



# *Order of Worship*

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 6, 2025

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**Gathering and Welcome** *This is My Song*

**Prelude** *America the Beautiful* – arr. Fred Bock Jessye Whitis, pianist

**\*Call to worship** (adapted from Psalm 66:1-5)

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

**sing God's glorious name; shout out glorious praise.**

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

**All the earth worships you; they sing praises to your name."**

Come and see what God has done:

**tell of God's awesome deeds among all people!**

**\*Hymn # 338** *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

**\*Call to confession**

We cannot be perfect, but we can be faithful by noticing  
where we've fallen short and asking God to set us right. Let  
us therefore confess our sins together.

**\*Prayer of confession**

Patient God, you call and call  
and we come up with every excuse  
why we can't answer,  
at least not right now.

Forgive our fear.

Remind us that when we answer your call,  
we will not be sent out alone,  
but filled with your gifts,  
surrounded by your children,  
and held in your love.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

**\*Assurance of pardon**

Hear the good news! The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting  
to everlasting.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia!  
Amen.**

**Special Music** *Hymns of Glory* – arr. Don Wyrzten

Jessye Whitis, pianist

**Prayer for illumination**

Holy Spirit, stir in us today some new understanding; some new passion; some new insight into you. As we read your Scriptures, help us to hear your still, small voice. Amen.

**Scripture readings** Genesis 1: 1 – 2: 2

**Sermon** *The Story of Us*

Rev. Kathy Vineyard, H.R.

**\*Prayer for Independence Day**

*For freedom, Christ has set all free (Galatians 5: 1)*

**Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth.**

**Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and leadership in the nations of the world.**

**Give to them the vision of truth and justice,  
that by their counsel all nations and peoples may work together,**

**Give to the people of our country  
zeal for justice and strength of forbearance,  
that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will.**

**Forgive our shortcomings as a nation;  
purify our hearts to see and love the truth.**

**We pray all these things through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Call for the offering**

We are promised that the harvest is plentiful; there is more than enough to go around. Trusting that God has provided abundantly enough for our needs, let us build up God's church by making our offerings now.

**Offertory** *Here at Your Table, Lord* – arr. Mark Hayes

Jessye Whitis, pianist

**\*Doxology # 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

**Prayer of dedication**

Holy God, bless our gifts of money, passion, time and prayer,  
that they may travel far in your world, blessing your children in every place. Amen.

**\*Hymn # 8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save**

## Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Ascended Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts to the One who gives us a spirit of wisdom.

**We offer our hearts to Jesus, who opens God's words to us.**

Clap your hands, God's people! Sing songs of praise to our God!

**We sing praises to the One who blesses and blesses us!**

We do indeed lift loud songs of joy to you,

Awesome God!

Everything in heaven, and on earth,

provides all the proof we need

of your goodness and mercy.

But closing our hearts to such evidence,

we looked to our own wisdom,

devising foolish ways to save ourselves.

Patiently you waited, hoping

we would return to you,

but when you could no longer wait,

you came to us

in your Word made flesh and blood.

Therefore, with all your people

of every time and every place,

we sing our glad songs to you:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God, Sovereign over all the earth.**

**The riches of your glorious creation forever praise you.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who will return for us.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

All glory is due to you, God on High,

and blessings on your Son,

our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Stripping himself of glory

he came that we might be clothed

in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Wearing the thorny crown of death,

he is the Head of all the Church,

his Body made whole for the world.

As we remember his life, his service,

his death, his resurrection, his ascension,

we speak of that mystery called faith:

**Christ died to reveal salvation to us.  
God raised Christ to reveal resurrection life to us.  
Christ ascended and will return to reveal glory to us.**

We will not stop giving thanks to you,  
Generous and Wonderful God,  
as we pray that you  
would pour out your Holy Spirit  
upon your children gathered at the Table,  
and upon the gifts of the bread and the cup.  
We are filled with Christ's presence,  
so we may go to empty ourselves:  
telling your story of grace and hope,  
carrying your mercy to those  
who cannot forgive themselves,  
pouring cups of cold water,  
embracing the untouchables of our time.

Then, when we gather at your feast in glory,  
seated with our sisters and brothers from all time,  
we will clap our hands, shouting our joy to you,  
God in Community, Holy in One,  
now and forevermore. Amen.

And now let us join with Christians throughout time and space  
as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us, saying, **"Our Father..."**.

**\*Hymn of Sending # 337 *My Country, 'Tis of Thee***

**Charge and benediction**

Go now with God into the world.

**May we see with God's eyes  
those we are called to serve.**

Go now with Jesus into the world.

**May we see with Jesus' eyes  
those who long to be lifted to hope.**

Go now with the Spirit into the worlds.

**May we see with the Spirit's eyes  
those who need a community of grace.**

So go with the love of God who made you, the peace of Christ who  
saved you, and the courage of the Spirit to lead you forward into this  
and every day. **Amen.**













































**Postlude *Bless Be the Tie That Binds***

Jessye Whitis, pianist

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Portions of the Liturgy written by Carol Prickett.



 6 <b>Vav</b>  Nail Secure Add/and	 5 <b>Hey</b>  Behold Reveal Breath	 4 <b>Dalet</b>  Door Move Entrance	 3 <b>Gimel</b>  Foot Camel Pride	 2 <b>Beyt</b>  House Family in	 1 <b>Alef</b>  Ox Strength Leader
 30 <b>Lamed</b>  Shepherd Staff/Teach To/from	 20 <b>Kaf</b>  Palm To open Allow/tame	 10 <b>Yod</b>  Arm/hand Work/deed Worship	 9 <b>Tet</b>  Basket Snake Surround	 8 <b>Chet</b>  Wall Fence Separation	 7 <b>Zayin</b>  Plow Weapon Cut off
 90 <b>Tsade</b>  Man on side Journey Desire/need	 80 <b>Pev</b>  Mouth Speak Scatter	 70 <b>Ayin</b>  Eye Watch Experience	 60 <b>Samekh</b>  Thorn Support Protect	 50 <b>Nun</b>  Seed Fish/life Continue	 40 <b>Mem</b>  Water Chaos Blood
	 400 <b>Tav</b>  Cross Mark/sign Covenant	 300 <b>Shin</b>  Teeth Press/destroy Separate	 200 <b>Resh</b>  Head Authority First	 100 <b>Qof</b>  Sun Behind Time	