

Worship Outline

Stories Behind the Songs

June 23, 2019

We Gather

Prelude

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Steffe arr.

Hustad

Organ & Piano
Peggy Mayfield, piano

+Call to Worship (responsive)

The earth is the Lord's,

And all who dwell in it.

God is king over the nations:

God sits on his holy throne.

He rules by his might forever.

His eyes keep watch on the nations.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

For God judges the peoples with equity

and guides the nations upon earth.

O Lord, be gracious to us and bless us,

And make your face to shine upon us.

May your ways be known upon the earth,

Your saving power among all peoples.

Unison Prayer of Confession

This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. I will forgive their evil deeds, and remember their sin no more. In penitence and faith, let us confess our sins to almighty God.

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the sovereign Lord. Amen.

Assurance

Hear the good news!

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ,

and Christ died for us,

Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us,

Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ

is a new creation.

The old life has gone;

a new life has begun.

Friends, believe this good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

The Peace and Welcome - Liz

May mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Gathering Song 743
God

O God, You Are My

Stories Behind the Songs

+Hymn 331

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

Written for the 1876 centennial celebration of the
writing of the Declaration of Independence.

Opening the Word with Young Disciples

+Hymn 338

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Katharine Lee Bates

Inspired by the view at the top of Pike's Peak,
Katharine Bates, a college student, originally penned:

O beautiful for halcyon skies,
For amber waves of grain,

For purple mountain majesties
Above the enameled plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee!
Till souls wax fair as earth and air
And music-hearted sea!

+Hymn 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing
James Weldon Johnson

Written in celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birth.

+Hymn 354

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory
Julia Ward Howe

Litany

As we remember the birth of our nation, and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, let us offer our thanks and prayers to God, the giver of all good gifts.

For the women and men who braved the long journey by sea to come to this new world,

We thank you Lord.

For the tribes and nations who inhabited this land for generation upon generation,

We thank you Lord.

For patriots who dreamed of, and fought for, a free nation,

We thank you Lord.

For the men and women who laid the foundation of our democracy, and who pledged liberty and justice for all,

We thank you Lord.

For those who built this country brick by brick, road by road, and town by town,

We thank you Lord.

For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country, for all who paid for our freedom by their service, and those who paid by their sacrifice,

We thank you Lord.

For the innovators and artists, poets and teachers, farmers and factory workers; for all who labor and provide for the common good,

We thank you Lord.

For this land, with its peaks and valleys, coasts and deserts, fields and meadows,

We thank you Lord.

For our own community, for those who came before us in this place, and for our neighbors near and far,

We thank you Lord.

Lord, we pray for The United States, that we might always be a nation which defends and promotes liberty and freedom, truth and justice.

We pray to you Lord.

That we might always be a nation where all are free to worship and pray,

We pray to you Lord.

That we might be a beacon of freedom to all those who live under the shadow of terror and hopelessness,

We pray to you Lord.

That those who are elected to govern and lead, would be guided by you, and be ever aware of the trust that has been given them,

We pray to you Lord.

That we would be a people who repent from our sins, and who always return to you and to your grace,

We pray to you Lord.

Gracious God, Creator of all nations, bless and defend us and our land; prosper the work of our hands, and increase in us your grace and compassion, and our offerings of thanks to you, our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Special Music

Earth and All Stars

Bokering—Johnson

Jim Fiete

Offering

Invitation

Offertory

Prelude in G

James Hook

+Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low.***

Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

+Dedication

Lord of all, we give you thanks and praise,

For you have richly blessed us in this nation with an overflowing wealth of health, peace, safety, and all things needed for our daily lives. By those blessings you entrust us with greater responsibility towards others less blessed. May we never take for granted what you have bestowed us, and always seek to share those blessings with those less fortunate. Amen.

Sending

+Hymn 337

My Country, 'Tis of Thee
Samuel Francis Smith

As the oldest of the national songs of the United States,
My Country, 'Tis of Thee holds a place of special regard.

+Blessing and Benediction

Go out into the world in peace;

have courage;

hold on to what is good;

return no one evil for evil;

strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak, and help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord be kind and gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace.
Amen.

+Congregational Benediction 542

*God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.*

Postlude

Exultation

Hughes