

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VIRTUAL WORSHIP ~ JULY 5, 2020

Call to Worship ~ Reverend Becky Albright

My Country 'Tis of Thee ~ Samuel Francis Smith ~ presented by Noah Krepps and Lily Cooper

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

*Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.*

*Our fathers' 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.*

Children's Sermon ~ Dr. Patrick Perryman

American Tune ~ Paul Simon ~ presented by Vic Varner

*Many's the time I've been mistaken
And many times confused
Yes, and often felt forsaken
And certainly misused
But I'm all right, I'm all right
I'm just weary to my bones
Still, you don't expect to be
Bright and bon vivant
So far away from home, so far away from home*

*And I don't know a soul who's not been battered
I don't have a friend who feels at ease
I don't know a dream that's not been shattered
or driven to its knees
But it's all right, it's all right
We've lived so well so long
Still, when I think of the road
we're traveling on
I wonder what went wrong
I can't help it, I wonder what went wrong*

*And I dreamed I was dying
And I dreamed that my soul rose unexpectedly
And looking back down at me
Smiled reassuringly
And I dreamed I was flying
And high up above my eyes could clearly see
The Statue of Liberty
Sailing away to sea
And I dreamed I was flying*

*We come on the ship they call the Mayflower
We come on the ship that sailed the moon
We come in the age's most uncertain hour
and sing an American tune
But it's all right, it's all right
You can't be forever blessed
Still, tomorrow's going to be another working day
And I'm trying to get some rest
That's all I'm trying to get some rest*

A Patriot's Story ~ Colonel Roxanne Cheney

God of Our Fathers ~ George W. Warden arranged by Lani Smith ~ presented by Lily Cooper and Rev. Becky Albright

Gospel Lesson ~ Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Litany for our Nation

Leader: Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

All: And I will give you rest

During a season of pandemic across our nation and the world
We pray for disease to be cured and for restored health for all.

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

And I will give you rest

As we face the horror and shame of racism that has marked our stories and history
and threatens so many even now...

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

And I will give you rest

May we count our blessings and share our blessings and care for others

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

And I will give you rest

As we remember with pride the clarion call of our cherished declaration:
We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all 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.

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

And I will give you rest

While we celebrate the birth of this great nation and the sacrifice of women
and men who have put their lives on the line on behalf of others

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

And I will give you rest

Lord Jesus, speak to us again

Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens

And I will give you rest

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer ~ Rev. Albright

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies ~ Katherine Lee Bates ~ presented by Meredith Norris and Lily Cooper

*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!
God mend thine every flaw;
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law!*

*O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine
till all success be nobleness
and every gain divine!*

Benediction

Lift Every Voice and Sing ~ James Weldon Johnson ~ played by Lily Cooper

*Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.*

*Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.*