

# ALL SOULS'

— EPISCOPAL CHURCH —

Welcome Home. Peace Awaits.



*The* FEAST  
*of* INDEPENDENCE DAY

**EVENING PRAYER**  
**Friday, 03 July 2026**  
**5:00 PM ~ ~ VIA ZOOM**

*Officiant* Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands  
as the evening sacrifice. *Psalm 141:2*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A silence is kept*

*All* Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Officiant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy  
Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

*The hymn appears on the next page*

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;  
 2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,  
 3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;  
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;  
 and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;  
 so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;  
 Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion:

sing prais - es to his Name; he for - gets not his own.  
 thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!  
 thy Name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

# THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.  
*People*          O Lord, make haste to help us.

All                Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia.

## *The PHOS HILARON*

All                O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy, at all times, to be praised by happy voice,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

## *The PSALTER*

**Psalm 145:1-9,18-22**

*Said by all, responsively by half-verse*

Antiphon      The LORD is faithful in all his words \*  
                    and merciful in all his deeds.

1                I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
                    and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2                Every day will I bless you \*  
                    and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3                Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; \*  
                    there is no end to his greatness.

4                One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
                    and shall declare your power.

- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty \*  
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, \*  
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; \*  
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 The LORD is loving to everyone \*  
and his compassion is over all his works.
- 18 The LORD is righteous in all his ways \*  
and loving in all his works.
- 19 The LORD is near to those who call upon him, \*  
to all who call upon him faithfully.
- 20 He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; \*  
he hears their cry and helps them.
- 21 The LORD preserves all those who love him, \*  
but he destroys all the wicked.
- 22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; \*  
let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.
- Antiphon The LORD is faithful in all his words \*  
and merciful in all his deeds.

*After the Psalm, all say together*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

# THE LESSONS

## *The* FIRST READING

*From the* Declaration of Independence (1776)  
*and the* U.S. Constitution (1789)

*Lector*            A reading from the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

\*\* \*\* \*

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

*Lector*            Here ends the reading.

## *The* SECOND READING

Sirach 10:4-8

*Lector*            A reading from the Book of Sirach.

The government of the earth is in the hand of the Lord,  
and over it he will raise up the right leader for the time.  
Human success is in the hand of the Lord,  
and it is he who confers honor upon the lawgiver.

Do not get angry with your neighbor for every injury,  
and do not resort to acts of insolence.  
Arrogance is hateful to the Lord and to mortals,  
and injustice is outrageous to both.  
Sovereignty passes from nation to nation  
on account of injustice and insolence and wealth.

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            *Thanks be to God.*

*Silence may be kept*

**The RESPONSE: Canticle 19, The Song of the Redeemed** *Magna et mirabilia*

*Revelation 15:3-4*

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord,  
and sing the praises of your Name? \*  
for you only are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, \*  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*  
O King of all the ages.

\*\* \*\* \*

**The THIRD READING**

*From the Rev Martin Luther King's  
Letter from the Birmingham Jail (1963)*

*Lector*      A reading from Martin Luther King's Letter from the Birmingham Jail.

I have not said to my people: "Get rid of your discontent." Rather, I have tried to say that this normal and healthy discontent can be channeled into the creative outlet of nonviolent direct action. And now this approach is being termed extremist. But though I was initially disappointed at being categorized as an extremist, as I continued to think about the matter I gradually gained a measure of satisfaction from the label.

Was not Jesus an extremist for love: “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.” Was not Amos an extremist for justice: “Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” Was not Paul an extremist for the Christian gospel: “I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.” Was not Martin Luther an extremist: “Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise, so help me God.” And John Bunyan: “I will stay in jail to the end of my days before I make a butchery of my conscience.” And Abraham Lincoln: “This nation cannot survive half slave and half free.” And Thomas Jefferson: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal . . . .”

So the question is not whether we will be extremists, but what kind of extremists we will be. Will we be extremists for hate or for love? Will we be extremists for the preservation of injustice or for the extension of justice? . . . Jesus Christ was an extremist for love, truth and goodness, and thereby rose above his environment. Perhaps . . . the nation and the world are in dire need of creative extremists.

*Lector*            Here ends the reading.

## ***The* FOURTH READING**

Micah 4:1-5

*Lector*            A reading from the Prophet Micah.

In days to come  
the mountain of the LORD's temple  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains  
and shall be raised up above the hills.  
Peoples shall stream to it,  
and many nations shall come and say:  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”  
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between many peoples  
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;

neither shall they learn war any more;  
but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,  
and no one shall make them afraid,  
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

For all the peoples walk,  
each in the name of its god,  
but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God  
forever and ever.

Lector           The Word of the Lord.

People           *Thanks be to God.*

*Silence may be kept*

**The RESPONSE: Canticle 15, The Song of Mary**   *Magnificat*

*Luke 1:46-55*

*Said by all, responsively by half-verse*

The Lord has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Lord has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

\*\* \*\* \*

## ***The FIFTH READING***

*From Abraham Lincoln's  
Second Inaugural Address (1865)*

*Lector*            A reading from Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

*Lector*            Here ends the reading.

## **The SIXTH READING**

Matthew 5:43-48

*Lector*            A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            *Thanks be to God.*

*Silence may be kept*

## **The RESPONSE: Canticle 17, The Song of Simeon**    *Nunc dimittis*

*Luke 2:29-32*

*Said by all, responsively by half-verse*

My eyes, O Lord \*  
have seen your salvation.

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

My eyes, O Lord \*  
have seen your salvation.

## ***The* APOSTLES' CREED**

*All*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **OUR REFLECTION**

*All are invited to share their prayers and thanksgivings for our nation, as we prepare to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding*

HYMN *God who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and place*

HOLY MANNA

❖ We will omit stanza 2



1 God, who stretched the span - gled hea - vens in - fi - nite in  
 \*2 Proud - ly rise our mod - ern ci - ties, state - ly build - ings,  
 3 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child - hood  
 4 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal - lenge



time and place, flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance  
 row on row; yet their win - dows, blank, un - feel - ing,  
 of our race; known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing  
 us a - new, chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose,



through the si - lent fields of space: we, your chil - dren  
 stare on can - yoned streets be - low, where the lone - ly  
 through un - trav - eled realms of space; probed the se - crets  
 serv - ing o - thers, hon - oring you. May our dreams prove



in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you;  
 drift un - no - ticed in the ci - ty's ebb and flow,  
 of the at - om, yield - ing un - im - ag - ined power,  
 rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or well be - gun:



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing,  
 lost to pur - pose and to mean - ing,  
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion  
 Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance



show us what we yet may do.  
 scarce - ly car - ing where they go.  
 or our most tri - um - phant hour.  
 till our goals and yours are one.

# THE PRAYERS

Officiant     The Lord be with you.  
People        *And also with you.*  
                Let us pray.

All            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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

## *The* COLLECTS

*The Officiant prays the following collects*

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace: Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## *The* GENERAL THANKSGIVING

All            Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
                we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## PRAYER *of* ST CHRYSOSTOM

*Officiant* Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

1. My coun-try, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib - er - ty,  
 2. My na - tive coun - try, thee, Land of the no - ble free,  
 3. Let mu - sic swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees  
 4. Our par - ents' God, to thee, Au - thor of lib - er - ty,

1. Of thee I sing; Land where our fore - bears died,  
 2. Thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills,  
 3. Sweet free - dom's song; Let mor - tal tongues a - wake;  
 4. To thee we sing; Long may our land be bright

1. Land of the peo - ple's pride, From ev - 'ry  
 2. Thy woods and tem - piea hills; My heart with  
 3. Let all that breathe par - take; Let rocks their  
 4. With free - dom's ho - ly light; Pro - tect us

1. moun - tain - side Let free - dom ring!  
 2. rap - ture thrills, Like that a - bove.  
 3. si - lence break, The sound pro - long.  
 4. by thy might, Great God, our King.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.  
 People *Thanks be to God.*

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. *Amen.* *Ephesians 3:20-21*



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