

The Temple Artisan

Oct-Nov-Dec 2019

Behold, I give



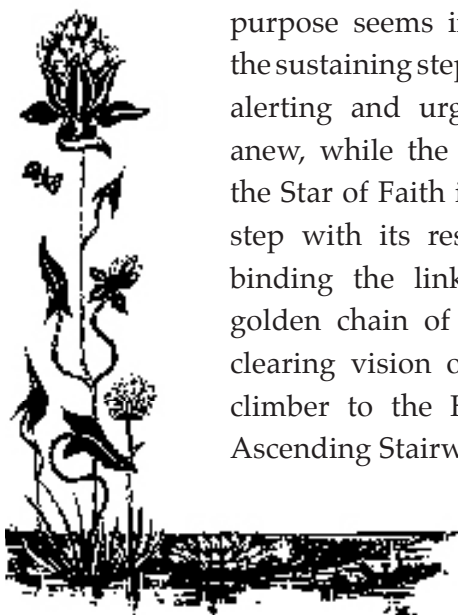
unto thee a key.

THE ASCENDING STAIRWAY

Faith is one glorious step beyond Hope, the measure by which fulfillment is drawn, and the whole sublime structure for both.

When darkness overwhelms the senses and deflects the light of the heart and mind — when defeat of purpose seems inevitable — then the sustaining step of Hope appears, alerting and urging the Soul on anew, while the glorious Light of the Star of Faith illumines the next step with its resplendent beauty, binding the links of the eternal golden chain of Principles to the clearing vision of the courageous climber to the Heights on Life's Ascending Stairway.

H⌘



EDITORIAL MIRROR

At 8:00 p.m. on the fifteenth of November, 1898, the Temple of the People was founded in Syracuse, New York. This year, we marked the 121st year in the life of the Temple on the anniversary of that special event. Over the weekend of November 15, 16, and 17, we celebrated with programs in the Temple and social activities in Hiawatha Lodge and the University Center. Members and friends from Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as northern California, Utah, and Arizona were in attendance to hear writings from the Masters, founders, and agents. This issue of the Artisan features some of the spiritual gifts presented in honor of the Temple birthday.

The message is as simple as it has ever been: Love one another and live the Golden Rule every minute of every day.

May Love, Light, Joy, and Peace attend you.

— *Eleanor L. Shumway*
Guardian in Chief



THE 121ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE

November 15 – 17, 2019

Friday, November 15 • 4:45 p.m. • Study Class

The Temple birthday was opened during the Friday study class with this welcome from the Guardian in Chief.

I want to welcome you here for a sacred celebration. One hundred twenty-one years ago at this very hour, Master Hilarion gathered a small group of people together in Syracuse, New York, and formally established The Temple on the physical plane. Tonight we will connect with these powerful forces of Light and transmit them into the world for the benefit of all humanity. The Master speaks of our responsibility to prepare our hearts for the Temple work in these words:

You must never lose sight of one fact.

The higher purpose, the aim of all those who are true Templars, was and still is the preparation of a place where it might become possible for the overshadowing Christ to enter and send forth the message which the world has waited for so long. It would be truly impossible for such an overshadowing of the spiritual forces to enter and dwell with a number of disaffected, treacherous, inhuman elements. It could not do the work for which it came, even if it were possible to come.

Such a place requires quiet, concentration, aspiration, unified endeavor, and faith in each other and in the common purpose.

These are essentials; all else is non-essential.

— Hilarion



In 1928, at the time of the advent of the Avatar onto the inner planes, the Master Hilarion gave us this charge:

“To each and every one of you the Christ speaks today. Before each and all of you He stands, face to face. Beside and among you, one and all, He walks daily, hourly, looks toward you with entreaty infinite for recognition, companionship, understanding, sympathy, and love. With hands outstretched He extends to you the Priceless Gems of Truth and Wisdom, of Opportunity and Power. Truth, the Christ, the Glad Sun of Righteousness, does not precipitate Itself, is not spectacular, loud, sudden, bombastic. It walks in the silences, dwells within, breathes, lives, loves, gladdens, brightens, purifies, strengthens, lifts, around and about, day by day, hour by hour, minute by minute, each second and interval of time, steadily, calling you into Itself, Your Self, Self of the King from whom all shadows have disappeared, and in whom there is naught but Beauty and Holiness.”

On this 121st anniversary of the founding of the Temple, our days are filled with the seeming turmoil in the world, and we feel impelled to look within for balance. As we explore our inner world, we are again aware that more than we know of spiritual value is being accomplished by us through our self-disciplined, helpful, courageous, and brotherly attitude one to another, and the general sharing of responsibilities and efforts. We find that it is not dramatic deeds that count in time of crisis, either nationally, universally, or individually. It is duty well-cared for, distress eased in seclusion, love administered in faith, and compassionate silence that conquers all. Tactfulness is but another name for kindness, and embodies justice through finer sensibilities. We come to realize that these are the elements that enlarge the consciousness, that make it possible for us to be used by the Masters, to become reinforcements for Them in Their work. This happens by day or night, sleeping or waking, and when the call of need rings out, we find ourselves summoned for relief and succor. This is what we often feel when our own natural forces are low. We are learning to brace and reinforce ourselves by studying the techniques that have been so lovingly extended to us. We need to be patient with ourselves and each other, to remember that true growth is always

slow growth. We must not lose faith in the Love which has loved us all into being.

At 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, a short meditation was held at the hour of the Temple's founding, followed with these messages read by the Temple officers.

From Master Hilarion

My Dear children,

As the neophyte, disciple, man or woman, advances along the path of evolution, each takes step after step of the Degrees of the Great White Lodge unconsciously. As you examine your past lives, you will find that the real epochs of these lives have not been divided by days and years, but by events. Great sorrows, severe pain, thrilling joys are the milestones marking off that journey of life, and these have been the means of broadening and lengthening the mental and spiritual horizon of your real inner existence. And each of these must be duplicated over and over again on the three great planes of being: mental, spiritual, and physical. Grief and pain will walk by your side over many vast stretches of the path, until they are conquered by self-conscious endeavor.

You have arrived at the step where you can begin to do this. When either or both seize upon you, try to realize that they are part of the great world's pain and grief, as you are a part of it; and to whatever extent you succeed in rising above, in conquering it, to just that extent have you changed the inharmonious conditions of the world and made it a better dwelling place for the children of God. And what is true of these is true of all limitations of matter, force, and consciousness. As victory over limitations crowns your efforts, you will become more conscious of your oneness with the Lodge and the Universe, and this consciousness carries with it a force that refines the atoms of the physical body. The organs of sense will begin to lose their grossness, and Light and Sound from the Inner Spheres will break on your sight and hearing.

I give you this little touch of love that you may pass it on to others in need. You are in a great company, met to commune with each other on matters of vital importance. As day follows day, you will become more conscious of this. There are great trials of faith and endurance before you, and persecution and trial for Blue Star. I bid you stand by her as by me. Do not judge what she may seem to do or leave undone; you can see but the surface act. Draw closer and yet closer together. Work as one being for the good of all. Trust and love the Great Master who walked the earth in poverty and humility, though higher than the Angels.

Sink your very souls in the Great Father-Heart, the beats of which vibrate through your own with every pulse of the same, and remember that I am with you, not outside of you.

In tender love I greet you, my children,

— *Hilarion*

From Master Morya

The disruptive forces at work at the present time in the world, the lack of concentrated energy combined with selfless purity of motive in even those most highly developed among the common people, who would under perfectly normal conditions be hopeful subjects for chelaship, make it a superhuman task to develop the powers of the inner man or woman in individual cases to such an extent as to give control of matter on the physical plane by odic or etheric force for the exercise of what is termed Practical Occultism. In all cases, in all ages, mental, moral, and spiritual development must precede control of force, and many make the mistake of confounding aspiration and desire for power with ability to generate and wield power.

You have been told by us in H.P.B.'s time, and again of late, that certain qualifications were absolute necessities for development and use of astral forces. A knowledge of geometry, chemistry, and music is essential, but these must be preceded by, or keep pace with, the development of these selfless attributes of spiritual

life which compel you not only to recognize but to live the life of common brother/sisterhood, and also to force the reduction, and change the vibrations of superfluous or discordant elements by correct dietary regime.

Yet, notwithstanding all the directions that we have given out, and our self-evident reasons for insisting upon and the necessity for following these directions, there are those among you who would try to compel us to make exceptions in their individual cases. It is a seeming impossibility to make the average man or woman understand that we are far more accountable to the Law than are they. Understand that labor wasted by us upon you (wasted because of your inability to conform to the laws and principles of occultism) becomes a crime in us. Of what advantage to you or to us were we to expend energy we could use for better purpose, to prove that we are Masters — or that we even exist — to a person who does not possess the requisite power, wisdom, and unselfishness to put that knowledge to good use, and who is unwilling or unable to deny themselves those things that render higher development impossible, or if able, has already assumed duties which require all their skill and time and which human and Divine law compel them to fulfill, whatever be the sacrifice to themselves, sacrifice which in the latter instances are more in the seeming?

Understand! It is not vehicles for transmission of messages or directions we need in the great work; the power to become such is a minor power in comparison. A true occultist must of necessity be able to perform such duties, but the messenger need not be of necessity a true occultist; there may be a wide difference between the two.

You have been told that you have a certain work to do, that certain conditions must be made in the world before the work we are engaged in can be accomplished. If, instead of doing that work as far as lies in your power and aiding us in making these conditions, you are willing to take a dip here and there at any

fountain that opens before you — regardless of your inability to rightly discriminate the source of the fountain, and for the purpose of getting ahead of a brother or sister, or gaining access to the astral light — there is no use in our wasting time and labor on you. I have spoken plainly, and I mean all I have said.

— Morya

The program concluded with this prayer:

Father-Mother-Son in One: We know in our inmost hearts that You are creating the deep spirit of harmonious, vital, living power which compels Unity. You have given us a place, a way, a cause: the cause of love, the way of righteousness, and the place of unity. We offer to You our heartfelt gratitude for the guidance, patience, understanding, and Love that flows unceasingly from Your heart to ours. You have long shown us the way to listen with our hearts, to act with kindness, and to be tolerant in our judgments. Through the process of striving for harmonious living do we express your teachings. Help us to do Your work this day and in the days to come. We ask You to help us listen well to Your teachings, and in the listening find the peace that passeth understanding where all things, all peoples, all joys, all sorrows, stand in balance in Your radiant Love. Amen.



*Everything in the Universe,
throughout all its kingdoms,
is conscious: i.e., endowed with a
consciousness of its own kind
and on its own plane of perception.*

— HPB

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2019 • 10:30 A.M. • MORNING PROGRAM

The Guardian in Chief opened the program then presented instruction from Master Hilarion to help seekers forge links between the inner spiritual life and the outer physical life.

THE CHALLENGE OF DISCIPLESHIP

As we speak of Discipleship in the light of Master Hilarion's teachings over the years, we might say, Oh, I am not a disciple, but just interested in following a more spiritual path in my daily living. The dictionary defines *disciple* as "one who receives instruction from another," and *follower* as "an adherent of a school, as in art or philosophy." Both definitions describe the role of one who has chosen to live his or her life according to spiritual values as set forth in all wisdom teachings. At one level or another, we are speaking of all humanity.

Having made that choice, there is really no going back to the state of non-participation we thought we were in before spirituality caught our attention. We can try to ignore discipleship, but it will command our attention sooner or later. We are surrounded by Divine Love pouring out on us in never-ending streams, but He cannot do it for us. While many writings of the Master may seem like a stern parent shaking a warning finger at us, in reality He is trying to help us see the pitfalls and consciously choose to avoid them. Each one of us is responsible for meeting the challenges of discipleship, and He so charges us in the introduction to this morning's instructions:

"I, Hilarion, suggest to those children of the Temple whose sincerity of purpose, fixity of will, and desire for true development have brought them to the meeting of two roads, that they read carefully and assimilate, if possible, the following instructions and notes of warning given from time to time."



TESTS

All life is a series of tests. We are being weighed in the balance, day by day, hour by hour. Some small event that appears trifling in its nature is often the one little point on which the final result of a whole incarnation is balancing; a hair's weight would turn the scale in either direction, and that weight is frequently added by carelessness, or thoughtlessness, and the result is obvious to the most inattentive observer. A man's whole character deteriorates, and no one, not even himself, can say why. He has simply failed in a test made by his Higher Self; the Law, recognizing his unfitness for further advance, judges, condemns, and executes sentence. As it is true of all life, it is true of every separate phase of life. It is true of every degree of the Great Lodge.

No one can take a single step up the path without being tested as to his ability to sustain himself on that step. It is a merciful law, for far better is it for him to fall, if fall he must, from a lower step than from a higher, for by so doing he neither injures himself so

severely, nor others whom he may drag down with him. If his fall takes place from a minor degree, he may be unconscious of it on the physical or mental plane; but the truth remains: he has been distanced by his companions who have succeeded in passing the test and are led to another degree.

As soon as a man is brought into contact and association with a Master, a change takes place in every fiber of his being. The keynote is raised, and all that is in him of good or of evil comes to the surface, and the work of separating the sheep and the goats of his nature begins; the testing is whether or not he can stand on an elevated plateau and breathe the more rarefied, spiritualized air without losing his equilibrium and being drawn into the vortex beneath. If he can endure this test, he is prepared for a higher degree. It is not the Master who determines his fate, but the man himself. No man can stand by the side of a giant without seeming dwarfed in stature, and this truth is applicable to all planes of being.

If man copes with an intellectual giant, his intellectual weakness is made manifest. By the side of a Spiritual giant, he is dwarfed beyond all power of even self-recognition, for the higher in the scale of development the giant has ascended, in corresponding ratio does the common man seem to decrease. Every fault, every blemish or defect, becomes manifest, and he appears in truth a pigmy by comparison. This is exemplified in the case of Jesus and his disciples. The one figure of the Master stands out preeminently above all others. Matthew, Peter, Mark, Luke, John, Judas — how small in comparison, and how quickly the testing was accomplished. Then from the outer circle, each step taken led to the inner sanctuary, where John alone could lie on the Master's bosom and take from that great heart the seeds of life and love that have imparted the same vital essence to millions since that day.

— *Hilarion*

Tests of Discipleship

I would that it were possible to convince some of the self-deceived or ambitious latter-day students of occultism of the injury they are inflicting upon themselves and others who are less developed interiorly, by falsely claiming the personal guidance of the Initiates, and telling fanciful tales of astral experiences which have no basis in fact.

They do not realize that they are thereby preventing the fulfillment of their desire for seeking guidance by failing to pass the tests of truthfulness and honesty, attributes which are essential to true discipleship. Not only do they bar the path for themselves, but even though it be unconsciously, by their example they tempt their hearers to do the same; for they arouse envy and ambition and a desire to pose as fully developed occultists in those instances where they have awakened a certain phase of admiration for the personal self.

It does not occur to these self-deceived, or willfully untruthful students, that the very fact of their advertising themselves by claiming Initiation into the high degrees of the Great Lodge would be a sure indication of the falsity of their claims to those who knew the truth of such initiations. One who had in reality passed through these deepest of life's experiences could no more make capital of them than they could live on the earth without breathing; it would be a spiritual impossibility. One Initiate is recognized by another by other means than those which the senses could supply on the physical plane.

Such deep experiences of life touch the soul too intimately and too sacredly to allow for outer expression. It is only the ripples which cover the shallows of experience which become visible to the casual seeker.

The treasures which lie in the depths of the Ocean of Life yield no surface indication of their value. Truly does the poison of the asp lie under the tongue of the demon-driven egotist who, to quiet

the hunger in his heart for the adulation of the crowd, makes the claim that he is under the personal direction of the Gods and has experienced Initiation into the Sacred Orders of the Most High, thus arousing the qualities which render his efforts abortive, however strong his desires may be toward the attainment of spiritual power.

— *Hilarion*

The Center of Being

All manifested life is thrown naturally into degrees corresponding to the seven modifications and sub-modifications of the Great Breath. True esotericism is naturalness and is based upon the accurate knowledge of the degrees of power, forces, and principalities into which all life is divided. A Master must be a perfectly natural being; and as far as the world is concerned, he is an esoteric center of activity. An ordinary human being is limited by his ignorance of natural law. The Master is limited by his profound knowledge of the Law which he may not transgress, being able to know and to realize the far-reaching effects of such transgression.

Like a great river flowing into the sea is the Master Soul. In him are depths unfathomable to the ordinary mind, and yet so vast his nature that it lacks not the shallows and undulating meadows over which flow the murmuring waters of life from which the child may drink and understand.

— *Hilarion*



Words of the Master to the Children of the Temple

Knowing the intensity and malignance of recently embodied forces of disintegration and their action on the unwary, I have overstepped habitual methods of warning, in my great desire to give to those whose inner self has awakened the opportunity that is theirs by karmic right. My duty in that respect has been performed. The choice is now yours.

One clause of the pledge taken by every student of Esotericism, by every chela or disciple of a Master, and by every candidate for Masonic degrees is, in effect: "I promise never to listen without protest to any evil things said of a brother, also to refrain from all evil speaking myself." As inner degrees of occultism are approached, such a Pledge becomes still more important and binding for the reason that the unity of Life and the far-reaching consequences which must result from repudiating or breaking the pledge, dawn upon the consciousness of the disciple, and he begins to realize that he is indeed his brother's keeper — also that he must stand or fall, as the case may be, by or with that brother. The knowledge that has given him power has opened the eyes blinded by ignorance to the enormity of the offense and its irrevocable karmic action. He knows there are two great divisions of the cosmos and of humanity, also that each of these is subdivided again and again. He knows that each of these subdivisions has its corresponding manifestation, reaching from its highest spiritual aspect down and through every phase of mental, astral, human, animal, vegetable, mineral, and lower astral life, their ultimates manifesting in the "fiery lives," the builders and destroyers of occult science. Both have their uses, both their abuses.

The destroyers, or devourers, are nature's natural scavengers. However necessary such forces may be for development and final perfection, one naturally shrinks from again passing into such binding, low conditions, some germs of which still remain slumbering within even the most highly developed entities of

this physical plane; and it is these latent germs within us which still retain potentiality enough to respond when the same force that endangers us contacts them again, making only too often those most dear to us fit vehicles for the transmission of the irresponsible, disintegrating forces of which you have been most earnestly warned.

The entrance of such vehicles of disintegrating forces into any family, society, or organized effort for general good, is the signal for the breaking up of that family or organization, unless the defensive, cohering force is equally powerful and far wiser.

As long as such vehicles are permitted to use, for personal advantage, all the forces at their command, meeting with no interference or antagonism, they are, generally speaking, comparatively harmless as far as their immediate associates are concerned. But the instant their desires clash with the work of the "builders," they open the safety valves that have temporarily held in abeyance the destructive force, thus sending out the poison in every direction.

If those to whom this poison has been directed can recognize its nature and turn upon it the counteracting, transmuting forces of love, confidence, and trust, the virulency of the poison will be eliminated. However, too often it strikes upon and coalesces with the dormant, affinitive tendencies before mentioned in the nature of the receivers, and before they can realize their danger, their own auras have taken on a slower rate of vibration. Little by little the higher forces take their departure, leaving the victims a prey to other destructive elements which finally bind them hand and foot, forcing them, often unconsciously, to pour out all their energies in the service of evil.

No work for good was ever instituted without a corresponding evil being brought into manifestation. You must be prepared for this in the Temple, for the Judas power of treachery and betrayal is as necessary for the testing of the disciple striving to hold his vantage ground as is the power of John, meaning devotion.

The first duty of an occultist is to defend a brother or sister attacked by an enemy. Too often this duty is not fulfilled and we see the reputation, of which no more delicate fabric was ever woven, receiving blow after blow until its power of cohesion is exhausted and it is torn to shreds by the hell-hounds that delight in such devilish work.

If, whenever your brother or sister is attacked in your presence, concerning something of which you are not personally aware, you would say: Of course you are willing to go with me to the one of whom you say this evil, repeating to him the words you have used, thus giving to him the opportunity for defense: I cannot listen to one side of the story — or if you are aware of the evil, say: Who am I that I should presume to judge that brother? — your words and example would do more to stamp out the evil than you can now realize.

Only too often the spreader of the evil justifies his action to himself and others by saying: I would not do this hateful thing but for a question of duty to others. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, you can stamp that statement as a falsehood pure and simple. Almost invariably the foundation lies in a personal grudge to gratify, or an object of gain to himself or herself. Those whose sense of duty has become abnormally developed always require observation, for they are apt to be on the downward arc of the cycle themselves and always try to drag others down with them.

If one is truly great, he knows the Law will take care of his brother and sister's good or evil propensities as well as his own. But the instant he takes upon himself the office of judge and executioner of justice, he links himself with the karma of that brother or sister, from which he will never more be separated until that karma is exhausted.

If you have a grievance against another, be brave enough to take it to that other, accompanied by a witness if necessary, and leave it there. If you are not great enough to do this, you may be sure there is something within yourself that needs attention before

you will be able to cope with that brother's sin against you.

As well might you think of climbing the Himalayas with your hands and feet tied to a stake as to think of climbing the heights of divine love, as evidenced in the Degrees of the White Lodge, with your heart filled with injustice, cruelty, and malice toward that other part of yourself, your brother or sister.

— Hilarion

These instructions outline the real challenge of discipleship. As Master Hilarion tells us again and yet again: The choice is now yours. Quietly, humbly, with great love, acceptance, and gratitude, it is up to us to be what we aspire to. As we focus on the work we need to do on ourselves, we may be surprised by the progress that others are making on themselves.

The Saturday program was followed by the noon healing service. At 1:00 p.m. members and guests enjoyed a potluck luncheon in Hiawatha Lodge.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2019 • 10:30 A.M. •

Master's Message from 1998

The focus of the service was this Master's Message on discipleship, presented at the 100th birthday celebration of the Temple on November 15, 1998.

My Dear Children,

For one hundred years I have been beside you as you labored to bring into manifestation a new step in the work of the Great White Lodge. Through this Lodge Center I have poured forth the message of the coming of a Great Spiritual Light to help all of humanity raise itself out of the darkness of the material self. As you look over the past years, you can see this Light impressing itself more and more upon every plane of being. Dark corners everywhere are being cleansed and the refuse of centuries is being brought into brightness. Now more than ever, everyone is being

asked to help transmute this darkness of ignorance and despair into the realms of greater light, intelligence, power, and wisdom. My children, you are asked to hold firmly to your faith in our message of the Light of Truth even when you cannot see the myriad ways in which your faith furthers our work.

At this important time, I bid you hold strong in allegiance, faith, and trust to the Lodge and to each other. I ask you to reaffirm both your pledges, and your recognition and acceptance of the Lodge, myself, and our agent. With conscious self endeavor you must focus your mind, your body, your soul on the Temple work imbuing every aspect with mutual understanding, voluntary yielding, and helpful interchange with each other on all planes of being. This will bring you truer adjustment, greater activities, purer transmission of finer forces, and with wider and broader dissemination of spiritual powers. Individually and as a group you have constantly sent us your appeals, efforts, ambitions and aspirations for closer, more intense relationship to the Lodge. Be still and listen in the Silence and you will know beyond all shadow of doubt what you must do.

Again and yet again I have given you the answers you crave. If I were to remain silent, irresponsive, closed, and deaf to your demands and prayers, you would consider me a faithless guide, servant, and father. Shall I expect less of you by asking for anything short of your full faith and following? This will tax your powers of flexibility, obedience, and balanced unity, but it lies within your own hands, hearts, and souls entirely. The evolution of the entire human race lies in the balance. It is your responsibility to act, and some small act of yours may very well prove to be the critical one for all humanity. This may seem to be a heavy task, but you are fitted for it.

As you leave this Temple, I ask you to enter the Temple of your own Inner Being. In this place of Light and Silence will come the realization that each of you is charged to truly see the Spirit of God within yourself, your friend, neighbor, stranger, and family, as well as every other part of the manifested universe, and your

response to every atom must be from Spirit to Spirit. Become a conscious example of the priceless gems of Truth and Wisdom, of Opportunity and Power, held inviolate in your innermost selves.

I want you all to realize the importance of the present, never mind the past or the future; they will be cared for. It is now that is of greatest importance. Every day, and yet one moment at a time, dig deep and lay the foundations well, lest any shaking of the upper beams loosen the underlying stones of the outer Temple. Do not allow yourself, or others if you can help it, to miss the sweet humble blossoms lying close by your side in reaching out for the larger, less fragrant blooms in the distance, and listen when I speak. Sink your very souls in the great Father-Mother heart, the beats of which vibrate through your own with every pulse of the same. Remember that I am one with you, not outside of you. It is my privilege to be your guide; it is your privilege to be an integral part of the Great Plan to build into the Temple a greater measure of joyful endurance, holding power, peace, and awareness of My Love for you.

— Your Father-Brother,
Hilarion

Following the Sunday morning service, birthday cake and coffee were served in the University Center. The 121st Temple birthday weekend was concluded with the noon healing service.

A PRAYER

FATHER-MOTHER-SON,
FROM OUR INMOST HEARTS WE PLEAD
FOR POWER TO LOVE UNSELFISHLY;
FOR WISDOM TO PERCEIVE ARIGHT;
FOR PERCEPTION OF RIGHTEOUS COURSE;
FOR DETERMINATION OF PURPOSE;
FOR POWER OF ACTION ACCORDING TO THY WILL.

THE COVENANT

The rock of the Temple of the Lodge shall not be divided.

A covenant have I made with my people

that it shall stand in that Day which is upon you.

That Covenant shall be kept though suns rise not nor set.

With mine own right arm shall I hold it and you

that no harm shall come near to destroy or disturb you.

With the Lodge Life-Blood are you welded to me.

What matters if storms rage around and about you.

Darkest night but brings me the closer, an ark

and a Haven of Refuge to be for you.

Fear not but know I am with you.

My love encircleth you always.

— *Hilarion*



All Photos in this issue by Anne R. Dunbar

Honoring Veterans

At 12 noon on December 14, many of us gathered together to honor the 22 veterans buried in the Halcyon Cemetery. This ceremony was held at the same time in the Arroyo Grande Cemetery. Allen Schofield from the Vietnam Vets group and Temple Priest Chris Thyrring officiated. Chris read the invocation: "Heavenly Father, for those veterans, the men and women of our armed services that are buried here in this cemetery, we humbly ask that you bestow your blessings upon them. We come to honor those that gave unselfishly to protect others and their dedication to keeping our nation safe. It takes an incredible person to face the possibility of war and death, especially a death that will save the lives of people they have never met. In John 15:13 we read, 'Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.'

Today we also honor the sacrifice of those living veterans gathered here today. We acknowledge that their service enables us to walk as free men and women in this great land. May each of our veterans feel honored not just today but every day.

Lord, you inspired men and women to establish this great nation. You stirred them to hope and to dream for a land of freedom. We praise you for this great nation. We thank you for our blessings of life and liberty. The Reverend Billy Graham said. 'Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened.'

For those gathered here today let us commit to go forward with our spines stiffened and be grateful for the sacrifice of our veterans both living and those that have passed and know that we as individuals and a nation as a whole are better off for their sacrifice. Amen"



Wind-whipped flying flags held by our living veterans lined the cemetery pathway mirroring the small flags adorning the graves of veterans from years gone by. Taps were played by Tommy Gong and his son Derek. Then living wreaths were laid on the graves, beginning with Loretta Hoisington, a nurse in the Civil War and later a Temple office staff member. This was followed by wreaths for Gene Clark, Earl Barger, Charles Harris, Edward St. Clair, Kevin Thomas, Bernard Lentz, Russell Darrah, Joseph Kline, Herb Lentz, Herman Volz, Stephen Quinn, Wesley Wheeler, Edward Twistman, Herman Wheeler, Norman London, Louise Varnot, Augustus Horskey, Robert Stenquist, Rick Ricardo, Winifred Cawley-Way, and Jean Doty.



I WILL ENDEAVOR
TO REALIZE
THE PRESENCE OF THE AVATAR
AS A LIVING POWER
IN MY LIFE

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

Temple Groups: There are Temple groups in New York City; London, England; and in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia; as well as several locations in Germany. Anyone wishing more information about these groups can call the Temple office in Halcyon.

The William Quan Judge Library serves Temple members, residents of Halcyon, and friends with an interest in Theosophy or who are doing research involving some of our special collections. Our library is staffed by volunteers. Hours are 9:30-11:30am on Tuesdays. Other hours are by appointment through the Temple office.

The Temple Healing Service is held at Noon each day in The Temple. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday Services are held at 10:30am in The Temple. The *Feast of Fulfillment*, the Communion Service of The Temple, is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. *Enter the Silence*, a prayer and meditation service, is held the last Sunday of the month. Speakers present programs on other Sundays. The public is cordially invited to all services.

Study Classes under the auspices of Temple Officers and various Temple Orders are held regularly at 5:30pm in The Temple on Tuesdays and Fridays. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Speakers in the Sunday Services were: September 8, Eleanor L. Shumway: *Tools of our Trade*; September 15, Margaret Thyrring: reading *Astrology* by Lottie Ferguson; September 22, Richard Berg: *The Disciple's Path*; October 13, Eleanor L. Shumway: *Things I am Learning*; October 20, Damian Rollison: *A Dialogue*; December 8, Eleanor L. Shumway: *Five Favorite Lessons*.

The Temple of the People

PO Box 7100 • Halcyon, California 93421-7100

Tel: 805.489.2822 • Fax: 805.481.9446 • ginc@templeofthepeople.org

www.templeofthepeople.org