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Live Service Audio: 940-322-1100

## Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – July 4, 2021

### Freedom and Democracy Sunday

#### THE GATHERING

Prelude *My Country* – arr. Sykes Debbie Watson

Welcome Claire Baer

*Please let us know you're here by texting FCC to 77411.*

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship Dr. Mark Bender

Leader: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

**People: The people the Lord has chosen for His heritage.**

Leader: Our soul waits for the Lord,

**People: He is our help and shield.**

Psalm 33:12, 20

Opening Hymn *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand* – vs. 1, 2 & 4 No. 725

***God of the ages, whose almighty hand  
leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,  
our grateful songs before thy throne arise.***

***Thy love divine hath led us in the past;  
in this free land with thee our lot is cast;  
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,  
thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.***

***Refresh thy people on or toilsome way;  
lead us from night to never-ending day;  
till all our lives with love and grace divine,  
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.***

Opening Prayer with Lord's Prayer

Dr. Mark Bender

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Children's Message

Claire Baer

Sending Response

Congregation: **The Lord be with you as you worship.**

Children: **And also with you.**

## THE HYMNS OF THE PRESIDENTS

Introduction

James Abram Garfield – The Twentieth President

Hymn

*Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

Teresa Archambo, soloist

Lyndon Baines Johnson – The Thirty-Sixth President

Hymn

*Onward, Christian Soldiers*

**Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,  
with the cross of Jesus going on before.  
Christ, the royal Master, leads against the foe;  
forward into battle, see his banners go!  
Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to war,  
with the cross of Jesus going on before.**

Ronald Wilson Reagan – The Fortieth President

Hymn

*Battle Hymn of the Republic – vs. 1*

No. 705

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
he has loosed the fateful lightning of this terrible swift sword;  
his truth is marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.**

A Litany for the Nation

Leader: Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

**People: Heal us.**

Leader: We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

**People: Forgive us.**

Leader: We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

**People: Inspire us.**

Leader: We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

**People: Enlighten us.**

Leader: We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

**People: Renew us.**

Leader: God of power and might, 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.

**People: Lord, keep this nation under your care.**

Leader: 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.

**People: Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

Leader: 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 fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

**People: Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

Leader: To the judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

**People: Give grace to your servants, O Lord.**

Leader: 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.

**People: And you are exalted as head above all.**

Leader: Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name.

**People: Amen.**

*This litany was first used at the National Cathedral, Washington, D.C.,  
at the celebration of Independence Day on Sunday, July 2, 1995.*

## THE RESPONSE

Communion Hymn

*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go* - vs. 1

No. 540

(Favorite of John Calvin Coolidge Jr. – The Thirtieth President)

***O Love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.***

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table and Words of Institution

Kerry Roach

Prayers for the Bread & Cup

Andy Wilson & Craig Reynolds

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

*All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*

**I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.**

## THE SENDING

Sent from the Table & Invitation to Discipleship

Dr. Mark Bender

Closing Hymn

*This Is My Song - vs. 1 & 3*

No. 722

***This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.***

***This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.***

***This is my prayer, O Ruler of all nations:  
let thy reign come; on earth thy will be done.  
In peace may all earth's people draw together,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations;  
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.***

Benediction

Dr. Mark Bender

Postlude

*Our Country* – arr. Whitworth

Debbie Watson

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## MEMORIALS AND HONORS

In memory of Dwight Tuttle given by Searchers Class.

In memory of Bill Willis given by Open Door Class.

CCLI License #504653

**Hymn Notes**

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# CALENDAR

Sunday, July 4		
8:40 am	Worship Service	Chapel
9:30 am	Sunday School	
9:30 am	Journey Through Scripture	Parlor
10:45 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary/ Livestream
NO	Pickleball	Gym
NO	Youth (Grades 6-12)	Room 403/Gym
NO	Young Disciples (Grades K-5)	Room 402
Monday, July 5		
	Church Building, Offices & All Programs Closed	
Tuesday, July 6		
7:30 am–6:00 pm	Children Come First "CCF" (T-F)	
9:30 am	Staff Meeting / Worship Planning	Room 310/Zoom
6:30 pm	Common Ground Recovery Ministries Support Groups Anger Management, Parenting, Rebuilding Your Life, Domestic Violence Prevention	Rooms 304 to 308
Wednesday, July 7		
7:00 am	Elders' Breakfast	Room 405
9:00-11:00 am	CCF Spanish	Room 300
1:00 pm	Stretch Class	Gym
3:30-5:00 pm	CCF Movie	Room 300
5:30 pm	Brown Bag Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:00 pm	Neighborhood Worship Service	Fellowship Hall
6:00-7:00 pm	First Kidz (PreK-5th Grade)	Room 402
7:00 pm	Youth Activities (Grades 6-12)	Room 403/Gym
Thursday, July 8		
	Young Disciples Trip to Science Museum	Oklahoma City OK
7:30 pm	College Bible Study	Rapid Fire Pizza
Friday, July 9		
7:00 am	Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	Hwy Café 2808 Jacksboro Hwy
9:00-11:00 am	CCF Music	Room 300
12:00 pm	CCF Parent Advisory Committee Meeting	Room 310
Saturday, July 10		

### Pantry Sunday – July 4

**The July collected item(s) will be: cans of corn & green beans.** You can continue to help keep the pantry shelves filled by: Donating the monthly items or any type of food items directly anytime into the large box on the porch by the Chapel entrance. To support Interfaith with a financial gift, you may mail your donation to Interfaith (1101 11th St., Wichita Falls, TX 76301), or donate on their [website](#).

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday

The Church Building, Offices & All Programs will be closed on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Stretch Class

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm  
Gym  
Cost: \$5.00 per session

### College Bible Study

Will meet this Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 pm, Rapid Fire Pizza

### Men's Breakfast & Bible Study!

Bring a friend and attend the FCC Men's Breakfast & Bible Study this Friday morning, July 9<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-8:00 am, at the Hwy Café, 2808 Jacksboro Hwy.