



Union Lutheran Church

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Patriotic Celebration

In the beauty of the lilies Christ
was born across the sea.
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.

July 6, 2025

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

P=Pastor, C=Congregation

Prayer

P Let us pray, dear God, thank you for giving us this privilege of gathering around the flag. We ask you, Lord, to dwell among us. We trust our nation to Your loving care, Lord. Give us Your light and Your truth to guide us in our ways so that we may seek Your will in our lives and impact the world around us for Your Kingdom. In Jesus' Name we pray.

C Amen

PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

Each selection offers a brief interlude to allow time for reading.

My Country, 'tis of Thee (is an American patriotic hymn written in 1831 by a Baptist seminary student, Samuel Francis Smith. Smith composed the lyrics after being inspired by a German Lutheran hymn and set the melody to the tune of "God Save the King.")

**My country, 'tis of thee, wweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride,
From ev'ry mountainside let freedom ring!**

**Our Father's God, to thee, Author of Liberty, to thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light.
Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King.**

Text: Samuel F. Smith, 1808–1895 Music: From Thesaurus Musicus, London, 1744
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Invitation to Pray for

Submission to Authority:

Romans 13:1-7 instructs believers to be subject to governing authorities, recognizing their role in restraining evil.

Prayer for Leaders:

1 Timothy 2:1-2 urges prayer for all people, including those in positions of power, so that believers may live peaceful and godly lives.

O, Beautiful for Spacious Skies (Katharine Lee Bates first wrote the lines to "America the Beautiful" after a stirring visit to Pikes Peak in 1893. But the story behind the song begins with Katharine herself, who pushed beyond conventional expectations of women to become an acclaimed writer, scholar, suffragist, and reformer. Katharine believed in the power of words to make a difference, and in "America the Beautiful," her vision of the nation as a great family, united from sea to shining sea, continues to uplift and inspire us all.)

**Oh, 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.**

Text: Katherine Lee Bates, 1859–1929 Music: Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903
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Invitation to Pray for

Praying for the Nation:

Psalm 85:4-6 expresses a plea for revival and restoration of a nation, acknowledging its need for God's mercy and forgiveness.

Seeking God's Will:

Prayers for one's nation should be rooted in seeking God's will and acknowledging His sovereignty.

God of Our Fathers (is a 19th-century American Christian hymn, written in 1876 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence. The hymn was chosen for the celebration of the Centennial of the United States Constitution.)

**God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies:
Our grateful songs before your throne arise.**

Text: Daniel C. Roberts, 1841–1907 Music: George W. Warren, 1828–1902
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Invitation to Pray for

Prayer for Leaders:

"We pray for our nation's leaders, that they may govern with wisdom, justice, and compassion, and that they may seek to do Your will."

Prayer for Peace:

"We pray for peace within our borders and among the nations, that Your peace may reign and that conflicts may cease."

God Bless Our Native Land (using the same tune as "My Country 'Tis of Thee, the words to "God Bless our Native Land" were written by Charles Brooks while a student at Harvard Divinity School with additions and alterations by John Dwight. Both men were born the same year (1813) and both were ordained ministers. The lyrics appeared in print as a hymn in 1845 and serve as a prayer to God asking for continual guidance and safety for America.)

**God bless our native land; firm may it ever stand
Through storm and night. when the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave, do thou our country save by thy great might.
So shall our prayers arise to God above the skies,
On whom we wait. Thou who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye,
To thee aloud we cry: God save the state!**

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1812-1883, st. 1; John S. Dwight, 1813-1893, st 2; alt. Tune: Thesarurus Musicus, London, 1744
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Invitation to Pray for

Prayer for Righteousness:

"We pray for a spirit of righteousness and integrity to permeate our nation, that we may be a people who honor You in all we do."

Prayer for Revival:

"We pray for a spiritual awakening in our nation, that many would turn to You and experience the transforming power of Your love."

Sending

P Go in peace and serve the Lord
C **Thanks be to God!**

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OUR MISSION: Christ Centered ~ Mission Driven~ Traditionally-Grounded ~
Congregationally Focused (Matthew 28:18-20)

OUR VISION: “Love God and Love our Neighbor” (Mark 12:30-33)

OUR ACTION PLAN: “By feeding, clothing, visiting, helping...” (Matthew 25:35-40)

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Union Lutheran Church

Church Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Pastor Heidi Punt, Senior Pastor (pastor@ulcsalisbury.org)

Phil Cauble, Facility Manager

Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support (office@ulcsalisbury.org)

Pastor T. C. Plexico, Pastor Emeritus

