

# Youth Leadership and Service — Connection to Christ and the Church

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the work of LCMS Youth Ministry. You created all of us in Your image and know each of us from our conception to our earthly death. Along life's journey there is a time when many young people have questions about their faith in the Triune God. It is a time of transition from living at home to living on their own. We pray for guidance for the staff of LCMS Youth Ministry as they develop curriculum for YouthLead to help teens and young adults learn skills to be leaders in their churches and to serve the church and each other as servants with the love of Jesus in their hearts.

**All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.**

**Hymn** “Dearest Jesus, We Are Here” *LSB* 592 (verses 1–3)

**Reader 1:** Psalm 90:16: *Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.*

**Leader:** Parents are called by the Holy Spirit to bring their children to the baptismal font so that the child receives, through the Word, the gift of the washing of new birth in the Holy Spirit. This baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation. It is vitally important and incumbent upon parents and church leaders to teach and provide opportunity for teens and young adults to work in the church and grow in their faith.

Reader 2: Jesus said in Mark 10:14b, *“Let the children come to me.”* The whole story from Mark 10:13–16 reads: *And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.*

Reader 3: LCMS Youth Ministry will use this grant to develop curriculum for leadership events, a servant event with leadership education, and a survey for Generation Z. Young people face attacks on the truth of Christianity and need to be prepared to tell others why they believe in Christ and be able to show it to the world. The events sponsored by LCMS Youth Ministry will give teens and young adults the opportunity to learn more about Jesus and how God uses them to further His kingdom.

Hymn: “Dearest Jesus, We Are Here” *LSB* 592 (verses 4–5)