

## *The Temple of the People*

### *Mantrams & Songs for Convention Opening*

#### *Gitche Manito, the Mighty*

Background: Early in the Temple's history, a portion of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem "The Song of Hiawatha" was set to the music from Giuseppe Verdi's opera, *Aida*. For over a century of Temple Conventions, the words to "Gitche Manito, the Mighty" have been sung with gusto by the entire congregation to gather our hearts, minds, and spirits together, honoring our connections with the heritage of Hiawatha, Hilarion, and the Lodge of Masters. The name *Gitche Manito* signifies the Great Spirit, the Master, the Giver of Life, who calls us to demonstrate the principles of Brother-Sisterhood in His words, "All your strength is in your union, all your danger is in discord." This is sung in preparation for the Invocation and the Master's Message.

Gitche Manito, the mighty,  
 Calls the tribes of men together,  
 Calls the warriors to His council,  
 Gitche Manito, the mighty,  
 The Creator of the nations  
 Looked upon them with compassion,  
 With paternal love and Pity,  
 Looked upon their wrath and wrangling  
 But as quarrels among children.

Over them He stretched His right hand,  
 To subdue their stubborn natures,  
 to allay their thirst and fever,  
 Spake to them with voice majestic  
 As the sound of far off waters,  
 Falling into deep abysses:  
 "O my children! my poor children!  
 Listen to the words of wisdom  
 Listen to the words of warning,  
 From the lips of the Great Spirit,  
 From the Master of Life who made You!

"I am weary of your quarrels,  
 Of your wrangling and dissensions;  
 All your strength is in your union,  
 All your danger is in discord,

"I will send a prophet to you,  
 A deliverer of the nations,  
 Who shall guide you and shall teach you,  
 Who shall toil and suffer with you.  
 If you listen to His counsels,  
 You will multiply and prosper;  
 If His warnings pass unheeded,  
 You will fade away and perish!

"Bathe now in the stream before you,  
 Wash the war-paint from your faces,  
 Smoke the calumet together,  
 and as brothers live henceforward."

### *Warriors of Light*

Warriors of Light, warriors of Truth,  
 I salute you in the name of the great white brotherhood.  
 Go forth to battle with the powers of darkness  
 Armed with the sword of the spirit of god,  
 The breastplate of righteousness  
 The helmet of eternal truth!

See to it then that no stain rest on that armor,  
 No rust on that sword,  
 That ye may become one with us.  
 On that great day, be with us,  
 BE WITH US.

### *Bread of the World*

Bread of the world by us here broken, Water of life a cleansing flood.  
 Feed us in Love, be this our token That in Thy Life we are renewed.  
 Cleanse from our hearts all signs of sorrow, Lift up our souls to see Thy face.  
 Radiant with Love the glorious morrow, Shedding on us the Light of Thy grace.  
 Narrow the Path our feet are treading, Lone is the way to heights above,  
 Sure in the knowledge Thou art leading, Help us to follow in Thy Love.

*The Avataric Mantram*

I will endeavor to realize the presence of the Avatar as a living power in my life.

*The Rallying Cry*

Enter in dear Father, enter in dear Mother,  
 Enter in dear Sister, enter in dear Brother,  
 Enter in dear Father, enter in dear Mother,  
 And another little Sister, and another Brother too.  
 Enter in dear Father, enter in dear Mother,  
 And the Sons and daughters of the Lord...our...God.

*The Temple Mantrams*

I believe that in me dwelleth every good and perfect spirit.  
 Believing this, I will show forth this day by thought, word, and deed  
 all that perfection that dwelleth in me.  
 I am one with God and all Good. Evil hath no power over me.  
 Though clouds and darkness seem to be about me, yet dwell I eternally in the Light.

*Hymn of Thanksgiving*

All thanks to Thee, Thou Power Supreme,  
 Father and Mother, Son in One.  
 To all the blessed Sons of Light  
 Guiding our wandering souls aright.  
 Humbly and gratefully we raise  
 Songs triumphant in Thy praise.  
 Glory and honor be to Thee,  
 Christ of God, eternally.