

# Dedicatory prayer of the Gadfield Elm Chapel:

**May 26, 2004 by President Gordon B. Hinckley.**

O God our Eternal Father, in humility we are gathered here this day with gratitude in our hearts for this occasion. We thank Thee that Thou hast moved upon these good brethren to create a Trust under which this property has been purchased and restored back to its original condition.

This is a place where the early leaders of this dispensation have spoken. Here they bore testimony that the angel mentioned in the Book of Revelation had flown and that the gospel had been restored. Here they bore witness of Thee and of Thy Beloved Son and of Thine appearance with Thy Son to the boy Joseph, parting the curtains and ushering in this, the dispensation of the fullness of times.

Here they spoke with power and faith and touched the hearts of many people who went into the waters of baptism and joined the Church.

Here in this hall they gathered together, partook of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, in remembrance of His sacrifice, His great Atonement wrought in behalf of all men. Great have been the occurrences in this place where we now meet. We are so thankful to be here and again express our gratitude to those of foresight and unselfishness who have worked together to restore this beautiful structure.

May it stand now forever. May Thy watchcare be over it. May no destructive hand touch it. May it be kept sacred from the evil hand of vandals, and may it be preserved against the storms of nature. May it be a haven to which people will come and renew their faith as they contemplate what occurred in this general neighbourhood.

Father, we pray Thy blessings upon Thy work here in this great and beautiful land, the United Kingdom and Ireland. Touch again the hearts of the people as Thou didst once touch them in the past, that thousands more may embrace the gospel, and that the Church may grow and flourish and become strong and well known in this part of the world. There has been a falling away from the established Churches in this area. We pray that as that has occurred, that there may be a strengthening of Thy work.

There are so many people, we are confident, who love the Lord and look to Him, and who carry in their hearts a desire to worship Thee in spirit and in truth. We pray, therefore, that the means may open, the way may be cleared, that Thy gospel may be taught with power and be received by thousands in this good part of the earth.

Now we carry in our hearts a testimony of this work for which we thank Thee. We know that Thou dost live. We know that Thy Son lives. We know that Thou didst visit the Prophet Joseph. We know that the testament of the New World has come forth as a companion to the testament of the Old World, hand-in-hand, bearing witness of the divine mission of the Son of God. We know that the priesthood is upon the earth with all of its keys and authority. We know that this is Thy Church and kingdom. We thank Thee for the prosperity and strength it enjoys this day and pray that this may continue.

Smile with love upon us we humbly pray. May we look to Thee in faith, and wilt Thou answer our prayers and open the way before us as we go our ways, we humbly pray as Thy grateful sons and daughters on this historic occasion in this historic place, in the sacred name of Him who is our Redeemer, even the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.