



DEDICATORY PRAYER OF THE SANDY SEVENTH AND EIGHTH WARD CHAPEL

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Given by Elder Harold B. Lee of the Council of the Twelve
on Sunday - August 8th, 1965

O God, our Eternal Father, as Thou seest we have gathered here in this beautiful building which has been erected for the worship of Thy children who live in this part of Thy kingdom. Here have come young families to make their homes, and obedient to divine command, they have been willing to have children. We are impressed, as we look upon these little ones, to see their beauty and their loveliness; and we observe the never-ending patience of these little mothers, the kindness of fathers who have cooperated; and we beseech Thee, Father that Thou look upon the homes of these, the young families, where the problems which lie ahead will be not too easy, but may they meet those problems, whatever they may be with courage, with strength, with patience and faith, and will be willing to give as the watchwords of one of the leaders in this Stake, give according to their faith and continue to give according to their faith.

We thank Thee, Father, that we live in a day when the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been restored in fullness upon the earth, and that we have apostles, and prophets, and pastors, and teachers, and evangelists, the same organization which existed in the primitive church. We thank Thee that we have been judged worthy to come into mortal bodies in this day, the greatest of all dispensations of the history of this world. Holy Father, we believe implicitly that Thou didst raise up, for the need of this time great and worthy men and that we have presiding in our midst today one of the noblest of Thy children, and we ask that Thou will preserve him with the measure of physical strength, mental vigor, and spiritual power as long as Thou seest fit to retain him here as Thy leader. We pray for all the presiding brethren of the church, and the general boards, and organizations throughout the stakes and missions of the church, and the auxiliaries in the priesthood quorums, bishoprics of wards, and presidencies of branches. We pray for those who are in the school system, those who are and have charge of work in the temple; for all these, we pray now, and thank Thee from the bottom of our hearts that Thou hast put into our hands the means by which we could sustain our families and yet make contributions for tithes and for offerings, and contributions to the building fund which makes possible the erection of such structures as this.

Now Father, we pray Thee, now therefore, that Thou will bless this place; that if it be on occasion a house of mourning, where loved ones shall come to be lifted up in their hearts because of the loss of loved ones, that they may go from here, because of that which shall be found, with the head held high and with a new resolution to live so that they may be worthy to meet their loved ones that have gone on before. Forbid, Father, the teachings of false doctrine from this pulpit or from the classrooms; that those who preside here will see to it that none such shall have sway and that those who would betray us or those who would defile us may be searched out unless they harm those of our children who follow their leadership.

By the authority of the Holy Priesthood in us vested, we, therefore, present this building unto Thee; the ground on which it stands, the foundation, the walls, the utmost topmost rafter, the doors, the windows, the heating facilities, the cooling facilities, the musical instruments, and all that pertain unto the furnishings which go to make up this a worshipping place. If there be dancing and

recreation in the adjacent halls, that Thou will help those who conduct these affairs to understand that the purpose of these places is not just to have fun, but what we do there, must be done with an eye sacred to the glory of God; for in other words, that by such activities we may lead our young people to desire to be fellowshipped in Thy church and to find their companions during their growing-up years, where friendships may be ripened into courtship, and courtship consummated into a happy marriage, and please Thee, in the sacred temples which Thou hast had builded for this purpose.

Be with us, Father, protect this house from the vandals, those who would deface or destroy. Protect it from the elements, from winds, and earthquakes, and disaster of all kinds and occasions, that it may fulfill its purpose and stand here for the period necessary for the consummation of Thy work; that it indeed may be a platform to provide a springboard into the Celestial Kingdom, because of the teachings which emanate from this place.

And so we dedicate and consecrate this place that it may be a house of learning, a house of prayer, a house of worship, a house of God, and as so far as the membership of the church who reside herein are concerned, that they may realize that the dedication of the building is, in reality, a dedication of their own lives, to be worthy to enter into this place and to keep it a reverent place, and to do all possible to teach their little ones and their growing children to enter here with reverence, and teach them how to observe those rules which will invite the spirit of the Lord within their services. For those who are not of us and not now members of Thy church, may they be beckoned here now by a spirit which shall emulate that they may desire to join with us in worship and to be fellowshipped in the kingdom of God.

And so we dedicate, and consecrate, and set it apart by the authority of the Holy Priesthood, and in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.