

We Hold These Truths To Be Self-Evident

AN INTERFAITH SERVICE
Celebrating 250 Years of the American Spirit

July 3, 2026

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. —That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, —That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. . . .

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States. . . . And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

— *The Declaration of Independence*, ratified July 4, 1776

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT

An Interfaith Service Celebrating 250 Years of the American Spirit

July 3, 2026 • 10:00 AM

CARILLON PRELUDE

Dr. Edward M. Nassor, *Carillonneur, Washington National Cathedral*

God of Our Fathers

National Hymn; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b. 1957)

Amazing Grace

New Britain; arr. Ronald Barnes (1927–2007)

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Resignation; arr. E. M. Nassor

In Christ There Is No East or West

McKee; arr. E. M. Nassor

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954); arr. E. M. Nassor

America the Beautiful

Materna; arr. Edward Lee Cobb (b. 1963)

PRELUDE

The Cathedral Choir

The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Brass Ensemble

Julie DeBoer, *Associate Director of Music and Chorister Program Director, Washington National Cathedral*

Michele Fowlin, *Associate Director of Music and Director of Contemporary Ensemble, Washington National Cathedral*

Edward Hewes, *Associate Director of Music and Cathedral Organist, Washington National Cathedral*

Mina-Marie Jelinek, *Assistant Organist, Washington National Cathedral*

Simple Gifts

Traditional; arr. Jari Villanueva (b. 1955)

Ambe

Andrew Balfour (b. 1967)

The Wayfaring Stranger

Greg Gilpin (b. 1964)

“The Peace May Be Exchanged” from *Rubrics*

Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

Wade in the Water

Negro spiritual; arr. Junior Garr, Marsha B. Morrison,
Niella Dankwah-Coffie, David Dankwah-Coffie

To a Wild Rose

Edward MacDowell (1860–1908)

Adoration

Florence Price (1887–1953)

Agnus Dei

Samuel Barber (1910–1981)

We Shall Overcome

Traditional American Freedom Song adapted from *I'll Overcome Someday*,
Charles Tindley (1851–1933); arr. Shelton Ridge Love

The people's responses are in bold.

THE CALL TO COMMUNITY

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith, *Dean, Washington National Cathedral*

The people stand as able at the invitation of the canon.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr., *Canon Missioner & Minister of Equity & Inclusion,
Washington National Cathedral*

SOLEMN PROCESSIONAL

Karen Rugg, *Native American drum and flute*

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

Dean Hollerith Let the peoples praise you O God;
People **let all the peoples praise you.**

Dean Hollerith Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
People **for you rule the world with justice.**

THE GREAT SPIRIT PRAYER

Joshua Shumak, *Vice Chief, Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians, Summerville, South Carolina*

O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me.
I come before you, one of your children. I am small and weak. I need your strength and wisdom.
Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.
Make my hands respect the things you have made, my ears sharp to hear your voice.
Make me wise, so that I may know the things you have taught my people,
the lessons you have hidden in every leaf and rock.
I seek strength, not to be superior to my brothers, but to be able to fight my greatest enemy: myself.
Make me ever ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes, so that when life fades as a fading sunset,
my spirit may come to you without shame.

(translation attributed to Chief Yellow Lark, Lakota Elder)

A PRAYER FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope, *Provost, Washington National Cathedral*

Cn. Cope Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
People **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR THE NATION

Imam Makram El-Amin, *Imam, Masjid An-Nur, and Executive Director, Al-Maa'uun, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

The people respond, Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Star-Spangled Banner

Sung by all.

after John Stafford Smith (1750–1836)



O say can you see, by the dawn's ear - ly light,
what so proud - ly we hailed at the twi - light's last gleam - ing,
whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the per - il - lous fight,
o'er the ram - parts we watched, were so gal - lant - ly stream - ing?
And the rock - ets' red glare, the bombs burst - ing in air,
gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
O say does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet wave
o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

The people are seated.

Voices of the American Story 1776–2026

VOICES OF 1776: THE FOUNDING OF THE NATION

Excerpt from Letter to John Adams • March 31, 1776

Abigail Adams, First Lady of the United States (1797–1801)

Nikole Killian, *Congressional Correspondent, CBS News*

Abigail Adams sent this letter to her husband while he was serving in the Second Continental Congress.

Excerpt from the Declaration of Independence • July 4, 1776

Thomas Jefferson, principal author of the Declaration of Independence and 3rd president of the United States

The Honorable Thomas B. Griffith, *Retired Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit*

Excerpt from “Liberty Further Extended: Or Free Thoughts on the Illegality of Slave-Keeping” • 1776

Lemuel Haynes, first Black man to be ordained as a minister in the United States
and member of the Continental Army

Ronald Wilson, *Deacon, First Baptist Church of Glenarden, Upper Marlboro, Maryland*

The unfinished manuscript of this essay was unpublished during Haynes’ lifetime and was undiscovered until 1983.

A PRAYER FOR EQUALITY

The Reverend Dr. Philip C. Hirsch, *Bishop, The Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Rev. Dr. Hirsch Source of All Life and Creator of our shared human dignity, we give thanks for the historic voices who called this nation to true justice. We honor those who demanded representation for women, declared the self-evident equality of all people, and fought to break the yokes of racial bondage. Keep us mindful of the failings between our highest ideals and our daily realities. Grant us the courage to stand against oppression and work consistently in the cause of liberty. May we build a world where freedom is not a privilege for the few, but a jewel shared equally by every person, regardless of race, gender, or background.

People Amen.

ANTHEM

The Cathedral Choir
The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

“I Believe in Liberty” from *Credo*

Margaret Bonds (1913–1972)

I believe in Liberty for all men; the space to stretch their arms and their souls; the right to breathe and the right to vote, the freedom to choose their friends, enjoy the sunshine and ride on the railroads, uncursed by color; thinking, dreaming, working as they will in a kingdom of God and love.

I believe in the training of little children, black even as white; the leading out of little souls into the green pastures and beside the still waters, not for pelf or peace, but for Life lit by some large vision of beauty and goodness and truth; lest we forget, and the sons of the fathers, like Esau, for mere meat barter their birthright in a mighty nation.

(adapted from Credo by W. E. B. Du Bois, 1868–1963)

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Sung by all.

St. Anne



1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2. un - der the sha - dow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
4. A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are like an eve - ning gone;
5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, bears all our years a - way;
6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,



1. our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
2. suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
3. from ev - er - last - ing thou art God, to end - less years the same.
4. short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
5. they fly, for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.
6. be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

The people are seated.

VOICES OF A DIVIDED NATION: THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

Excerpt from Independence Day address “What, to the Slave, Is the Fourth of July?” • July 5, 1852

Frederick Douglass, abolitionist and orator

Kayden Kidd, *Washington National Cathedral scholar alumnus*

This was originally delivered in Rochester, New York, at an event organized by the Rochester Ladies’ Anti-Slavery Society.

The Gettysburg Address • November 19, 1863

Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the United States

Ahmad Hilal Abid, *Founder & CEO, House of Wisdom, Lynnwood, Washington*

Excerpt from Reminiscences of My Life in Camp with the 33d United States Colored Troops • 1902

Susie King Taylor, first Black army nurse

Brooke Walker, *Washington National Cathedral scholar*

The memoir is a firsthand account of Taylor’s experiences during the Civil War, when she offered four years of unpaid service as a nurse, cook, laundress, and teacher alongside the 33rd United States Colored Troops.

A PRAYER FOR FREEDOM

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling, *Bishop, Baltimore-Washington & Peninsula-Delaware Conferences, The United Methodist Church*

Bp. Easterling

Source of Truth and Righteousness, we look squarely at the heavy truths of our history and the deep contradictions of our past. We honor the prophetic courage of those who laid bare our national and moral failings, and the resilient heroes whose sacrifices are too often forgotten. Forgive the times our celebrations and prayers have been an empty promise to those denied safety and justice. Do not let the lives given for freedom be in vain. Turn our eyes to the unfinished work before us. Bind us together as one human family, revive our spirits with a stubborn hope, and grant us the fierce determination to bring about a new birth of freedom for all people.

People

Amen.

ANTHEM

The Cathedral Choir
The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Julia Ward Howe (1819–1910);
arr. Peter J. Wilhousky (1902–1978)

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 hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword.
His truth is marching on.

Refrain Glory, glory, hallelujah.
 Glory, glory, hallelujah.
 Glory, glory, hallelujah.
 His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps.
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps.
I can read His righteous sentence in the dim and flaring lamps.
His day is marching on.

Refrain

In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born across the seas
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.
As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free,
While God is marching on.

Refrain

Amen.

VOICES OF WORLD CONFLICT AND RESILIENCE: THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM

Excerpt from Third Inaugural Address • January 20, 1941

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd president of the United States

Pastor Mike Palmer, *Pastor, Triadelphia United Methodist Church/Greggsville United Methodist Church,
Triadelphia, West Virginia*

Excerpt from “A Japanese-American in an Internment Camp” • 1943

Mary Tsukamoto, educator, cultural historian, and civil rights activist

Julie Morita, MD, *President & CEO, The Joyce Foundation, Chicago, Illinois*

Issued on February 19, 1942, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Executive Order 9066 authorized military commanders to designate exclusion zones. This directive led to the forced relocation and mass incarceration of roughly 120,000 Japanese Americans—the majority of whom were U.S. citizens—into inland concentration camps. The text comes from an oral history interview.

“Dark Testament” • Written during the late 1930s and published in 1970

Pauli Murray, human rights activist, legal scholar, Civil Rights architect,
and first Black woman ordained a priest in The Episcopal Church

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, *Canon Theologian, Washington National Cathedral*

A PRAYER FOR JUSTICE

Pastor Sergio Amezcua, *Founder and Senior Pastor, Dios Habla Hoy Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota*

Pastor Amezcua Source of Strength and Sacred Freedom, we look back at our history to discover who we are and who we may be, remembering the steep costs paid to defend human dignity during times of global conflict and the fight for democracy. We honor the resilient spirit of those who refuse to let the fire of liberty be smothered by doubt or fear. Forgive us for the times our fears drove us to build barriers of exclusion and isolation, stripping fellow humans of their precious freedom. Teach us that true safety can never be built on the suffering of our neighbors. Give us the courage to walk down the difficult paths of justice, following the timeless dream of the enslaved, the immigrant, and the refugee. Guard the dreamers in our midst, and grant us the fierce determination to go forward—never allowing the dream of freedom to be crushed.

People

Amen.

Fuente de fortaleza y libertad sagrada, miramos hacia atrás en nuestra historia para descubrir quienes somos y quienes podemos ser, recordando los elevados costos pagados para defender la dignidad humana durante tiempos de conflicto global y la lucha por la democracia. Honramos el espíritu resiliente de aquellos que se niegan a permitir que se extingue la llama de la libertad por la duda o el miedo. Perdónanos por las veces en que nuestros miedos nos llevaron a construir barreras de exclusión y aislamiento, privando a los seres humanos de su preciosa libertad. Enséñanos que la verdadera seguridad no puede ser nunca construida sobre el sufrimiento de nuestros prójimos. Danos la valentía para andar por los caminos difíciles de la justicia, siguiendo el sueño atemporal de los esclavizados, los inmigrantes, y los refugiados. Guarda a los que sueñan en medio de nosotros, y concédenos la fuerte determinación para seguir adelante—jamás permitiendo que el sueño de libertad sea aplastado.

Amén.

ANTHEM

The Cathedral Choir

“Her beacon-hand beckons” from *To the Hands*

Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

Her beacon-hand beckons:
give
give to me
those yearning to breathe free
tempest-tossed they cannot see
what lies beyond the olive tree
whose branch was lost amid the pleas
for mercy, mercy
give
give to me
your tired fighters fleeing flying

from the
from the
from
let them
i will be your refuge
i will be your refuge
i will be
i will be
we will be
we will

(Caroline Shaw, responding to the 1883 sonnet “The New Colossus” by Emma Lazarus, which was mounted on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty in 1903.)

VOICES OF SOCIAL CHANGE: THE STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY

Excerpt from “Special Message to the Congress: The American Promise” • March 15, 1965

Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th president of the United States

David Ignatius, *Columnist, The Washington Post*

Eight days after Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama, President Johnson went to Congress to urge the passage of voting-rights legislation.

Excerpt from “The American Dream” • July 4, 1965

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights leader

The Reverend Dr. Keith W. Byrd, Sr., *Pastor, Zion Baptist Church, Washington, District of Columbia*

Sermon delivered at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Excerpt from the Majority Opinion in Obergefell v. Hodges • June 26, 2015

Justice Anthony Kennedy, Supreme Court of the United States (1988–2018)

Erin Whelan, *Executive Director, SMYAL, Washington, District of Columbia*

Justice Kennedy drafted the majority opinion in Obergefell v. Hodges, which guaranteed the constitutional right to marriage for same-sex couples.

A PRAYER FOR COURAGE

Rabbi Susan N. Shankman, *Senior Rabbi, Washington Hebrew Congregation, Washington, District of Columbia*

Rabbi Shankman Source of Justice and Universal Love, we thank you for the turning points where history and fate met to reshape our path toward true equality. We honor the brave voices who stood on front lines like Selma, marched for the sacred right to vote, and expanded liberty so all people may freely express their identity and love. Forgive our deep contradictions—for proudly speaking democratic principles while sadly practicing oppression and segregation. Keep us from a morally weak democracy. Remind us that if we gain the world but deny equal opportunity to our neighbors, we risk losing our own soul. Turn our eyes to the unfinished American dream. Drive away bigotry, supremacy, and exclusion. Fill us with a fierce determination to right wrongs and do justice. Grant us the enduring faith that the moral arc of the universe bends towards justice. Guide us to build a society rooted in the dignity and worth of every human being.

People **Amen.**

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Sung by all.

J. R. Johnson



1. Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing, till earth and hea - ven ring,
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod,
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mon - ies of lib - er - ty.
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening skies;
 yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light;



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed?
 keep us for ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the pla - ces, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out of the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 sha-dowed be - neath thy hand may we for ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

The people are seated.

VOICES OF MODERN COURAGE: THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE

Sergeant Major Raquel Painter, *USMC (Ret.), North Carolina*

Kerrville Bus Drivers, Dr. Brent Ringo, *Superintendent, Kerrville Independent School District, Kerrville, Texas*

Bri Stensrud, *Director, Women of Welcome, Colorado*

Mufalo Chitam, *Executive Director, Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition, Portland, Maine*

Excerpt from Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America • 2024

Heather Cox Richardson, historian and author

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan, *Canon Precentor, Washington National Cathedral*

Cn. Duncan Over three centuries, Americans who believed in the principles of democracy, those ideals articulated by the Founders, however imperfectly they lived them, have asserted the principles of equality and government by consent even in the face of such repression, even as they died for their beliefs. More often than not, those articulating the nation's true principles have been marginalized Americans who demanded the nation honor its founding promises. Their struggles have constantly renewed the country's dedication to the principles articulated in the Declaration of Independence. Their fight for equality reveals the true nature of American democracy: it is, and has always been, a work in progress. The fundamental story of America is the constant struggle of all Americans, from all races, ethnicities, genders, and abilities, to make the belief that we are all created equal and have a right to have a say in our democracy come true. We are always in the process of creating "a more perfect union."

MESSAGE

Jon Meacham, *Canon Historian, Washington National Cathedral*

ANTHEM

The Cathedral Choir

The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Total Praise

Richard Smallwood (1948–2025)

Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills,
Knowing my help is coming from you,
Your peace you give me in time of the storm.

You are the source of my strength,
You are the strength of my life,
I lift my hands in total praise to you.

Amen.

The people stand as able.

LITANY OF HOPE & UNITY

Dr. Medha Bhagwat, *Vedanta teacher, Chinmaya Mission Washington Regional Center, Silver Spring, Maryland*

Rabbi Susan N. Shankman

Matthew Regan (Reverend Bup Hee), *Secretary, International Buddhist Committee of Washington DC*

Imam Dr. Talib M. Shareef, *Imam and President, Masjid Muhammad, The Nation's Mosque, Washington, District of Columbia*

Dr. Rajwant Singh, *Chair, Sikh Council on Religion and Education, Silver Spring, Maryland*

The Reverend Cynthia Lapp, *Pastor, Hyattsville Mennonite Church, Hyattsville, Maryland*

The Reverend Aaron Tinch, *Pastor, New Hope African Methodist Episcopal Church, Waldorf, Maryland*

Peter K. Christensen, *President, Washington D.C. Temple, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Kensington, Maryland*

After each petition, the people respond,

People **Bind us as one, and renew our hope.**

POEM

“American Song” • 2023

Dr. Elizabeth Alexander, poet, writer, literary scholar, and President, Mellon Foundation

This poem is inscribed beneath the Now and Forever windows at Washington National Cathedral.

THE CLOSING PRAYER

Inaugural Prayer • January 20, 1989

George Herbert Walker Bush, 41st president of the United States

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith

Dean Hollerith Heavenly Father, we bow our heads and thank You for Your love. Accept our thanks for the peace that yields this day and the shared faith that makes its continuance likely. Make us strong to do Your work, willing to heed and hear Your will, and write on our hearts these words: “Use power to help people.” For we are given power not to advance our own purposes, nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power, and it is to serve people. Help us to remember it, Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s Daily Prayer (Excerpt from Shantideva’s Way of the Bodhisattva)

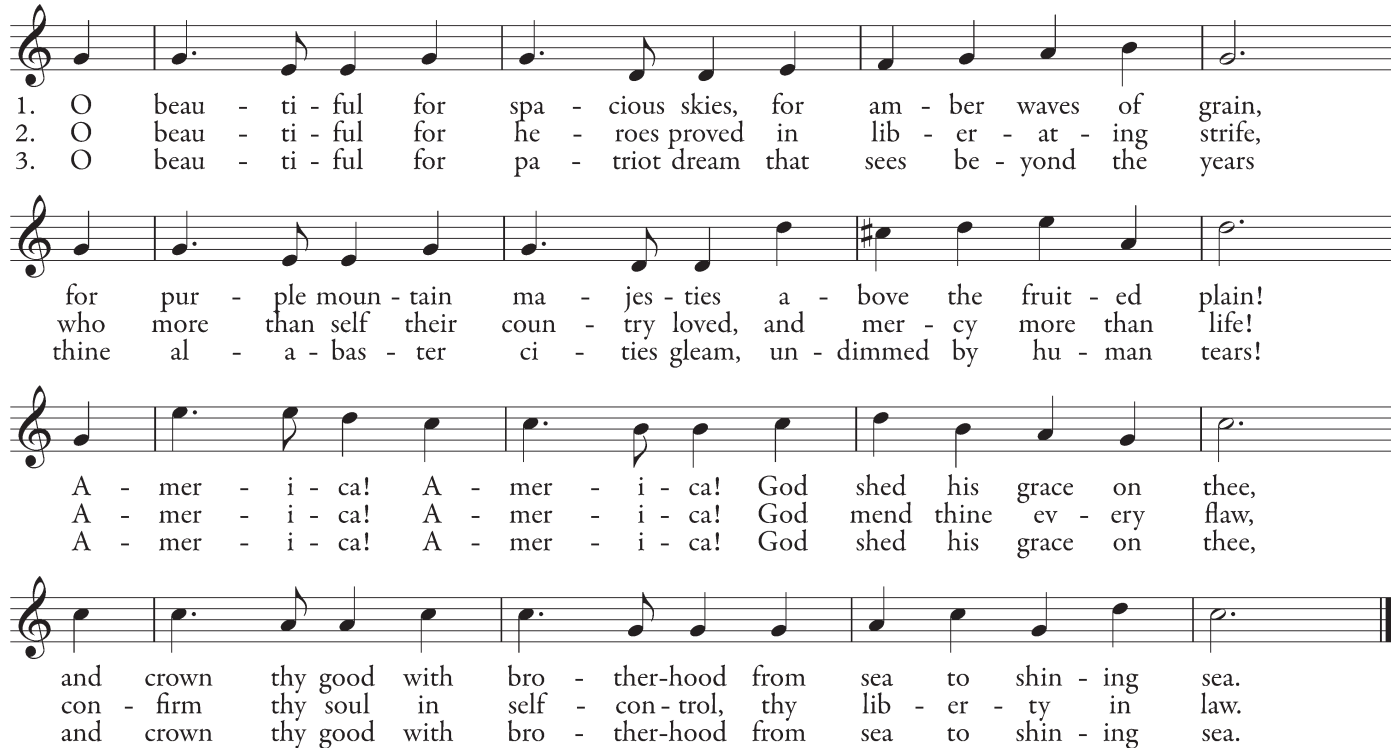
Deepak Bhargava, *President, Freedom Together Foundation, New York, New York*

HYMN

America The Beautiful

Sung by all.

Materna



1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
2. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
3. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther-hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
and crown thy good with bro - ther-hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

THE DISMISSAL

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.

Cn. Hamlin Go forth from this place in peace.
Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, practice justice and mercy.
Let all that you do be done in love.

People Amen.

POSTLUDE

Brass Ensemble
Edward Hewes

Fanfare for the Common Man

Aaron Copland (1900–1990)

The Liberty Bell

John Philip Sousa (1854–1932); arr. Colette Mourey (b. 1954)



*Following the service, the Washington Ringing Society will attempt a full peal
in celebration of 250 years of the American spirit.*



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith
Dean

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope
Provost

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas
Canon Theologian

The Reverend Canon Rosemarie Logan Duncan
Canon Precentor

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.
Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion

Canon Jon Meacham
Canon Historian



Ahmad Hilal Abid
Founder & CEO, House of Wisdom, Lynnwood, Washington

Dr. Elizabeth Alexander
President, Mellon Foundation, New York, New York

Pastor Sergio Amezcua
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President, Freedom Together Foundation, New York, New York

The Reverend Dr. Keith W. Byrd, Sr.
Pastor, Zion Baptist Church, Washington, District of Columbia

Mufalo Chitam
Executive Director, Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition, Portland, Maine

Peter K. Christensen
President, Washington D.C. Temple, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Kensington, Maryland



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Nikole Killion

Congressional Correspondent, CBS News

Bishop LaTrelle Easterling

Bishop, Baltimore-Washington and Peninsula-Delaware Conferences, The United Methodist Church

Imam Makram El-Amin

Imam, Masjid An-Nur, and Executive Director, Al-Maa'uun, Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Honorable Thomas B. Griffith

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The Reverend Dr. Philip C. Hirsch

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David Ignatius

Columnist, The Washington Post

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President & CEO, The Joyce Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

Sergeant Major Raquel Painter

USMC (Ret.), North Carolina

Pastor Mike Palmer

Pastor, Triadelphia United Methodist Church/Greggsville United Methodist Church, Triadelphia, West Virginia



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Superintendent, Kerrville Independent School District, Kerrville, Texas

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Imam and President, Masjid Muhammad, The Nation's Mosque, Washington, District of Columbia

Joshua Shumak
Vice Chief, Wassamasaw Tribe of Varnertown Indians, Summerville, South Carolina

Dr. Rajwant Singh
Chair, Sikh Council on Religion and Education, Silver Spring, Maryland

Bri Stensrud
Director, Women of Welcome, Colorado

The Reverend Aaron Tinch
Pastor, New Hope African Methodist Episcopal Church, Waldorf, Maryland

Brooke Walker
Washington National Cathedral scholar

Erin Whelan
Executive Director, SMYAL, Washington, District of Columbia

Ronald Wilson
Deacon, First Baptist Church of Glenarden, Upper Marlboro, Maryland



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Choir

The Cathedral Contemporary Ensemble

Julie DeBoer

Associate Director of Music and Chorister Program Director, Washington National Cathedral

Michele Fowlin

Associate Director of Music and Director of Contemporary Ensemble, Washington National Cathedral

Edward Hewes

Associate Director of Music and Cathedral Organist, Washington National Cathedral

Mina-Marie Jelinek

Assistant Organist, Washington National Cathedral

Dr. Edward M. Nassor

Carillonneur, Washington National Cathedral

Brass Ensemble

Chris Larios, *trumpet*

David Murray, *trombone*

James McAloon, *trumpet*

Seth Cook, *tuba*

Robert Rearden, *horn*

Jason Niehoff, *timpani*

Karen Rugg

Native American drum and flute

The Washington Ringing Society

VERGERS

G. Scott Sanders

Head Cathedral Verger

Simone Bramble

Cathedral Verger and Acolyte Master

Monica Leland

Assistant Verger

Catherine Able-Thomas

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ACOLYTES

Amber Lin, *Head Acolyte*

Olivia Wu, *Assistant Head Acolyte*

Rylea Whitfield

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America the Beautiful. Text: Katherine Lee Bates (1859–1929), alt. Music: *Materna*. Samuel Augustus Ward (1848–1903). Public domain. *The Star-Spangled Banner*. Text: Francis Scott Key (1779–1843). Music: *National Anthem*. Source unknown, ca. 18th century. Public domain. *All Creatures of Our God and King*. Text: St. Francis of Assisi (1182–1226); tr. William H. Draper (1855–1933). Music: *Lasst uns erfreuen*. Melody from *Auserlesene Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, 1623. Public domain. *Lift Every Voice and Sing*. Text: James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938). Music: J. Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954). Public domain.

IMAGES (*Appearing on screen and during the livestream.*) Letter from Abigail Adams to John Adams, March 31–April 5, 1776 [electronic edition]. Adams Family Papers: An Electronic Archive. Abigail Adams Portrait, pastel on paper, Benjamin Blyth, circa 1766. Both courtesy Massachusetts Historical Society. Public domain. *Congress Voting Independence*, Robert Edge Pine and Edward Savage (c. 1784–1801). Public domain. Tray depicting Reverend Lemuel Haynes, anonymous artist c. 1835–1840. Public domain. Frontispiece of 1837's *Sketches of the Life and Character of the Rev. Lemuel Haynes*, A.M Cooley, Timothy Mather. Public domain. Frederick Douglass, unidentified photographer, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Public domain. Frederick Douglass, Oration, delivered in Corinthian Hall, Rochester, July 5, 1852 (Rochester: Lee, Mann & Co., 1852). University of Rochester. Public domain. Lincoln's address at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery, November 19, 1863. Sherwood Lithograph Co., Chicago, c.1905. Public domain. *The battle of Gettysburg, Pa. July 3d. 1863*, Currier and Ives. Public domain. Gettysburg Address, 1863, (Nicolay Copy) Abraham Lincoln Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. Public domain. Susie King Taylor, 1902, Frontispiece of *Reminiscences of My Life in Camp with the 33d United States Colored Troops* and book cover, Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. Public domain. Detail from "Dress parade of the 1st South Carolina [U.S.C.V.], Beaufort, S.C." Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. Public domain. FDR takes the oath of office from Chief Justice Charles Evan Hughes at his third inaugural ceremony, January 20, 1941. FDR Presidential Library and Museum. Public domain. Mary and Marielle Tsukamoto and Tsukamoto family in front of barracks, block 9, at Jerome Relocation Center. From Mary Tsuruko Dakusaku Tsukamoto's photograph collection, Japanese American Archival collection, Department of Special Collections and University Archives, University Library, California State University, Sacramento. Copyright, Marielle Tsukamoto. Used by permission. Civilian exclusion order #5, posted at First and Front streets, directing removal by April 7 of persons of Japanese ancestry, from the first San Francisco section to be affected by evacuation. U.S. War Relocation Authority. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. Public domain. Pauli Murray standing in front of a microphone, reading from *Dark Testament and Other Poems*, Milton Williams, 1977. Schlesinger Library, Harvard Radcliffe Institute. Copyright, Milton Williams. Used by permission. House Chamber, U.S. Capitol Building, Washington, D.C., Cecil Stoughton, 1965. LBJ Presidential Library. Public domain. "Selma is Now 5, Two Minute Warning," Spider Martin, 1965. Copyright, Spider Martin/The Spider Martin Civil Rights Collection. Used by permission. Martin Luther King, Jr. speaking at the March on Montgomery. History collection 2016/Alamy. Used by permission. Anthony Kennedy, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Public domain. Outside the Supreme Court, the crowd celebrates the Court's decision on the morning of June 26, 2015, Ted Eytan, CC BY-SA 2.0, via Wikimedia Commons.

Thank you for joining us in worship. Please know that your participation with us today has been a blessing.



Today's interfaith service, a part of the Cathedral's A Better Way initiative, is presented in partnership with The Courage Project, Freedom Together Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and The McKnight Foundation.

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL'S A BETTER WAY INITIATIVE

At Washington National Cathedral, we believe the gospel compels us to live faithfully at the intersection of the sacred and the civic. A Better Way is our commitment to embodying dignity and respect in public life, offering hope, and providing a moral framework in a divided world.



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ORGAN RENOVATION PROJECT

The Cathedral is under active construction as part of the Organ Renovation Project, and St. John's Chapel is currently closed and inaccessible. Learn more about the Organ Renovation at www.cathedral.org/organ.

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

All Cathedral worship services are livestreamed via video for our online congregation. By participating in this service you acknowledge that you may be visible on live broadcast or archived video. If you are uncomfortable about the possibility of appearing on video, please see an usher to be reseated in a more private area.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

Sound amplification is available for worship services held in the nave. Please ask an usher for the appropriate device.

