



# Lutheran Campus Ministry as a Means of Grace

## *A Litany of Thanksgiving for 100 years*

**One:** Let us join our prayers with those of the whole church, giving thanks for God's goodness and grace as they have been received in academic communities.

*All: Source of all blessings, we give you thanks for Lutheran Campus Ministry.*

**One:** For your Presence in worship. For the recovery of ancient liturgies, for new words and for every genre of music bent to the purpose of praise. For the sacramental waters of baptism and the body and blood of Jesus received in Holy Communion. And for prayer: desperate cries for forgiveness and love, prayers of triumph and tragedy, concerns for campus life, and earnest petitions to meet global needs--rising to You like incense...

*All: Source of all blessings, we give you thanks for means of grace, especially for liturgy, sacraments, and the prayers of your people.*

**One:** For friendships nurtured by the Spirit. For welcomed strangers and receptive communities. For long talks, secrets shared, confessions, absolutions, and encouragement. For memories, reunions, and enduring relationships...

*All: Source of all blessings, we give you thanks for means of grace, especially for friends and friendship.*

**One:** For justice and peace: for each generation and its causes. For discussions and teach-ins, marches and vigils, tutoring and lobbying, mission trips and Christian service: for campus ministry's contributions to peace, equal rights, food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, and dignity for the poor. For serving and sacrifice, martyrdoms great and small...

*All: Source of all blessings, we give you thanks for means of grace, especially for the privilege of engagement with justice and peace.*

**One:** For the discovery of vocations. For intertwining intellectual and spiritual growth, the enduring challenges and guidance in Scripture, the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus through ministry in the world, and for mentors who ask, "To what is God calling you?"

*All: Source of all blessings, we give you thanks for means of grace, especially for those defining your calling and inspiring our response.*

**One:** For leadership. For all who have given leadership to campus ministry, all who learned leadership in campus ministry, and all who have taken their talent for leadership into congregations and denominations, education and social service, industry and government—leading communities across this country and around the world...

*All: Source of all blessings, we give you thanks for means of grace, especially for leadership as it grows within Lutheran Campus Ministry and bears fruit beyond.*

**One:** For specific persons and other gracious gifts received from you through Christ's church on campus. We name them in our hearts or aloud: \_\_\_\_\_. For all these we are grateful.

*All: O God, we give you thanks for Lutheran Campus Ministry and for the people, places, traditions, occasions, insights, and service through which we have experienced the comfort, challenge, and inspiration of your Holy Presence. Strengthen our commitment to be in mission to and with people in higher education, and continue to bless Lutheran Campus Ministry with your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Savior. Amen.*

Litany written by John B. Hougen