

## PRAYER FOR DEDICATION OF THE BELL

Almighty and gracious God,

We today dedicate our bell and its tower to your glory, to be used for your honor.

Please let the times that the bell is rung be very special times indeed, times when your people are gathering in your name for worship, for marriage, for mourning, for prayer.

Accept the ringing of the bell as one of the ways we sing your praises and give thanks to you.

Though it is not a fire bell, may your Spirit use it to rekindle a fire in our hearts for you when we hear it ring.

Though it is not a school bell, may we remember when we hear it that we always have more to learn at the feet of our teacher, Jesus Christ.

Though it is not an alarm bell, may we remember when we hear it how vitally important our life with you is.

Let it truly be a church bell, Lord, calling us out of the world with its beliefs and attitudes and ways, and calling us together to be the Body of Christ and to have the mind of Christ.

May its ringing wake us out of our sins into your new life.

Almighty and gracious God,

you desire that your people worship you in the beauty of holiness. Let the beauty of the bell's chiming remind us that you are making us beautiful in Jesus Christ.

Accept, Lord, this gift of our hands and our hearts. Give us your blessing now as we devote the bell and the tower to your service.

May all who worship here at American be made conscious of your presence and drawn into the fellowship of your Spirit.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.