

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND HYMNS  
FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “God of the Ages” UMH #698

OPENING PRAYER AND LITANY

O Lord our Governor, 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 safe guarded 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** “America, the Beautiful” UMH #696

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

**HYMNS** in order through the service:

“We Gather Together to ask the Lord’s Blessing” UMH #131”

“America” UMH #697

“For the Beauty of the Earth” UMH #92

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” UMH #402

“Let There Be Peace on Earth” UMH #431

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 11:28-30

“O God of Every Nation” UMH #435

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

“Battle Hymn of the Republic” UMH #717

**THE PRAYER OF THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** UMH P.13

**HOLY COMMUNION** (passing the elements in your seats)

**POST COMMUNION HYMN** “For the Healing of the Nations” UMH #428

**PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**