

Washington State Grange Memorial Service 2020

CHAPLAIN: Each year we make time to remember our Brothers and Sisters who have finished their work and now rest from their labors.

“To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance...”

Please join me in prayer. Heavenly Father let your loving kindness comfort us in our season of sorrow. Lord, we know there is a time to weep and a time to mourn, but there is also a time to heal. Lord, we will always miss those who have completed their time on earth and have received their eternal reward; but your reassurance of life after death is our comfort—“because I live you shall live also.” Thank you for this time to remember our brothers and sisters. We know we shall see them again. In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

God, in creating the heaven and earth, fixed the limits of the seasons. A season is born, it lives, and it dies and a new one takes its place—winter gives way to spring and summer turns to fall. Life, like the seasons, is ever changing and comes full circle from life to death as spring eventually becomes winter. We are born, we live and we die, and our spirits put on immortality.

Death, like the cold and stormy days of winter, is a season we must pass through to reach the miracle of spring. In every sprouting flower the promise of life is witnessed. The earth is reborn and life is renewed.

In every season God is still God. He walks us through each season to prepare us for the one to come, as seasons change, life changes. Every season is a season of beginning, but not always a season of blooming. When we understand the seasons and when we work with God we will enter into that Paradise not made with hands eternal in the heavens and receive the plaudit, “well done good and faithful servant.” “Then shall come to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory.”

Secretary: reads memorial names.

Graces, Families, or Friends: place flowers

Chaplain: The seasons that pass are only moments in eternal life and to each of us there comes a time when our life on earth is through and we pass to another and a brighter world where “there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

All things are mortal and must die but the spirit is immortal and returns to God who created it. And so in living and dying, we conquer both life and death.

Let us pray. Almighty God, we ask that you soften the pain of loss, that you lighten the darkness of winter and replace it with the beauty and joy of spring. We pray that our efforts bring us seasons of love, joy and peace and bring us closer to you. May the grace of our Lord and Savior be with us now and forever. Amen

Thank you brothers and sisters, this concludes our memorial service.