

**“Sacred Memory/Sacred Space”
Re-dedication of Stauffer Chapel
Pepperdine University
March 4, 2004**

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come – we give you thanks for every blessing of life. On this occasion, O God, we give thanks for Pepperdine University, and we express our gratitude those whose vision and planning made provision for a place of worship on this campus where your name might be hallowed. We are mindful of the living memory that abides in this place that nourishes our spirits and enriches our community. We are grateful for all who made possible the transformation of our beloved chapel as we behold it today. Bless all who dreamed, who made decisions, who labored with their hands, who gave of their time to bring this moment to reality. It is with deep gratitude that we consecrate this place today in your name. May we be good stewards of your blessings and may all who come here feel your abiding presence.

Bless now this service, O Lord. We offer it as a blessing before you. It is with grateful hearts that we raise our hymns of praise and acknowledge your holy name.

In the name of Jesus, amen

D’Esta Love
University Chaplain

Responsive Prayer of dedication

Leader: Ever living Father, watchful and caring, our source and our end: All that we are and all that we have is yours. Accept us now, as we dedicate this chapel to which we come to praise your Name, to ask your forgiveness, to know your healing power, to hear your Word, and to be nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son. Be present always to guide and to judge, to illuminate and to bless your people.

People: **Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, make this a temple of your presence and a house of prayer. Be always near us when we seek you in this place. Draw us to you, when we come alone and when we come with others. May the prayers we offer rise as sweet incense before you. May the worship of this community bring glory to your name. May the lectures we hear in this place inspire us and impart wisdom. May we and our students find in this chapel a place of peace. May it be here, Lord Jesus, that we are made one with you and with one another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service.

People: **Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Leader: Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts, that we may grow closer to you through joy and through suffering. Be with us in the fullness of your power, as we assemble as your people, when we turn to you in sickness or special need, when we are joined in marriage, when we mourn the loss of members of our community and, at the last, when we are committed into the Father's hands.

People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Leader: Now, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit sanctify this place;

People: For everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

Leader: Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom;

People: And you are exalted as head over all. Amen.

This day is about miracles. It recalls what Norvel Young referred to as the "Miracle of Malibu" which certainly included the original construction of this chapel. And for those of us who have been involved in any way in the remodel of the chapel there is an abiding sense that it has been miraculous. But truly today it is a miracle of God that Helen Young is able to be part of this service. Because of her long history with Pepperdine and particularly with the design and building of this chapel, there is no one more fitting to share with us her memories of Stauffer chapel. Helen, we are most grateful that you can be with us today.