

***A Service for Independence Day –  
“Two Kingdoms – Two Flags”***

Independence Day  
July 4, 2021



**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**Welcome:** Today, throughout this nation, churches are pausing to give thanks for the nation in which we live. We give thanks for the freedom to share our faith openly. May the Lord bless this time of worship.

*Please stand and face the Christian flag*

**PLEDGE TO THE CHRISTIAN FLAG**

**All:** I pledge allegiance to the cross of my Lord, Jesus Christ, and to the faith for which it stands, one Savior, eternal, with mercy and grace for all.

*Please face the American flag*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**All:** I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all.

*Note: This hymn was written by Francis Scott Key, who also penned our national anthem.*

**OPENING HYMN: ♪ "BEFORE YOU, LORD, WE BOW"**

**LSB 966**

- 1 Before You, Lord, we bow,  
Our God who reigns above  
And rules the world below,  
Boundless in pow'r and love.  
Our thanks we bring  
In joy and praise,  
Our hearts we raise  
To You, our King!
  
- 2 The nation You have blest  
May well Your love declare,  
From foes and fears at rest,  
Protected by Your care.  
For this bright day,  
For this fair land—  
Gifts of Your hand—  
Our thanks we pay.

- 3 **May ev'ry mountain height,  
Each vale and forest green,  
Shine in Your Word's pure light,  
And its rich fruits be seen!  
May ev'ry tongue  
Be tuned to praise  
And join to raise  
A grateful song.**
- 4 **Earth, hear your Maker's voice;  
Your great Redeemer own;  
Believe, obey, rejoice,  
And worship Him alone.  
Cast down your pride,  
Your sin deplore,  
And bow before  
The Crucified.**
- 5 **And when in pow'r He comes,  
Oh, may our native land  
From all its rending tombs  
Send forth a glorious band,  
A countless throng,  
With joy to sing  
To heav'n's high King  
Salvation's song!**

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### ***INVOCATION, CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION***

**P** In the name of the Father and of ✠ the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **but with you there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in fellowship of this altar, let us the first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### **INTROIT**

**PSALM 123**

**P** To you I lift up my eyes,

**C** O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

**P** Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress,

**C** so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us.

**P** Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us,

**C** for we have had more than enough of contempt.

**P** Our soul has had more than enough of the scorn of those who are at ease,

**C** of the contempt of the proud.

**P** To you I lift up my eyes,

**C** O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray:

Almighty God, You have given this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember Your generosity and constantly do Your will. Bless our land with honest industry, trustful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Make us who came from many nations with many different languages a united people. Defend our liberties, and give those whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful. In troubled times do not let our trust in You fail; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

### **EPISTLE**

**2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10**

**P** A reading from St. Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, chapter twelve:

So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the

power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

*Stand*

## **ALLELUIA**

**☪ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**MARK 6:1-13**

**ℙ** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter:

**☩ Glory to You, O Lord.**

He went away from there and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

And Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household." And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff--no bread, no bag, no money in their belts-- but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. And he said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them."

So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

**ℙ** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**☩ Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **NICENE CREED**

**☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

**SERMON HYMN:  $\text{♩}$  "RISE, MY SOUL, TO WATCH AND PRAY"**

**LSB 663**

- 1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray;  
From your sleep awaken!  
Be not by the evil day  
Unawares o'ertaken;  
For the foe,  
Well we know,  
Is a harvest reaping  
While the saints are sleeping.**
- 2 Watch against the devil's snares  
Lest asleep he find you;  
For indeed no pains he spares  
To deceive and blind you.  
Satan's prey  
Oft are they  
Who secure are sleeping  
And no watch are keeping.**
- 3 Watch! Let not the wicked world  
With its lies defeat you  
Lest with bold deceptions hurled  
It betray and cheat you.  
Watch and see  
Lest there be  
Faithless friends to charm you,  
Who but seek to harm you.**
- 4 Watch against yourself, my soul,  
Lest with grace you trifle;  
Let not self your thoughts control  
Nor God's mercy stifle.  
Pride and sin  
Lurk within,  
All your hopes to shatter;  
Heed not when they flatter.**

**5 But while watching, also pray  
To the Lord unceasing.  
God protects you day by day,  
Strength and faith increasing,  
So that still  
Mind and will  
Shall unite to serve Him  
And forever love Him.**

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**SERMON: "LIVING UNDER 2 FLAGS"**

By Pastor David Mumm

**1 PETER 2:13-17**

*Stand*

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

**OFFERTORY**

**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

**PRAYERS**

**PREFACE**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS**

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**C** **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

#### **PAX DOMINI**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

#### **AGNUS DEI**

**C** **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

#### **DISTRIBUTION REMINDER**

Just as a reminder that as you come up for communion following the benediction that you hold out your hand for the elder to drop the wafer in. Then make your way over to the stand to receive the wine and make your way out the back door. There is a container at the door for the used cups.

We continue with the Nunc Dimittis

#### **NUNC DIMITTIS**

**C** **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

#### **THANKSGIVING**

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** **and His mercy endureth forever.**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

#### **SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C**  $\text{♩}$  Amen, amen, amen.

## **SILENT PRAYER**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN: $\text{♩}$ "AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"**

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,  
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plains!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee  
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet Whose stern impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare of freedom beat Across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
Confirm thy soul with self-control, Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed His grace on thee  
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN: $\text{♩}$ "GOD BLESS OUR NATIVE LAND"**

**LSB 965**

1 God bless our native land;  
Firm may she ever stand  
Through storm and night.  
When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave,  
Do Thou our country save  
By Thy great might.

2 So shall our prayers arise  
To God above the skies;  
On Him we wait.  
Thou who art ever nigh,  
Guarding with watchful eye,  
To Thee aloud we cry:  
God save the state!

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**DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪ "O SAVIOR, PRECIOUS SAVIOR"**

**LSB 527**

- 1 O Savior, precious Savior,  
Whom yet unseen we love;  
O name of might and favor,  
All other names above,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our holy Lord and King.**
  
- 2 O bringer of salvation,  
Who wondrously hast wrought  
Thyself the revelation  
Of love beyond our thought,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our gracious Lord and King.**
  
- 3 In Thee all fullness dwelleth,  
All grace and pow'r divine;  
The glory that excelleth,  
O Son of God, is Thine.  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our glorious Lord and King.**
  
- 4 O grant the consummation  
Of this our song above  
In endless adoration  
And everlasting love;  
Then shall we praise and bless Thee  
Where perfect praises ring,  
And evermore confess Thee,  
Our Savior and our King!**

Text: Public domain