

Memorial Day 2019
May 25, 2020

THE GATHERING

We welcome you to our observance of Memorial Day 2019. A day that has been instituted for the people of our land to gather together to worship our Lord, to give thanks for those who have made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives in defense of our freedoms and liberties, and to pray for permanent peace within the world in which we live.

Our worship continues with the singing of our opening Hymn:
O Beautiful for Spacious Skies 888

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



1 O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,
2 O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,
3 O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years



for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain:
who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life:
thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears:



A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine,
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-'ry flaw,



and crown thy good with broth-er-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.
till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness, and ev-'ry gain di-vine.
con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law.

P: As has always been the case; we begin our time together by sharing the presidential proclamation to honor this day.

A Proclamation from the President of the United States

THE DIALOGUE

(Based on Psalm 85)

P: Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away Your indignation toward us.

**C: ⁷ Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us Your salvation.**

P: ⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for the Lord will speak peace to all people,
to the faithful, to those who turn God in their hearts.

**C: ⁹ Surely salvation is at hand for those who fear the Lord,
that God's glory may dwell in our land.**

P: ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**C: ¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

P: ¹² The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

**C: ¹³ Righteousness will go before our Lord,
and will make a path for God's steps.**

OUR COMMON FAITH

P: God has joined us together through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you

C: **And also with you**

P: Let us pray... With reverence and affection we remember before You, O everlasting God, all our departed sisters and brothers who served for the sake of our freedoms. Keep us in union with them through faith and love toward You, that hereafter we may enter into Your presence and be numbered with those who have always served You and look upon Your face in glory everlasting, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Reading

Micah 4:1-5

In the last days, the mountain of the LORD's house
will be the highest of all—
the most important place on earth.
It will be raised above the other hills,
and people from all over the world will stream there to worship.
² People from many nations will come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of Jacob's God.
There he will teach us his ways,
and we will walk in his paths."
For the LORD's teaching will go out from Zion;
his word will go out from Jerusalem.
³ The LORD will mediate between peoples
and will settle disputes between strong nations far away.
They will hammer their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will no longer fight against nation,
nor train for war anymore.
⁴ Everyone will live in peace and prosperity,
enjoying their own grapevines and fig trees,
for there will be nothing to fear.
The LORD of Heaven's Armies
has made this promise!
⁵ Though the nations around us follow their idols,
we will follow the LORD our God forever and ever.
The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading

Ephesians 2:13-18

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body^[c] through

the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.^d ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel

John 15: 9-12

⁹ "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. ¹⁰ When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! ¹² This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you.

¹³ There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

A reflection

Rev. Jerry Kulp

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Extended moments of silence will occur between petitions for your personal thoughts and prayers!

P: Let us pray.... Almighty and everlasting God, You are worthy to be held in reverence by all the mortal race. We give You thanks for the innumerable blessings which, despite our unworthiness, You have showered upon us. Lord in Your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

P: O God, it is Your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of Your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows leading us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love from war to peace and allow Your peace to fill our hearts, our nation, our world, and our universe. Lord in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

P: Protect and defend Your people in time of tribulation and danger, that we, in communion with Your Church and in unity with all Christian people, may fight the good fight of faith and in the end receive the fullness of life. In Your mercy protect those who defend our land in far away places. Guide them and lead them in all their efforts, give them strength and courage to face the unknown dangers that await them and give them wisdom to make just and righteous decisions.

C: Hear our prayer

P: Eternal Lord, amid all the turmoil and changes of this world Your love is steadfast and Your strength never fails. In all our times of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with Your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us all courage and hope to face the future. Lord in Your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

P: Keep us ever faithful to those who have fallen in defense of our liberties. Help us to relish the freedoms that we have because of their sacrifices, help us Lord to make use of every day to bring honor and meaning to their lives.

C: Hear our prayer

P: Help us to prepare for the world to come, doing the work which You have given us to do while it is day, before that night comes when no one can work. And, when our last hour shall come, support us by Your power and receive us into Your everlasting kingdom, where, with Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, You live and reign, now and forever.

C: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: And now may our Lord bless us and keep us. May the Lord's face shine upon us and be gracious to us. May the Lord look upon us with favor and grant us peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

THE SENDING

And now we depart in peace, as we continue to remember and honor our fallen sisters and brothers.

Amen

Sending Hymn: Battle Hymn of the Republic #890

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;
3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.
with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:
Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.
Our God is march - ing on.
while God is march - ing on.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819–1910
Music: BATTLE HYMN, North American, 19th cent

“... through our keeping the faith with our dead, we have kept faith with ourselves, with our corps, with our country, and with God”

Harry Albert Flint
Colonel, Infantry
39th Infantry Regiment
Commanding Winter, 1943