



OUTSIDE ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 4th, 2021 10:00 am Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Independence Day

Rain Location: Bethel Sanctuary

* please stand - in body or in spirit *

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC(audio selection; music prerecorded)

WESTMINSTER CHIMES

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTSPenny Lee, Worship Leader

(please stand)

* PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCEPenny Lee

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

(please be seated)

WE APPROACH GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 67).....Penny Lee

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us. May He make His face to shine upon us.

People: That your way may be known upon earth; and your saving power among all nations.

Leader: Let the people praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations on earth.

ALL: The earth has yielded it's increase. Our God has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere Him.

OPENING SONG "How Great Thou Art" (music prerecorded)

Nancy Carrie Logan, Soloist

(please stand)

* CALL TO CONFESSIONPenny Lee

* UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we are quick to criticize, quick to judge, quick to blame. We fail to offer others the same grace we receive from you. We hold ourselves up as superior and fail to address the patterns of dominance we perpetuate. Forgive us, God. *(Prayer of Confession continues)*

Help us seek understanding and compassion. Help us accept the love you offer us and share your love with others. Amen.

Prayer of Confession: © Presbyterian Outlook, 2021
Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott

* MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS.....Penny Lee
(please be seated)

INDEPENDENCE DAY LITANYPenny Lee (see pages 3-4)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATIONElder Mark Wilson

SCRIPTURE READINGSFirst Reading - Exodus 8:6-10
.....Second Reading - Romans 13:1-7

SERMON "America and the Second Exodus"
Elder Mark Wilson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

(please stand)

* HYMN OF REFLECTION "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" (music prerecorded; see page 5)
JoAnn Pendley, Pianist & Organist

* STATEMENT OF FAITH - APOSTLES CREED (unison)Penny Lee
(please be seated)

JOYS & CONCERNSPenny Lee

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)Mark Wilson

SENDING

CLOSING SONG "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" (music prerecorded)
Nancy Carrie Logan, Soloist

(please stand)

* CHARGE & BLESSINGMark Wilson

CLOSING MUSIC(audio selection; music prerecorded)

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR WORSHIP ON INDEPENDENCE DAY!
HAVE A FABULOUS & BLESSED 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY AND WEEK!

LITANY FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

Leader: As we remember the birth of our nation, and the gifts of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, let us offer our thanks and prayers to God, the giver of all good gifts.
For the men and women who braved the long journey by sea to come to this new world,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For patriots who dreamed of, and fought for, a free nation,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For the men and women who laid the foundation of our democracy, and who pledged liberty and justice for all,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For those who built this country brick by brick, road by road, and town by town,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country, for all who paid for our freedom by their service, and those who paid by their sacrifice,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For the innovators and artists, poets and teachers, farmers and factory workers; for all who labor and provide for the common good,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For this land, with its peaks and valleys, coast and deserts, fields and meadows,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: For our own community, for those who came before us in this place, and for our neighbors near and far,

People: We thank you Lord.

Leader: Lord, we pray for The United States, that we might always be a nation which defends and promotes liberty and freedom, truth and justice.

People: We pray to you Lord.

Leader: That we might always be a nation where all are free to worship and pray,

People: We pray to you Lord.

Leader: That we might be a beacon of freedom to all those who live under the shadow of terror and hopelessness,

People: We pray to you Lord.

(Litany for Independence Day continues)

Leader: That those who are elected to govern and lead, would be guided by you, and be ever aware of the trust that has been given them,

People: We pray to you Lord.

Leader: That we would be a people who repent from our sins, and who always return to you and to your grace,

People: We pray to you Lord.

Leader: Gracious God, Father of all nations, bless and defend us and our land; prosper the work of our hands, and increase in us your grace and compassion, and our offerings of thanks to you, our rock and our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

69 I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Here I Am, Lord

G Am D G C G D
Leader or All

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

G Em C Am7 D G

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est

Am D G C G D

made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
 break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

G Em C Am7 C/G D D7

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain
 All G C G D G C G D G

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you

Am7 G Am7 D G C G C

call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you

G C G D G Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

The stanzas here need to be understood as representing the voice of God, while the refrain (based on Isaiah 6:8) is the faithful human response to God's call. This becomes clearer if a leader or small group sings the stanzas, with the congregation joining on the refrain.