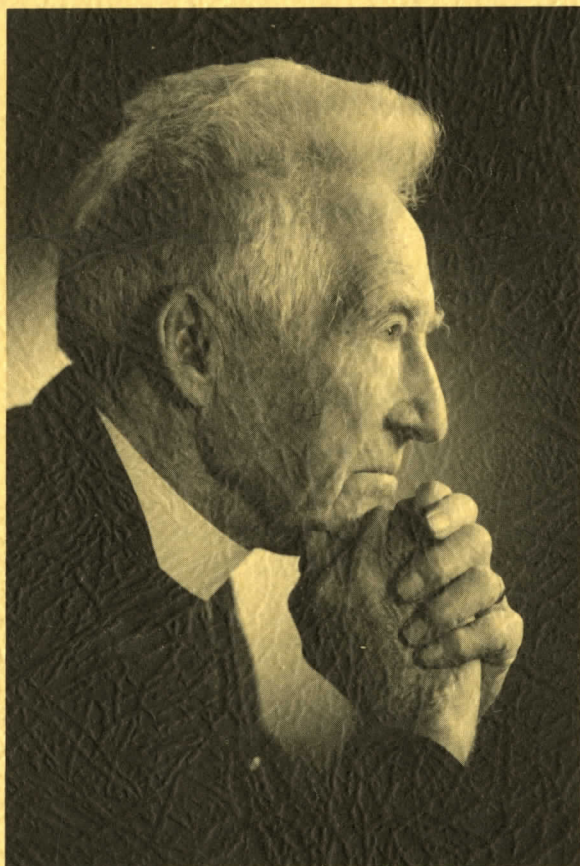


*A Festival of Thanksgiving  
in Celebration of  
the One Hundredth Birthday  
of  
Anders O. Aasen*



1874 - 1974

**Home Mission Pastor, Evangelist and Chaplain  
of Lutheran Churches in the United States  
and Canada for 75 years**

## PART ONE

Prelude.....	Miss Marlene Nepstad
Processional Hymn .....	Daniel Otteson (trumpet) Norman Skretting (trombone)

(The Assembly will stand and remain standing until the end of the Psalm)

### "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD"

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A bulwark never failing;  
A helper he amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing:  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great,  
And, armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide  
Our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side,  
The Man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth his Name,  
From age to age the same,  
And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,  
Should threaten to undo us;  
We will not fear, for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph through us:  
The prince of darkness grim,  
We tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure,  
For lo! his doom is sure,  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,  
No thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
Through him who with us sideth:  
Let goods and kindred go,  
This mortal life also;  
The body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever.      AMEN

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(RESPONSIVE READING)

REV. K. GLEN JOHNSON

#### Psalm 71

- P: In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust:  
C: **Let me never be put to confusion.**  
P: Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape:  
C: **incline thine ear unto me, and save me.**  
P: Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort:  
C: **thou has given commandment to save me, for thou art my rock and my fortress.**  
P: Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked:  
C: **out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.**  
P: For thou art my hope, O Lord God:  
C: **thou art my trust from my youth.**  
P: Through thee have I been holden up ever since I was born:  
C: **thou art he that took me out of my mother's womb, my praise shall be always of thee.**  
P: I am as a wonder unto many:  
C: **but thou art my strong refuge.**  
P: Let my mouth be filled with thy praise:  
C: **and with thy honour all the day.**  
P: Cast me not off in the time of old age:  
C: **forsake me not when my strength faileth.**  
P: For mine enemies speak against me:  
C: **and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,**  
P: Saying, God hath forsaken him:  
C: **persecute and take him for there is none to deliver him.**  
P: O God, be not far from me:  
C: **O my God, make haste for my help.**  
P: Let them be confounded and consumed that are adversaries to my soul:  
C: **let them be covered with reproach and dishonour that seek my hurt.**  
P: But I will hope continually:  
C: **and will yet praise thee more and more.**  
P: My mouth shall show forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day:  
C: **for I know not the numbers thereof.**  
P: I will go in the strength of the Lord God:  
C: **I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.**

P: O God, thou hast taught me from my youth:  
**C: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.**  
P: Now also when I am old and grey-headed, O God, forsake me not:  
**C: until I have showed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to everyone that is to come.**  
P: Thy righteousness also, O God, is very high, who hast done great things:  
**C: O God, who is like unto thee!**  
P: Thou, which hast showed me great and sore troubles, shall quicken me again:  
**C: and shall bring me up again from the depths of the earth.**  
P: Thou shalt increase my greatness:  
**C: and comfort me on every side.**  
P: I will also praise thee with the psaltery, even thy truth, O my God:  
**C: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.**  
P: My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee:  
**C: and my soul, which thou hast redeemed.**  
P: My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long:  
**C: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.**

Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7 ..... Rev. Otto Ecklund

Lesson: St. John 21: 15-19 ..... Rev. Jacob Stolee

Camrose Lutheran Choir ..... Prof. James Neff, Director  
"Let All The Nations Praise The Lord" ..... Leisring

Address ..... The Rev. Dr. Fredrik A. Schoitz  
Past President, The American Lutheran Church  
and The Lutheran World Federation

Camrose Lutheran Choir ..... Prof. James Neff, Director  
"Go Ye Into All The World" ..... Robert Wetzler  
"Cry Out and Shout Ye People of God" ..... Nystedt

Address ..... The Rev. Dr. S. T. Jacobson  
President, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada

Hymn ..... "Praise My Soul The King of Heaven"

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;  
To his feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like me his praise should sing?  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise him still the same forever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us,  
Well our feeble frame he knows;  
In his hands he gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him,  
Ye behold him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before him;  
Dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

The Recessional Hymn ..... "Now Thank We All Our God"

Now thank we all our God  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms,  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven;  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore. AMEN.

## PART TWO

The assembly is invited to move immediately to the cafeteria and be seated at the tables  
for refreshments and the second part of the festivities.

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Biography of Pastor A. O. Aasen ..... read by Rev. Dwight J. Boe

### OFFICIAL GREETINGS

Greetings ..... Arne J. Johannessen, Consul  
Royal Norwegian Consulate

Greetings ..... His Worship Rudy Swanson  
Mayor, City of Camrose

Piano Solo ..... Dr. Robyn Garvin (Grandson)

Greetings ..... Dr. S. T. Jacobson, President  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada

Greetings ..... The Rev. Carl Kopperud, Pastor  
Messiah Lutheran Church, Camrose

Greetings ..... The Rev. Henry Haugen, Administrator  
Bethany Home and Hospital, Camrose

Musical presentations ..... Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute Singers

Greetings ..... The Rev. Arnold Hagen, President  
C.L.B.I., Camrose

Greetings ..... Professor Gary Gibson  
for Camrose Lutheran College

Greetings ..... Mr. Maurice Leiren

Greetings ..... an opportunity will be given at this time for brief individual greetings  
from those attending these festivities

Closing Prayer and Benediction ..... The Rev. Karel Lunde, Chaplain  
Camrose Lutheran College

BIOGRAPHY OF THE REV. ANDERS O. AASEN

Anders O. Aasen was born in Lyngdal, Norway, January 16, 1874.

His father was "husmann" or cottager, which means that he belonged to the hardest working and poorest paid farmers in Norway. When Anders was a year and one half old, his father was killed in the woods. Ander's mother was left with a brood of five children, the oldest eight years and the youngest just three weeks old. From the age of six to eleven, Anders knew no real home. He stayed with neighbors, a little while at each place, as was the custom for the poor people of the parish.

In 1885, he emigrated to America with his family, and with the help of an uncle. They took residence at East Koshkonong, Wisconsin where two years later he prepared for confirmation with the Rev. Jacob Otteson. This was the turning point in Ander's life. Pastor Otteson took a great interest in the bright but poor newcomer and later directed his steps toward Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and thence to the Seminary.

Pastor Aasen was ordained to the holy ministry in 1899 in the Norwegian Lutheran Synod. Pastor Aasen's field of labor through fifty years ministry in the Church stretch from Redwood and adjoining counties in Minnesota to the interior of Alaska in the north and to Southern California in the South. He has especially been successful, under God, in establishing new missions and in reviving old defunct churches and guiding them until they became self-supporting. All of his ministry may be summed up in three words... Pastor Aasen's words: "HOME MISSION ZEAL"! Loyalty is an outstanding trait in Pastor Aasen's character. He is loyal to God, to the Word of God and to the Lutheran Church.

To trace rather sketchily his ministry we commence at Belview, Minnesota in 1899 to 1910. From there he moved to Minneapolis where he served 24 years. During his ministry at Minneapolis he started the Lutheran Rescue Home for girls, and was president of its Board of Directors for eighteen years.

After leaving Minneapolis he was constantly on the move. He stayed in one place only long enough to get a new mission established, or in case of older neglected congregations, until they had become numerically and financially able to carry on the work without aid from the Board of Home Missions. To follow his activities on the Pacific Coast, He was Pastor at First Lutheran Church in Vancouver and while there established a congregation at Dunbar Lutheran Church in Vancouver. He served at Port Madison and Seattle Washington for five years, at Santa Monica, California for three years and the Matanuska Colony and Sitka, Alaska for one year...his ministry in Alaska was supported the the Government.

In 1957, in his retirement, he was called to Bethany Home and Hospital in Camrose, Alberta to be the Chaplain. He served for three years, and was later relieved by a younger man. However, he continued active as an assistant in taking services and Bible studies for a number of years following...even to the present day. During his stay at Bethany which became his home, he has taught Bible classes at Camrose Lutheran College for eight years and is presently a guest lecturer in Bible and religious studies at the College.

He travels widely through the U.S. and Canada, filling invitations to speak at churches he has founded or served. Last November he travelled to Vancouver to be guest speaker at First Lutheran Church, while they celebrated their anniversary. He has been asked to address the Seminary students in Saskatoon this winter and will be going to Prince Rupert early this Spring to be present at a Church anniversary. If he has time, amidst his busy activities, he will celebrate his actual 100th Birthday on January 16 in Camrose. The festivities today are just a couple of days before his actual birthday...and we thank you for honoring him by your attendance today.

There is no need to describe this outstanding pastor any more, as you can draw your own conclusions as he appears before you and as he makes his imprint upon your life.

Pastor Aasen is a widower; his wife, Marit, accompanied him to Bethany where she passed away in 1968. They were blessed with seven children, six daughters and a son. One daughter passed away in early childhood, and a second daughter more recently; the son was killed in a railroad crossing accident in Chicago about 45 years ago. All the daughters are in good health, three living in Minneapolis and one in Venice, Florida. Pastor Anders C. Aasen has eleven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PASTOR AASEN!