.

Guide:

_____ as Guide, you'll point the way to
Pilgrims seeking the light of day.

Don't slaken for a moment your heart's endeavor to embrace
the beautiful and the good forever.

Junior Princess:

_____ as Junior Princess teaches
"Faith that never faileth"

**Her steadfast faith dispenses light,
Her path is clear, her way is bright.**

Senior Princess:

**_____ , the Senior Princess draws near,
Without thought of any fear,
Her message taught to Pilgrims new,
Is faith and love the whole way through.**

Honored Queen:

**As all have entered this hold place,
_____ approaches with Queenly grace.
With Praying Hands she asks of Him to see her through.
To give her strength and guidance too.
As parents and loved ones proudly share,
This hour when a crown she'll start to wear.**

**And thus – with hearts that are light
Our Bethel begins this ceremony tonight,
With Praying Hands as we pause and kneel
To give thanks to Him for this world of ours.**

**The days – the nights – the birds and the flowers
And our heritage, the Masonic Fraternity without which we could
not have this opportunity.
As this term ebbs in flight, forget not the theme used here tonight,
Those Praying Hands; Those Praying Hands.**