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 “God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength” WINCHESTER OLD
(stanzas 1,3,4)

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 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” MELITA
(stanzas 1,4)

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

1 God of the ages, whose almighty hand
   leads forth in beauty all the starry band

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past.
   In this free land by thee our lot is cast.

3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
   be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.

4 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.
   Lead us from night to never-ending day.

5 Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
   Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay:

6 Thy true religion in our hearts increase.
   Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,

7 Our grateful songs before thy throne arise.
   Thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

8 Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
   And glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.
329 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength  
(Psalm 46)

1 God is our refuge and our strength, our
2 Though hills amid the seas be cast, though
3 Where God abides a river 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
city will re - joice. But na - tions fear and
city 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.
THE TRIUNE GOD

8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

1 Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the rest-less 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.

2 O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves sub-missive heard, who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

3 O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude, and bade its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

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