

Order of Worship Service—July 4, 2021, 11am Independence Day Sunday

PRELUDE: Largo—G. F. Handel

CALL TO RENEW THE SOUL OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: The cross!

People: We shall carry it!

Pastor: The bread!

People: We shall share it!

Pastor: The pain!

People: We shall relieve it!

Pastor: The joy!

People: We shall celebrate it!

Pastor: The gospel message!

People: We shall spread it!

Pastor: The love!

People: We shall be lifted by it!

Pastor: The light!

People: We shall find our way by it!

Pastor: The darkness!

People: God shall overcome it! Praise God!

INSERT

The Hammer Song

Pete Seeger and Lee Hays

UNISON CALL TO CONFESSION AND COMMITMENT

On this Independence Day weekend,
We confess
That for many people
ours is not a sweet land of liberty.
And after Pilgrims' genuine pride,
Many native people died.
Although true patriots have become noble
by seeking
struggling,

and even giving their lives
to make others free—
here and throughout the world—
we find ourselves
woefully short
of the kingdom goal
where all
can truly sing
freedom's song.
Amen.

We sing a traditional patriotic hymn that is ironic in that we don't live up to the ideals of liberty in the song, but it can inspire us to re-commit to those ideals and work to enlarge them.

HYMN: #337 Glory to God My Country 'Tis of Thee

BIBLE READINGS: Proverbs 3 Neal Long

**SUNG RESPONSE: #100 Glory to God My Soul Cries Out with a
Joyful Shout**

MESSAGE: A July 4th Message on Creating Inclusive Democracy

HYMN: 340 Glory to God This Is My Song(Finlandia)

WELCOMING

ANTHEM: Child of God—Mark A. Miller

MORNING PRAYER

Sung Response: 469 Glory to God Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

**OFFERTORY: My Good Lord's Done Been Here—traditional spiritual, arr.
Moses Hogan Joshua Stark, baritone**

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May all beings everywhere
plagued with sufferings of body and mind
quickly be freed from their illnesses.
May those frightened cease to be afraid,
and may those bound be free.
May the powerless find power,
and may people think
of befriending one another.
May those who find themselves in trackless, fearful wilderness
wildethe children, the aged, the unprotected--
be guarded now and always. Amen.

--Buddhist prayer

HYMN: 384 Glory to God

Soon and Very Soon

BLESSING

SUNG RESPONSE: 740 Glory to God

Lead me, Guide Me (sing twice)

POSTLUDE: Canticle of the Turning (STAR OF THE COUNTRY DOWN)
set by Marianne Kim

With the surge in Missouri of the Delta Variant of Covid-19, and Missouri's lower vaccination rate, please be extra careful. Keep your masks on indoors. Sustain social distancing. Use hand sanitizer all you want, and after church, please talk with each other outdoors! *We've come this far by faith. Don't turn back now!*