

CELEBRATION OF LIBERTY | JULY 5, 2026  
**WORSHIP AT WESTFIELD**



**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please take a moment to complete the care pad in your pew.

Peace be with you. And also with you.

We thank God for these opportunities for fellowship and service. **Thanks be to God!**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Blessed be God, who creates, redeems, and sanctifies.  
 And blessed be the realm of God, now and forever.

**INVOCATION**

Let us pray:

Lord God Almighty,  
 who has made all peoples  
 of the earth for your glory,  
 to serve you in freedom and peace:  
 Grant 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Let us now remember our history,  
 that our past may inform our future.

**\*OPENING HYMN  
 GOD OF THE AGES  
 NATIONAL HYMN**

1. God of the a - ges, whose al - might - y hand  
 2. **Thy love di - vine hath led us in the past;**  
 3. From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti - lence,  
 4. **Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some way;**

5  
 leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
**in this free land with thee our lot is cast;**  
 be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;  
**lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;**

9  
 of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
**be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay,**  
 thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;  
**fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,**

13  
 our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
**thy Word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.**  
 thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
**and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.**

WHAT DID WE HOPE  
 TO BECOME?

**THE DREAM**

\*PLEASE RISE  
 IN BODY OR SPIRIT

# A READING FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, 1776

*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.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

As Christians who are Americans, we gather this day to thank God for the gifts of our freedom and liberty, to honor those whose vision, wisdom and sacrifice secured these 'unalienable Rights' for us and every generation, to confess that while we believe that all are created equal, we have not always allowed others to enjoy that freedom or those rights; we repent and call upon God's unconditional love and boundless mercy to grant that individually and as a nation we may be given the strength and courage to live more fully into our faith and beliefs.

Let us pray:

Lord God Almighty, in whose name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace.

Bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. **Lord, keep this nation under your care.**

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties. **Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations. **Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

To Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served. **Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.

## \*HYMN My Country, 'Tis of Thee (v. 1, 4) AMERICA



1. My coun - try, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib - er - ty, Of thee I  
 2. **My na - tive coun - try, thee, Land of the no - ble free, Thy name I**  
 3. Let mu - sic swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees Sweet free - dom's  
 4. **Our fa - ther's God, to thee, Au - thor of lib - er - ty, To thee we**



sing; Land where my fa - thers died, Land of the pil - grim's pride,  
**love; I love thy rocks and rills, Thy woods and tem - pled hills;**  
 song; Let mor - tal tongues a - wake; Let all that breathe par - take;  
**sing; Long may our land be bright With free - dom's ho - ly light;**



From ev - ery moun - tain side Let free - dom ring!  
**My heart with rap - ture thrills, Like that a - bove.**  
 Let rocks their si - lence break, The sound pro - long.  
**Pro - tect us by thy might, Great God, our King.**

\*PLEASE RISE  
 IN BODY OR SPIRIT

THE DREAM

WHAT DID WE HOPE  
 TO BECOME?

## A READING FROM THE MAYFLOW COMPACT 1620

*In the name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord, King James, by the Grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith,*

*and the Honour of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia; do by these presents, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick, for our better Ordering and Preservation,*

*and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid; And by Virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame, such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, Acts, Constitutions and Offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the General good of the Colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In Witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod the eleventh of November, in the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, King James of England, France and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. Anno Domini, 1620.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

### HYMN WE GATHER TOGETHER (v. 1-2) KREMSER



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!

## A READING FROM THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION, 1787

*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.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

WHAT DID WE HOPE TO BECOME?

THE DREAM

\*PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

## A READING FROM CHIEF SEATTLE'S RESPONSE TO A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL'S OFFER TO PURCHASE THE REMAINING SEATTLE LAND, 1845

*We will ponder your proposition and when we decide we will let you know. But should we accept it, I here and now make this condition that we will not be denied the privilege without molestation of visiting at any time the tombs of our ancestors, friends, and children.*

*Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimation of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished. Even the rocks, which seem to be dumb and dead as they swelter in the sun along the silent shore, thrill with memories of stirring events connected with the lives of my people, and the very dust upon which you now stand responds more lovingly to their footsteps than yours, because it is rich with the blood of our ancestors, and our bare feet are conscious of the sympathetic touch.*

*Our departed braves, fond mothers, glad, happy hearted maidens, and even the little children who lived here and rejoiced here for a brief season, will love these somber solitudes and at eventide they greet shadowy returning spirits.*

*And when the last Red Man shall have perished, and the memory of my tribe shall have become a myth among the White Men, these shores will swarm with the invisible dead of my tribe, and when your children's children think themselves alone in the field, the store, the shop, upon the highway, or in the silence of the pathless woods, they will not be alone. In all the earth there is no place dedicated to solitude.*

*At night when the streets of your cities and villages are silent and you think them deserted, they will throng with the returning hosts that once filled them and still love this beautiful land. The White Man will never be alone.*

*Let him be just and deal kindly with my people, for the dead are not powerless. Dead, did I say? There is no death, only a change of worlds.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

## A READING FROM FREDRICK DOUGLASS' WHAT TO THE SLAVE IS THE FOURTH OF JULY?, 1852

*"Fellow-citizens, pardon me, allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here to-day? What have I, or those I represent, to do with your national independence? Are the great principles of political freedom and of natural justice, embodied in that Declaration of Independence, extended to us? and am I, therefore, called upon to bring our humble offering to the national altar, and to confess the benefits and express devout gratitude for the blessings resulting from your independence to us?"*

*"Would to God, both for your sakes and ours, that an affirmative answer could be truthfully returned to these questions! Then would my task be light, and my burden easy and delightful. For who is there so cold, that a nation's sympathy could not warm him? Who so obdurate and dead to the claims of gratitude, that would not thankfully acknowledge such priceless benefits? Who so stolid and selfish, that would not give his voice to swell the hallelujahs of a nation's jubilee, when the chains of servitude had been torn from his limbs? I am not that man. In a case like that, the dumb might eloquently speak, and the 'lame man leap as an hart.'*

*But such is not the state of the case. I say it with a sad sense of the disparity between us. I am not included within the pale of glorious anniversary! Your high independence only reveals the immeasurable distance between us. The blessings in which you, this day, rejoice, are not enjoyed in common. The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity and independence, bequeathed by your fathers, is shared by you, not by me. The sunlight that brought light and healing to you, has brought stripes and death to me. This Fourth July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn."*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

### \*HYMN ELLA'S SONG

5 We who believe in free - dom\_ can - not rest,

We who believe in free - dom can - not rest un - til it\_ comes.

## A READING FROM FRANCIS GAGE & SOJOURNER TRUTH, 1851

One claimed superior rights and privileges for man, on the ground of 'superior intellect'; another, because of the 'manhood of Christ; if God had desired the equality of woman, He would have given some token of His will through the birth, life, and death of the Saviour.' Another gave us a theological view of the 'sin of our first mother'.

To which Sojourner Truth replied:

That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place! Ain't I a woman?

Look at my arm! I have plowed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman?

I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman?

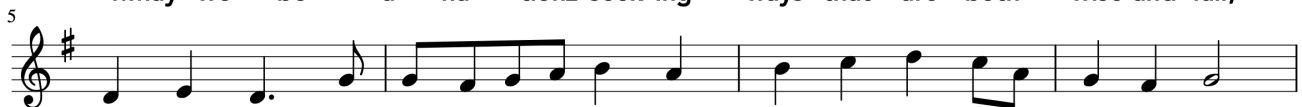
I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?

That little man in back there, he says a woman can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Jesus Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do with Him. If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back and get it right side up again! And now they are asking to do it, the men better let 'em.

### \*HYMN FOR THIS LAND CWM RHONDA



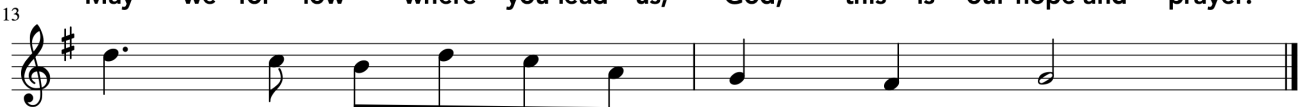
1. For this land in all its won - der, for each ci - ty farm and town,  
 2. For your peace and love un - end - ing, break - ing barr - iers that di - vide;  
 3. For your hand to lead and guide us, for your work in his - to - ry,  
 4. May we be a na - tion seek - ing ways that are both wise and fair,



For each mount - ain fill - ed with splen - dor, for each place where love is found.  
 For the joy of cul - tures blend - ing as we live here side by side;  
 For your vis - ion born in - side us of a just so - ci - e - ty,  
 May our li - ving and our speak - ing serve your pur - pose ev - ery - where.



For the free - doms we en - joy here, God, may thanks to you a - bound!  
 God, we thank you and we pray now: May we all be un - i - fied!  
 God we thank you and we pray now: May this vi - sion come to be!  
 May we fol - low where you lead us; God, this is our hope and prayer!



God, may thanks to you a - bound!  
 May we all be un - i - fied!  
 May this vi - sion come to be!  
 God, this is our hope and prayer!

LIBERTY WIDENED THROUGH STRUGGLE  
\*PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT THE EXPANSION

## LETTER FROM THE BIRMINGHAM JAIL, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, 1963

*Oppressed people cannot remain oppressed forever. The yearning for freedom eventually manifests itself, and that is what has happened to the American Negro. Something within has reminded him of his birthright of freedom, and something without has reminded him that it can be gained.*

*Consciously or unconsciously, he has been caught up by the Zeitgeist, and with his black brothers of Africa and his brown and yellow brothers of Asia, South America and the Caribbean, the United States Negro is moving with a sense of great urgency toward the promised land of racial justice. If one recognizes this vital urge that has engulfed the Negro community, one should readily understand why public demonstrations are taking place.*

*The Negro has many pent up resentments and latent frustrations, and he must release them. So let him march; let him make prayer pilgrimages to the city hall; let him go on freedom rides -and try to understand why he must do so.*

*If his repressed emotions are not released in nonviolent ways, they will seek expression through violence; this is not a threat but a fact of history.*

*So I have not said to my people: 'Get rid of your discontent.' Instead, 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? In that dramatic scene on Calvary's hill three men were crucified.*

*We must never forget that all three were crucified for the same crime--the crime of extremism. Two were extremists for immorality, and thus fell below their environment. The other, Jesus Christ, was an extremist for love, truth and goodness, and thereby rose above his environment. Perhaps the South, the nation and the world are in dire need of creative extremists.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

## LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS, 1865

*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.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

## JOHN LEWIS

*Freedom is not a state; it is an act. Freedom is the continuous action we all must take, and each generation must do its part to create an even more fair, more just society.*

*Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic.  
Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year — it is the struggle of a lifetime.  
Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.*

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

Let us pray:

Holy God,  
You created a land rich in resources  
and set before the founders and pioneers  
of our nation an opportunity beyond measure  
to build a realm of justice, peace, and freedom  
that might be a blessing to all  
who inhabit the earth.

We cannot always congratulate ourselves  
on what we have done with your creation  
and with these opportunities,  
but when we consider your bounty  
and your mercy  
and see afresh the dream that you set before us,  
we lift our voices in praise and prayer  
with your people  
in every land on earth  
and with all the company of heaven.

Renew the hope of those  
who suffer injustice or oppression,  
and hasten the day when the prophets' dream  
shall come to pass,  
when justice shall roll down like waters  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.  
Amen.

### CALL TO GIVE

Let us now collect our morning offering,  
that our gifts might further the freedom found  
in Christ.

### OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY The Battle Hymn of the Republic



1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;  
2. **I have seen him in the watch - fires of a hun - dred cir - cling camps,**  
3. He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall ne - ver call re - treat;  
4. **In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,**  
5. He is com - ing like the glo - ry of the morn - ing on the wave,



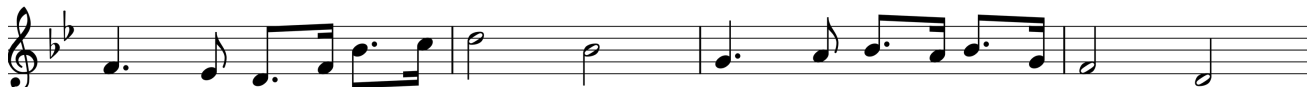
he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
**they have build - ed him an al - tar in the eve - ning dew and damps;**  
he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat;  
**with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me;**  
he is wis - dom to the might - y, he is hon - or to the brave;



he hath loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword;  
**I can read his righ - teous sen - tence by the dim and flar - ing lamps;**  
O be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!  
**as he died to make men ho - ly, let us die to make men free,**  
so the world shall be his foot - stool, and the soul of wrong his slave.



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



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.

## THE NEW COLOSSUS, A POEM BY EMMA LAZARUS , 1883

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,  
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;  
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame  
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name  
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand  
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command  
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.  
"Keep ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she  
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

## JUSTICE KENNEDY'S MAJORITY DECISION, OBERGEFELL v. HODGES, 2015

No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family. In forming a marital union, two people become something greater than once they were. As some of the petitioners in these cases demonstrate, marriage embodies a love that may endure even past death. It would misunderstand these men and women to say they disrespect the idea of marriage. Their plea is that they do respect it, respect it so deeply that they seek to find its fulfillment for themselves. Their hope is not to be condemned to live in loneliness, excluded from one of civilization's oldest institutions. They ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law. The Constitution grants them that right. The judgment of the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit is reversed. It is so ordered.

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

## EXCERPT FROM THE HILL WE CLIMB, AMANDA GORMAN, 2021

But while democracy can be periodically delayed,  
it can never be permanently defeated.  
In this truth,  
in this faith we trust.  
For while we have our eyes on the future,  
history has its eyes on us.  
This is the era of just redemption  
we feared at its inception.  
We did not feel prepared to be the heirs  
of such a terrifying hour  
but within it we found the power  
to author a new chapter.  
To offer hope and laughter to ourselves.  
So while once we asked,  
how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe?  
Now we assert,  
How could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?  
We will not march back to what was,  
but move to what shall be.  
A country that is bruised but whole,  
benevolent but bold,  
fierce and free.  
We will not be turned around  
or interrupted by intimidation,  
because we know our inaction and inertia  
will be the inheritance of the next generation.  
Our blunders become their burdens.

But one thing is certain,  
If we merge mercy with might,  
and might with right,  
then love becomes our legacy,  
and change our children's birthright.  
So let us leave behind a country  
better than the one we were left with.  
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,  
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one.  
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west.  
We will rise from the windswept northeast,  
where our forefathers first realized revolution.  
We will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the  
midwestern states.  
We will rise from the sunbaked south.  
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover.  
And every known nook of our nation and  
every corner called our country,  
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,  
battered and beautiful.  
When day comes we step out of the shade,  
afire and unafraid,  
the new dawn blooms as we free it.  
For there is always light,  
if only we're brave enough to see it.  
If only we're brave enough to be it.

The work continues. **And we are part of it.**

**\*HYMN**  
**LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING (v.1, 3)**  
**LIFT EVERY VOICE**

1. Lift ev-ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the har - mo -  
 2. **Ston-y the road we trod, bit-ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the days when**  
 3. God of our wea-ry years, God of our si - lent tears, thou who hast brought us

nies of lib - er - ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening  
**hope un - born had died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry**  
 thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
**feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?**  
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
**We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;**  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us.  
**we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,**  
 lest, our hearts frunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march  
**out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white**  
 shadowed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er stand, true to our

on, till vic - to - ry is won.  
**gleam of our bright star is cast.**  
 God, true to our na - tive land.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of liberty and justice,  
 We give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy,  
 yet we confess that we have too often settled  
 for comfort instead of courage,  
 silence instead of truth,  
 and division instead of love.  
 We celebrate the promise  
 that all are created equal,  
 but we have not always treated our neighbors  
 with equal dignity.  
 We have benefited from freedoms we have not  
 always worked to extend.

Forgive us.  
 Renew in us a love of justice,  
 a commitment to mercy,  
 and the humility to seek a more perfect union—  
 for our nation, our communities, and your world.  
 In the spirit of Christ, who sets us free,  
 we pray. Amen.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Friends, believe the good news.  
 In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**NRSV**

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**THE MESSAGE**

But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do,  
what God is looking for in men and women.  
It's quite simple:  
Do what is fair and just to your neighbor,  
be compassionate and loyal in your love,  
And don't take yourself too seriously—  
take God seriously.

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

**GALATIANS 5:13-15**

**NRSV**

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters;  
only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for  
self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to  
one another. For the whole law is summed up in a  
single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbor as  
yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one  
another, take care that you are not consumed by one  
another.

**THE MESSAGE**

It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life.  
Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an  
excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your  
freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another  
in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we  
know about God's Word is summed up in a single  
sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act  
of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch  
out—in no time at all you will be annihilating each other,  
and where will your precious freedom be then?

**RESPONSE TO READING**

Through this Scripture God is still speaking,  
and we are listening.

**HOMILY**

**The Reverend Dr. Jonathan Chapman**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

To the God in whom all true freedom is found, we offer our concerns and celebrations.  
As each petition is named, the following response is offered:  
Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

...Let us pray together:

Loving God,  
grant that all who are weary, weak and heavy laden  
may find welcome, healing and rest in Christ;  
and teach us all the way of true freedom which is found only in him.  
Hear us, O God, for we ask in his name  
and pray as he taught us to pray saying,

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 sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.

HOW SHALL WE CARRY  
THE PROMISE FORWARD?

**THE HOPE**

\*PLEASE RISE  
IN BODY OR SPIRIT

**THE HOPE**  
HOW SHALL WE CARRY  
THE PROMISE FORWARD?  
\*PLEASE RISE  
IN BODY OR SPIRIT

**\*HYMN  
THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND**

This land is your land,  
this land is my land  
From California  
to the New York Island  
From the Redwood Forest  
to the Gulf Stream waters  
This land was made for you and me.

As I went walking  
that ribbon of highway  
I saw above me that endless skyway  
I saw below me that Golden Valley  
This land was made for you and me.

*REFRAIN*

I roamed and I rambled  
and I followed my footsteps  
To the sparkling sands of  
her diamond deserts  
While all around me  
a voice was sounding  
This land was made for you and me.

*REFRAIN*

**\*BENEDICTION**

And do what?  
**Set them on fire!**

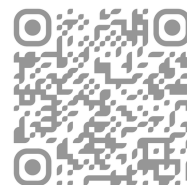
**POSTLUDE**

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**PLANT. WATER.  
GROW.  
RETREAT  
JULY 31-AUG 2**



**REGISTER HERE!**



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**NO H8**

PHOTO SHOOT  
 JULY 12, 11A-1P

**MOTOWN SUNDAY**  
**JULY 19**

NO LIVESTREAM

RED, WHITE &  
**BINGO**

JULY 10, 6:30P  
 S. KILLINGLY FD

**CARE TEAM**

7/9 @ 10A

**POPTOP FOODS**

THRU JULY

**COMEDY NIGHT**

**JULY 24, 7:30P**  
**PUTNAM ELKS**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
 LAUGHS! RAFFLES! FUN!

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
 All worship services are live-streamed. For the safety of our community, video surveillance is in use.

**OUR FAITHFULNESS**

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE	133
JUNE AVG ATTENDANCE	140
BUDGET NEEDED WEEKLY	\$6,340
OPERATING INCOME* LAST WEEK	\$2,245
BUDGET NEEDED MONTHLY	\$27,471
OPERATING INCOME* JUNE	\$26,163
BUDGET NEEDED (YTD)	\$171,180
OPERATING INCOME* (YTD)	\$153,970

THE ONE LINK THAT RULES THEM ALL!



LINKTR.EE/WESTFIELDDUCC

\*not including donations for the Major Needs Fund, Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and designated funds