

♣ NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS

331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

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

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

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,

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.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

TEXT: Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876, alt.
 MUSIC: George William Warren, 1892

NATIONAL HYMN
 10.10.10.10

♣ OPENING SENTENCES

Why do we come to worship God?
We come seeking a blessing from our Lord.
 What is this blessing that we seek?
We seek an encounter with our God,
 who washes us in mercy, calls us to service,
 and fills us with love.
Let us worship God together.

HANDBELL QUARTET

"This Is My Country"

✠OPENING PRAYER

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.

✠CALL TO CONFESSION

✠PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You are love, O God, and you have loved us
from the beginning.
Forgive us when we do not share your love
with the world:
when we choose selfishness over compassion;
what feels comfortable rather than what is
right;
when we strive for success instead of
faithfulness;
when we value independence over community.
Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.
Free us to try again,
and let your love lead the way. AMEN.**

✠DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The mercy of the Lord,
is from everlasting to everlasting.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

✠GLORIA PATRI #479

SOLO

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

GOSPEL READING Mark 6:1-13

SERMON: "David: A Shephard for His People"

✠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

354 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
 2 God 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;
 and is sift - ing out all hu - man hearts be - fore the 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.
 O be swift, my soul, to an - swer; O be ju - bi - lant my feet!
 as he died to make us ho - ly, let us live to make all free,

Refrain

God's truth is march - ing on.
 Our God is march - ing on. Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le -
 while God is march - ing on.

Though its biblical roots are often overlooked, this text incorporates many apocalyptic images such as the coming of the Lord in glory (Matthew 24:30/Mark 13:26/Luke 21:27), the winepress (Isaiah 63:3; Revelation 14:19, 19:15), and the sharp sword (Isaiah 27:1; Revelation 19:15).

TEXT: Julia W. Howe, 1861, alt.
 MUSIC: American melody, 19th cent.

BATTLE HYMN
 15.15.15.6 with refrain

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

337 My Country, 'Tis of Thee

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of
 2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the
 3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from
 4 Our *fa - thers' God, to thee, au - thor of

lib - er - ty, of thee I sing; land where my
 no - ble free, thy name I love; I love thy
 all the trees sweet free - dom's song. Let mor - tal
 lib - er - ty, to thee we sing. Long may our

*fa - thers died, land of the pil - grims' pride,
 rocks and rills, thy woods and tem - pled hills;
 tongues a - wake; let all that breathe par - take;
 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.

*Or "parents"

This now-familiar patriotic song was written by a Baptist minister and received its first public performance at an Independence Day celebration by the Boston Sabbath School Union in 1831. It was written to replace a German patriotic text sung to the same tune.

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies 338

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! God mend thine ev-ery flaw;
A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine

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

*Or "servanthood"

This text (inspired by the vista from Pike's Peak and by a visit to Chicago's Columbian World Exposition) and tune (named MATERNA because it was composed for "O Mother, Dear Jerusalem") were joined in 1912. The combination proved immensely popular during World War I and afterwards.

TEXT: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893, alt.
MUSIC: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

MATERNA
CMD

✦BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"God Bless America"

-Berlin