

# **KNOWN** Being Real in a Digital World

## **Sharing the Kingdom – Independence Day**

Combined Worship Service | July 5, 2026 – 9:30 AM

### **AS WE GATHER**

While Independence Day is not celebrated on any church calendar, it is a good time for us to gather for worship and recognize the founding of our nation. And it's important that we give thanks to God for His many blessings to us as a nation. So on this day when we celebrate our freedom as a people, we also see from the Scriptures that there's another freedom that's important to us. Through Jesus Christ we are given spiritual freedom. What are we called to do with that freedom? Share it.

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WE SING** "Here I Am To Worship"

### **INVOCATION**

### **WE CONFESS OUR SINS**

**P:** Let us then confess our sins to our Heavenly Father:

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**WE SING** "Eternal Father Strong to Save" **LSB 717**

### **WE PRAY**

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD**

### **EPISTEL READING**

**Galatians 5:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>You were indeed called to be free, brothers and sisters. Don't turn this freedom into an excuse for your corrupt nature to express itself. Rather, serve each other through love. <sup>14</sup>All of Moses' Teachings are summarized in a single statement, "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." <sup>15</sup>But if you criticize and attack each other, be careful that you don't destroy each other.

<sup>16</sup>Let me explain further. Live your life as your spiritual nature directs you. Then you will never follow through on what your corrupt nature wants.

<sup>17</sup>What your corrupt nature wants is contrary to what your spiritual nature wants. They are opposed to each other. As a result, you don't always do what you intend to do. <sup>18</sup>If your spiritual nature is your guide, you are not subject to Moses' laws.

**EPISTLE READING****Ephesians 2:19-22**

<sup>19</sup> Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

**GOSPEL READING****Matthew 22: 1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. <sup>4</sup>"Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.' <sup>5</sup>"But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. <sup>6</sup>The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>"Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. <sup>9</sup>So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' <sup>10</sup>So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

**KIDS' TIME***DCE Liz Peters***MESSAGE****"Sharing Freedom"***Pastor Doug Slavens***WE PROFESS OUR FAITH IN SONG****"Sing Praise to the Father"****WE PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY & FOR ALL CONCERNS****"God of Our Fathers"****LW #501****WE SING**

P: O God the Father, Creator and Ruler of the world: we give You thanks for our nation – for the history in which we see Your hand, for the opportunities that surround us in our day, and for the promise that the future yet affords.

**C: Accept the praise You people raise, our God and King.**

P: Make us to be people who respond to Your goodness with thanks, who are faithful stewards of Your bounty, and citizens concerned for the welfare of all.

**C: Throughout this land of liberty, O Lord, let freedom ring!**

**WE SING**

P: O God the Son, Redeemer and Savior of the world: we give You thanks that the precious Gospel of Your holy life, Your innocent death, and Your glorious resurrection is proclaimed freely among us.

**C: Accept the praise You people raise, our God and King.**

P: Bless Your people here and everywhere, O Lord, and make Your Church a beacon shining in the darkness, offering the freedom of forgiveness purchased by Your precious blood.

**C: Throughout this land of liberty, O Lord, let freedom ring!**

### **WE SING**

P: O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the world: we give You thanks for drawing us to our Savior Jesus Christ, for Your constant presence and never-failing help, evident in the lives of Your assembled people.

**C: Accept the praise Your people raise, our God and King.**

P: Let the light of Your compassion shine on all among us who are oppressed by any need – the sick and the grieving, the hungry and the homeless, the lost and the lonely, and all who cry for help.

**C: Throughout this land of liberty, O Lord, let freedom ring!**

### **WE SING**

## **CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER**

### **WORDS OF PREPARATION**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **SHARING OF PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD**

**"In Christ Alone"**

**"Today Your Mercy Calls Us"**

**LSB 915**

**"God Loved the World So That He Gave"**

**LSB 571**

#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

#### **CLOSING BLESSING**

#### **WE SING**

**"America The Beautiful"**

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### **OUR OFFERINGS**

All that we have and all that we are, belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good!  
We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online [memoriallutheran.net](http://memoriallutheran.net) or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.