

Tuckahoe Lodge Memorial Service – 2022

The Lodge overhead lights are turned off for the service. The speaker begins the service by lighting a single candle, and turning over an hourglass to allow the sands to run. The Lodge Musician begins a soft background of hymns or other appropriate music.

Speaker: The hourglass is an antiquated timing device consisting of two glass chambers connected vertically by a narrow passage that allows sand to trickle from the upper part to the lower by means of gravity. The amount of sand determines the amount of time that passes as the chamber is emptied. The image of the sand being emptied in the hourglass gives us a visual metaphor for the limited duration of human life, and for the inevitability of change in the world as a whole.

We can never turn back the sands of time, though we may wish to relive a special memory, a happy moment, or say goodbye one last time. We can't, because the sands of time keep falling, and we can't turn over the hourglass.

Five of our brethren have entered the Celestial Lodge this year. They are now in the safekeeping of their creator. As is our custom, we are here to remember them one last time. Remember them for their loyalty to the Craft, for their devotion to their families and to us. Here are the names and date of passing of those whom we honor and remember tonight.

George William Lee	10/12/2021
Edward Lee Walker	2/8/2022
Jack Collins Wood	2/9/2022
John Spence Reid	7/17/2022
Robert Wales Carpenter, Jr.	10/21/2022

Brethren, let us Pray:

Chaplain: The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. Thou, O God, art the creator and sustainer of this universe and all life within its limitless boundaries. Thou hast given us life, and determined the number of our days. We acknowledge Thee in this sweetly solemn moment, remembering our fallen Brethren as we honor their memory, reaching forth in expectation to commit them for eternity into Thy tender care and keeping. Bless us in these moments and grant that that we shall take from them renewed inspiration, courage and dedication to our faith, and strict adherence to our Masonic principles. Amen. So mote it be.

Following the prayer, the music stops and the Speaker offers this benediction.

Speaker: May the light of God surround you, may the love of God enfold you, may his power protect you and the presence of God watch over you. Peace be with you, now and forever more.
* My brethren...I invite you to close this time of remembrance by joining together and singing the first and last verses of Amazing Grace.

** At this point the Lodge Musician will provide music for 2 verses of Amazing Grace.*

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch; like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Then when we first begun.

So mote it be. Amen.

When the last verse ends the overhead lights of the Lodge room are turned on.