

*Sunday, July 3rd, 2022*



**Worship Leaders**

Elder Judy Murphy, PCAS

Rev. Victoria Cuff, Deacon, Christ Church

Allen Brenner, Society of Friends

Rick Geffken, Local historian and author

Rev. Lisa Mitchell, Rector, Christ Church

Rev. Katja Gruening, Pastor, PCAS

Iris Chen, Director of Music, Christ Church

Marcello Velame, Director of Music Ministries, PCAS

Ushers: Brian Sergeant, Andy Wolf, and Jack Mackay

## *Order of Worship*

*(\*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

Welcome and Introductions

Prelude      O Beautiful For Spacious Skies      Arr. H. Hopson

\*Call to Worship

**People:    Let us acknowledge the company in which we meet:**

Leader:    The church on earth and in heaven; the faithful who worshiped here before us; the hundreds of thousands of every place and language who, on the Lord's day, seek to set their lives within the atmosphere of renewing grace.

**People:    As we think of them, let us take deliberate encouragement from our unity with them all.**

\*Hymn #338

America the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;  
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved,  
and mercy more than life!  
America! America! God mend thy every flaw,  
confirm thy soul in 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! May God thy gold refine  
till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine.

#### Call to Confession

Leader: So that we might make way for God to open paths  
to growth in the ways of justice and love  
according to the example of Jesus Christ, let us  
confess our sin and invite God's transforming  
grace:

#### Confession of Sin (**unison**)

**Merciful God, as we enjoy and celebrate the gifts we enjoy of independence and freedom, we often overlook those who do not share equally in these gifts as people created in your image and gifted to us as neighbors. We have rested on our laurels when there is ongoing work to be done in ensuring all get to enjoy the unalienable rights endowed by their creator. Bless us with your mercy that we may be granted freedom from sin and be inspired to continue living in hope. Amen.**

#### Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: People of God, all of us together have received  
God's mercy in Christ. In Christ we are forgiven,  
redeemed, and made to be a community united  
in faith.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Lesson      **Psalm 145:1-9**

Scripture Lesson      **Matthew 5:43-48**

## **Reflections on our History – Rick Geffken**

### Introduction to a Period of Silence

#### Prayers of the People

Almighty God, giver of all good things: we thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land: for earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains, and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful enjoyment of your abundant creation. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

***Heal us.***

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them. ***Forgive us.*** We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them. ***Inspire us.***

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light. ***Enlighten us.***

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again. ***Renew us.***

We thank you for creating humankind in your image and for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in our nation and in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children.

***Enlarge our hearts.***

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun.  
Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice,  
and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day  
when all our people, with many voices in one united  
chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Hymn #340                      This is My Song

This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:  
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.  
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:  
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

## Offering

*We are collecting a special offering today to support "Love Thy Neighbor".  
If you wish to contribute, please make out checks to "Love Thy Neighbor".*

*The cash offering will also go to them today.*

*Any checks made out to one of our congregations will be forwarded to them.*

Offertory                      Faith of Our Fathers                      Arr. H. Hopson

## \*Prayer of Dedication

## Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Praise to you, O God, for all your works.  
You created the world and called it good  
and made us in your image to live together in love.  
You made a covenant with us,  
and even when we turned from you,  
you remained ever faithful.

Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.  
He lived among us and told your story.  
He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.  
He shared our pain and died our death,  
then rose to new life that we might live,  
and all creation be restored.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ  
and that we may be his body for the world.

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another  
until we feast with him and with all your saints  
in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Please use the words familiar to you – whether that be tres-  
passes/debts/sins*

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

\*Hymn 337

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee,  
sweet land of liberty,  
of thee I sing:  
land where my fathers died,  
land of the pilgrims' pride,  
from every mountainside  
let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,  
land of the noble free,  
thy name I love;  
I love thy rocks and rills,  
thy woods and templed hills;  
my heart with rapture thrills  
like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,  
and ring from all the trees  
sweet freedom's song:  
let mortal tongues awake,  
let all that breathe partake;  
let rocks their silence break,  
the sound prolong.

Our "fathers' God, to thee  
author of liberty  
to thee with sing.  
Long may our land be bright  
With freedom's holy light;  
Protect us by thy might,  
Great God, our King.

Benediction

Postlude

Thunder March

J.P. Souza