

Service for Sabbath Eve.

FORM. III.

READER AND CHOIR:

Mizmór shir l'yóm hashabbos,

and Evening Service to the end of page 13. Then continue here.

MINISTER:

IN Thy holy temple, O Lord, all is silent before Thy majesty. We hear Thy voice, O Father of Peace, when the day's strife is past, and the evening spreads repose over creation. But deeper than the twilight calm is the peace which the Sabbath Eve at the close of every week brings to us. Like the dew of Hermon falling on Zion, rich with blessing, it gives strength to the body and joy to the soul from the abundance of Thy grace.

The work of each day of creation witnesses to Thy goodness and proclaims Thy wisdom, O Lord. Yet of all Thy creatures man alone can discern Thy presence and follow Thy purposes. When he, in Thine image, rose from the earth, the work of creation was completed, and peace hallowed the world. Bless, then, O God, our labor, that our work may be called good like unto Thine; and sanctify our day of rest, that through its influence we may learn to consecrate our life to Thy service.

CHOIR:

Sabbath of the Lord, be blessed,
Emblem of eternal rest.

MINISTER:

The evening light also reminds us of a gift of Thy mercy, O Lord. When the shadows of night shut the earth from our eyes, and the tumult is stilled, then a higher world rises unto us. In the evening, behold, there is light. From the fireside rises the flame to tell of Thy love. Full of Thy blessing, O Father, are our dwellings in the peace of the evening. Solemn and sacred is life; and trials are sanctified in the light of domestic duty and affection. And of all evenings Thou hast blessed the Sabbath Eve. Before the Sabbath-light care and sorrow flee. Thy peace descends from on high to unite the hearts of the parents with the children, and to build a wall of devotion around the home, that Thou mayest dwell in it, O Lord.

We thank Thee, O Guardian of Israel, for the gift of the Sabbath Eve, which hath poured a stream of blessedness through the homes of Israel, making them bright amid many woes. We praise Thee for the Sabbath-light which shone unto our fathers like a beacon over stormy seas, giving wisdom and hope unto Thy people.

O Lord, bless our portion of the cup of Sabbath rest and joy. May we, the children of a free land, all the more tenderly cling to our inheritance from of old, that we honor this sign of Thy covenant, and make the Sabbath a blessing in our homes.

CHOIR:

מֵהֵטְבוֹ אֹהֲלֶיךָ יַעֲקֹב מִשְׁכְּנֵיךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל:

כּוֹס־יְשׁוּעוֹת אִשָּׁא וּבָשִׂים " אֶקְרָא:

How goodly are thy tents, O Jacob, Thy dwellings,
O Israel!

I lift up the cup of salvation, and call upon the
name of the Lord.

MINISTER:

WE thank Thee, O Father, for the cup of comfort which the Sabbath Eve brings to us in Thy message: "Peace, peace be unto him that is far, and unto him that is near, saith the Lord, and I will heal him." In Thy wisdom Thou hast made the night to follow the day, and looked on them and saw that they were good. Thus hast Thou also mixed joy and grief in our life. We receive both from Thy fatherly love. Thou hast prepared rest and bliss for those who have ended their labors here. The path of virtue leads up to Thy seat of glory. We bless Thee, O God, for the Sabbath Eve, the promise of heavenly light for those whose sun has set, whose work is done; and the prophecy of universal peace for all men in the fullness of time. Amen.

Choir: AMEN.

Continue page 16.