

**DOXOLOGY  
CLOSING PRAYER**

**Leader:** Let us pray:

**People:** Lord, thank you for your constant presence among us and for enabling us to build and use this place. We pray that those not with us today can share in our joy and celebration of your creation. Be with us as we journey home, and help us to bear witness to your love and grace in our daily lives. All this we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

**THE LORD'S PRAYER  
CLOSING CANTICLE "Listen! You Nations"**

*Refrain:* Listen! you nations of the world: listen to the Word of the Lord.

Announce it from coast to coast; declare it to distant islands.

The Lord who scattered Israel will gather his people again;  
and he will keep watch over them as a shepherd watches his flock. (*Refrain*)

With shouts of joy they will come, their faces radiantly happy,  
for the Lord is so gen'rous to them; he showers his people with gifts. (*Refrain*)

Young women will dance for joy, and men young and old will make merry.

Like a garden refreshed by the rain, they will never be in want again.

Break into shouts of great joy: Jacob is free again! Teach nations to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his people!"

**BENEDICTION**

The bell tower was made possible by gifts given in memory of the Rev. Dr. Gerald K. Johnson.

Dr. Johnson was born in Alexandria, Minnesota, on August 19, 1920. He was ordained on June 10, 1945. On October 4, 1945, he was married to Donna Lundgren. Their daughters are; Jan Bollig, and Julie Johnson. Dr. Johnson was the president of the Illinois Synod of the L. C. A., 1968-1975. He passed away September 1, 1976. During his administration the LOMC property was purchased and the development of the facility was begun.

The initiative for this memorial was provided by the former Illinois Synod Lutheran Church Men.

**Preacher/Officiant:** The Rev. Dr. Gerald Molgren, Assistant to the Bishop of the Illinois Synod, LCA.

**Liturgist:** The Rev. Dr. Leo Patterson, Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Chicago, Camp and Conference Operating Committee chairperson

**Designer of bell and construction engineer:** Irving Dornbush, Rockford

Bells donated by Dr. Fritz Eihl, Moline and  
Guy Soderberg, Rockford

**Assisting in phases of construction:** Bob Dornbush, Fred Dornbush, Ed Irvin, Brett Irvin, Gunnard Johnson, Daryle Lindstrom, Guy Soderberg, all of Rockford; Peter Swanson, Mt. Morris; and youth of Trinity Church, Galesburg.

**Members of the Camp and Conference Operating Committee (1980)**

The Rev. Dr. Leo Patterson, *Chairperson*

Paul Keser, Galesburg, *Secretary*

Dave Carlson, Oregon

The Rev. Terry Dufur, Richmond

James Gillooly, Murphysboro

Joyce Gulliford, Chicago

The Rev. Dr. Ross Larson, Chicago

Janette Muller, Northbrook

The Rev. Norman Remmers, Bloomington

Larry Sehy, Downers Grove

The Rev. John E. Swanson,

*Executive Director*

Cover Design by Cindy Bader, Oregon

Participating today in the Autumnfest are members of the 1980 Swing Choir camp directed by Ann Phelps.

Our thanks to members of the 1980 summer staff who were able to help with this day.



**Service of Dedication  
and Memorial**  
**Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center**  
**Oregon, Illinois, October 19, 1980, 3:00 p.m.**

# A SERVICE OF DEDICATION AND MEMORIAL

The bell tower is dedicated to the Glory of God and for the gathering of people in memory of Gerald K. Johnson, former president/bishop of the Illinois Synod of the Lutheran Church in America.

## INVOCATION

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen

**Leader:** We have come to this place as individuals, each with varied backgrounds, abilities, interests, and goals.

**People:** We are called to be the Church in the world.

**Leader:** We are not a building;

**People:** We are people.

**Leader:** We are not spectators;

**People:** We are participants in the life, ministry, and mission which God has given us.

**Leader:** Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst."

**People:** Together we celebrate God, because being many, in Christ we are one.

**Leader:** Let us pray:

**People:** We pause, O Lord,

to ring bells,

to acknowledge the gathering of your people in this place,

to remember one of your servants, and

to give you praise and glory.

We rejoice in your presence,

delight in your Word, and

are refreshed by your Spirit.

We give you thanks for all the people who have made this moment possible:

from those who designed and created this symbol of gathering;

to those who had the foresight to select this place;

to those who had the commitment to provide an outdoor ministry

center for the people of the Synod—

to meet in Christian community,

to grow in faith in Jesus Christ, and

to learn and play.

Now, O Lord, bless this time together in your Name. Amen.

## PSALM 50:1-7

### HYMN: "Earth and All Stars"

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Oh, victory! Loud shouting army! Sing to the Lord a new song!

*Refrain:* He has done marvelous things.

I too will praise him with a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Flowers and trees! Loud rustling dry leaves! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos! Sing to the Lord a new song!

River and streams! Loud rolling white waves! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Leaves and wood logs! Loud crackling red fires! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, all hikers! Loud screaming sore feet! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Cooks of good food! Loud singing graces! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Bells ringing clear! Loud peeling deep tones! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Gathering throngs! Loud praising Christians! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Verses 4 and 5 by Gail Mashek, LaGrange Park, IL

## READING: Isaiah 40:9-11

### HYMN: "Here We Are"

*Refrain:* Here we are all together as we sing our song joyfully.

Here we are joined together as we pray we'll always be.

Join we now as friends, and celebrate the Brotherhood we share all as one.

Keep the fire burning, Kindle it with care, and we'll all join in and sing.

Freedom we do shout for ev'rybody. And, unless there is, we should pray that

Soon there will be one true brotherhood; Let us all join in and sing.

Glorify the Lord with all our voices, Show him we're sincere by all our deeds

Shout the joys of freedom ev'rywhere, And we'll all join in and sing.

Happy is the man who does his best to Free the troubled world from all its pain,

Join we with that man and free the world, As we all join in and sing.

Let us make the world an Alleluia! Let us make the world a better place.

Keep a smile handy, have a helping hand; Let us all join in and sing.

## READING: John 17:20-26

### HYMN: "Built on a Rock"

Built on a rock the Church shall stand, Even when steeples are falling;

Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, Bells still are chiming and calling,

Calling the young and old to rest, Calling the souls of those distressed,

Longing for life everlasting.

Not in our temples made with hands God, the Almighty is dwelling;

High in the heav'ns his temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.

Yet he who dwells in heav'n above Deigns to abide with us in love,

Making our bodies his temple.

We are God's house of living stones, Built for his own habitation;

He fills our hearts, his humble thrones, Granting us life and salvation.

Were two or three to seek his face, He in their midst would show his grace,

Blessings upon them bestowing.

Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;

Hither we come to praise his name, Faith in our Savior confessing

Jesus to us his Spirit sent, Making with us his covenant,

Granting his children the kingdom.

Through all the passing years, O Lord, Grant that, when church bells are ringing,

Many may come to hear God's Word Where he this promise is bringing:

I know my own, my own know me; You, not the world, my face shall see;

My peace I leave with you. Amen.

## HOMILY

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

#### DEDICATION

**Leader:** Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

**People:** Who made heaven and earth.

**Leader:** Praise him in the firmament of His power.

**People:** Praise him according to his excellent greatness.

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Let us pray:

**People:** O Lord, our God, who gathers the faithful in the Church Militant and the Church Tri-

umphant, receive this bell tower which we now dedicate.

Grant that our gatherings in this place will be filled with peace and joy as a foretaste of our gathering in your eternal kingdom.

With this dedication we also remember before you with reverence and affection our brother, Gerald, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Leader:** We bless and dedicate this bell to the praise, honor and glory of Almighty God.

**People:** As a place of gathering for the people of God

(Ring bell)

**Leader:** We bless and dedicate this bell

**People:** As a symbol of many nations and peoples unified in their oneness in Christ.

(Ring bell)

**Leader:** We bless and dedicate this bell

**People:** To ring and announce the proclamation of God's Word in this place.

(Ring bell)

**Leader:** In memory we bless and dedicate this bell

**People:** As we recall your servant, Gerald.

(Ring bell)