

**Order for the Worship of God**  
**May 24, 2020**  
**7th Sunday of Easter**  
**11:00 AM Worship Service**

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Leader: Blessed is God, who hears our prayers,

**All: whose steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: There is no greater love than this:

**All: to lay down one's life for one's friends.**

Leader: God calls us to proclaim the good news.

**All: Let us open our hearts to hear God's word.**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Charles W. Ore

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #331

"God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

NATIONAL HYMN

(*stanzas 1,3,4*)

**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.**

**From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,  
be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase.  
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.**

**Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.  
Lead us from night to never ending day.  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,  
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

**God of every nation, as we remember those that gave their lives for our sake, let us be stirred to action in their memory. We confess that we have not done all that is possible to promote peace and justice in our world. We have not loved our neighbors, let alone our enemies. Forgive us for failing to live up to your commandments. Empower us to work for your Kingdom in this world, and welcome us by your grace into your Kingdom in the next. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM

"America the Beautiful"

arr. Mark Johnston

Stephanie Carson, Soloist; Mark Johnston, Piano

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain.*

*For purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain.*

*America, America! God shed His grace on thee,*

*And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life.  
America, America, may God thy gold refine  
Till all success be nobleness and every gain divine.*

*O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years.  
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimmed by human tears.  
America, America! God shed His grace on Thee  
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### CALL TO OFFERING

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN #329  
(stanzas 1,3,4)

“God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength”

WINCHESTER OLD

**God is our refuge and our strength, our ever present aid,  
and therefore though the earth be moved, we will not be afraid.**

**Where God abides a river flows; that city will rejoice.  
But nations fear and kingdoms shake the mountains on the shore.**

**Since God is in the midst of it, the city walls shall stand,  
secure and safe with God's sure help, when trouble is at hand.**

#### WE GROW IN THE WORD

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 50:20 (NRSV)  
Ephesians 3:20-21 (NRSV)

#### SERMON

“An Ingenious Alchemist”  
Chris Curvin, Pastor

#### WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #8  
(stanzas 1,4)

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

MELITA

**Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm has bound the restless wave,  
who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.**

**O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour;  
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
protect them where-so-e'er they go;  
thus evermore shall rise to thee  
glad praise from air and land and sea.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Come, God, Creator, Holy Ghost”

J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director  
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

# 331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al-might - y  
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the  
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -  
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil-some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star-ry band  
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.  
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de-fense.  
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er-end-ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:  
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.  
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

8

# 329 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

(Psalm 46)

1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, our  
2 Though hills a - mid the seas be cast, though  
3 Where God a - bides a riv - er flows; that  
4 Since God is in the midst of it, the

ev - er - pres - ent aid, and there - fore, though the  
foam - ing wa - ters roar, yea, though the might - y  
cit - y will re - joice. But na - tions fear and  
cit - y walls shall stand, se - cure and safe with

earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid;  
bil - lows shake the moun - tains on the shore.  
king - doms shake be - fore God's thun - dering voice.  
God's sure help, when trou - ble is at hand.

# 8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the  
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the winds and waves sub -  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood up - on the cha - os  
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power, all trav - elers guard in

rest - less wave, who bade the might - y o - cean deep its  
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and  
 wild and rude, and bade its an - gry tu - mult cease, and  
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we  
 calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we  
 gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we  
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.  
 rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.