

PRAYERS FOR OUR NATION
JULY 4, 2026

TRINITY CATHEDRAL



NEW TODAY?

Thank you for choosing to be here. You are welcome here just as you are.
This bulletin contains everything you need to participate.

Where you see a reference to the BCP, that means the Book of Common Prayer which
is found in the pew rack in front of you.

For Children

Books and Activity bags to borrow can be found in the entryway.

THE
RE-HUMANIZATION
PROJECT™

This service is an offering of unity and love by The Re-Humanization Project of Trinity Cathedral which seeks to promote dignity and build unity in a world that dehumanizes and divides. Learn more at www.trinitycathedral.com/human or at human@trinitycathedral.com.

SUMMER WORSHIP AT 9AM (IN ENGLISH) & 11AM (EN ESPAÑOL)
WWW.TRINITYCATHEDRAL.COM
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

EVENING PRAYER, RITE TWO

The people stand as they are able.

OPENING HYMN

God of our Fathers

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system includes a three-measure rest for the Soprano part. The second system includes a three-measure rest for the Bass part. The third system includes a three-measure rest for the Bass part. The fourth system includes a three-measure rest for the Bass part. The piano accompaniment is written in a simple, homophonic style, using block chords and moving lines. The lyrics are as follows:

1 God of our fa - thers, 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 ru - ler, 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 bount - eous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

Words: Daniel Crane Roberts (1841-1907). Music: *National Hymn*, George William Warren (1828-1902).

The people remain standing.

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

We wait in hope for the Lord;
who is our help and our shield.

Our hearts rejoice in God
in whose holy name we put our trust.

Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us,
for we have put our trust in you.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

“Recognize whose lands these are on which we stand. Ask the deer, turtle, and the crane. Make sure the spirits of these lands are respected and treated with goodwill. The land is a being who remembers everything. You will have to answer to your children, and their children, and theirs—The red shimmer of remembering will compel you up in the night to walk the perimeter of truth for understanding...”

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral is situated on the homeland of the ancestral Huhugam and present-day Akimel O’odham, Pee Posh and other Indigenous groups who traveled this land. We respectfully acknowledge and honor all Native communities - past, present, and future - for their ongoing and fundamental relationship to this region.

AN OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose wisdom and whose love are over all, accept the prayers we offer for our nation. Give integrity to its citizens and wisdom to those in authority, that harmony and justice may be secured in obedience to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

silence

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The people are seated.

THE FIRST READING

from: The Declaration of Independence

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men 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.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

THE SECOND READING

Frederick Douglass

This is the 4th of July. It is the birthday of your National Independence, and of your political freedom. It carries your minds back to the day, and to the act of your great deliverance; and to the signs, and to the wonders, associated with that act, and that day.

Pride and patriotism, not less than gratitude, prompt you to celebrate and to hold it in perpetual remembrance. I have said that the Declaration of Independence is the ring-bolt to the chain of your nation's destiny. The principles contained in that instrument are saving principles. Stand by those principles, be true to them on all occasions, in all places, against all foes, and at whatever cost.

My business, if I have any here to-day, is with the present. Fellow-citizens, pardon me, allow me to ask, why am I called upon to speak here to-day? What have I, or those I represent, to do with your national independence? I am not included within the pale of this glorious anniversary! The rich inheritance of justice, liberty, prosperity and independence, bequeathed by your fathers, is shared by you, not by me. This Fourth July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn.

Fellow citizens; above your national, tumultuous joy, I hear the mournful wail of millions! whose chains, heavy and grievous yesterday, are, today, rendered more intolerable by the jubilee shouts that reach them. To chime in with the popular theme, would be treason most scandalous and shocking, and would make me a reproach before God and the world.

For it is not light that is needed, but fire; it is not the gentle shower, but thunder. We need the storm, the whirlwind, and the earthquake. The feeling of the nation must be quickened; the conscience of the nation must be roused; the propriety of the nation must be startled; the hypocrisy of the nation must be exposed; and its crimes against God and man must be proclaimed and denounced.

But I differ from those who charge this baseness on the framers of the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution is a GLORIOUS LIBERTY DOCUMENT.

Allow me to say, in conclusion, notwithstanding the dark picture I have this day presented of the state of the nation, I do not despair of this country.

I therefore leave off where I began, with hope. A change has now come over the affairs of mankind. The arm of commerce has borne away the gates of the strong city. Intelligence is penetrating the darkest corners of the globe. It makes its pathway over and under the sea, as well as on the earth. Oceans no longer divide, but link nations together.

The Fiat of the Almighty, "Let there be Light," has not yet spent its force. No abuse, no outrage whether in taste, sport or avarice, can now hide itself from the All-Pervading Light.

PSALM 102:1 - 12, 25 - 28

The Psalm will be read responsively by half verse.

- 1 LORD, hear my prayer, and let my cry come before you; *
hide not your face from me in the day of my trouble.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
when I call, make haste to answer me,
- 3 For my days drift away like smoke, *
and my bones are hot as burning coals.
- 4 My heart is smitten like grass and withered, *
so that I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 Because of the voice of my groaning *
I am but skin and bones.
- 6 I have become like a vulture in the wilderness, *
like an owl among the ruins.
- 7 I lie awake and groan; *
I am like a sparrow, lonely on a house-top.
- 8 My enemies revile me all day long, *
and those who scoff at me have taken an oath against me.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes for bread *
and mingled my drink with weeping.
- 10 Because of your indignation and wrath *
you have lifted me up and thrown me away.
- 11 My days pass away like a shadow, *
and I wither like the grass.
- 12 But you, O LORD, endure for ever, *
and your Name from age to age.
- 25 In the beginning, O LORD, you laid the foundations of the earth, *
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
- 26 They shall perish, but you will endure; they all shall wear out like a garment; *
as clothing you will change them, and they shall be changed;
- 27 But you are always the same, *
and your years will never end.
- 28 The children of your servants shall continue, *
and their offspring shall stand fast in your sight."

THE THIRD READING

Dolores Huerta

{In 1972} ...they had passed a law in Arizona that if you said, "boycott," you could go to prison for six months. And if you said "strike," you could go to prison. So we were trying to organize against that law. And I was speaking to a group of professionals in Arizona, to see if they could support us. And they said, "Oh, here in Arizona you can't do any of that. In Arizona no se puede — no you can't." And I said, "No, in Arizona sí se puede!" And when I went back to our meeting that we had every night there ... I gave that report to everybody and when I said, "Sí se puede," everybody started shouting, "Sí se puede! Sí se puede!" And so that became the slogan of our campaign in Arizona and now is the slogan for the immigrant rights movement.... We can do it. I can do it. Sí se puede.

A TIME OF SILENT MEDITATION

Please remain seated in a comfortable position, and close your eyes if you feel comfortable. With intention, breathe in slowly, hold it for one beat, and then exhale slowly.

THE FOURTH READING

Heather Cox Richardson

“Somebody said to me - and I think probably in some frustration because I always sound like Pollyanna, right?- ‘What would have to happen for me to concede that the United States is beyond hope?’

And the answer to that is: we would have to meet the end of the world. And the reason I say that is because I don't know about you, but I have to get up again tomorrow morning, and I have to put one foot in front of the other. And I don't know what's going to happen, but I do know that I either have the ability to try and make the world a better place or to give up on it. And I will never give up on it.

So when I think about our future and what we can do with our future, what I see is a country that has always been deeply flawed. That's what democracy is. It reflects the human beings who run it, and we are all profoundly flawed. All of us.

I see that as an expression of the human will for self-determination and I believe in that human will to have the control of our destiny, of who we become, and the real drive to create a government that enables all of us to have that right.

That's what's set out in the Declaration of Independence, and that's what people have fought for, throughout our almost 250 year history. So when you ask ‘when am I really going to give up, and say we're done?’

Not in my lifetime.

Because I know as a historian, we have done it in the past, and what has made a difference in the past between doing it and not doing it, is having people like me and probably like all of you, committed to getting up the next day and doing the next right thing. So you're not going to hear from me that ‘we're done’.

And any time that you see me still in there, pitching like I am, you know I still believe in the cause: the cause of American democracy but also of human self-determination.”

A HYMN OF HOPE

Joseph Brackett

**'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where I ought to be;
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed;
to turn, turn, will be my delight.
Till by turning, turning we come round right.**

The people are seated.

THE SCRIPTURE OF THE DAY

1st Samuel 8: 1-22

When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second was Abijah; they were judges in Beer-sheba. Yet his sons did not follow in his ways but turned aside after gain; they took bribes and perverted justice. Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations."

But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the Lord, and the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me[a] from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you."

Now then, listen to their voice; only, you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots, and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots."

He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. He will take your male and female slaves and the best of your cattle[b] and donkeys and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. And on that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the Lord will not answer you on that day."

But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! We are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles." When Samuel heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord. The Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to their voice and set a king over them." Samuel then said to the Israelites, "Each of you return home."

THE HOMILY

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer A. Reddall, VI Bishop of Arizona

The people stand as able.

A LITANY FOR SOUND GOVERNMENT

BCP 821-822

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

Lord, keep this nation under your care.

To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To Senators and Representatives, and those who make our laws in States, Cities, and Towns, give courage, wisdom, and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

To the Judges and officers of our Courts give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

Give grace to your servants, O Lord.

And finally, teach our people to rely on your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society; that we may serve you faithfully in our generation and honor your holy Name.

For yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Amen.

Silence is kept.

Deliver us according to your promise of mercy, O Lord. We wait for you.

More than sentries wait for the morning, our souls wait for you alone. Amen.

CHANTED RESPONSE

My soul is at rest

A Dm A^{SUS} A Dm C F C Dm A Dm *fine*

My soul is at rest in God a-lone, my sal - va - tion comes from God. My

fine

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The people kneel, stand or are seated.

THE SUFFRAGES

BCP p121

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of [_____] and] all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

THE COLLECT

Most holy God, the source of all good desires, all right judgments, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace with the world cannot give, so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will, and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart and especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A TIME OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

At this time, we leave space for any who wish to offer a prayer aloud for the community to join into.

*Conclude your intercession with “Lord, In Your Mercy”
and the people will respond “**Hear Our Prayer.**”*

We ask for language to be prayerful and in the spirit of hope for us all. Please kindly avoid negative intercessions. Thank you.

We will conclude this period of prayer by saying the Lord’s Prayer together:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

A CLOSING PRAYER

Romans 8:35,37-39

The people say together:

**Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?
No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present,
nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Anna Julia Cooper (1868-1954)

“The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a sect, a party or a class – it is the cause of humankind, the very birthright of humanity.”

Go forth into the world with the cause of freedom on your lips, being a maker of peace. Be of good courage as you work for this birthright; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Samuel Augustus Ward



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929), alt. Music: *Materna*, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903).



Thank you for supporting the ministries of Trinity. To donate electronically, scan the QR code to be taken to our website for online contributions.

You'll find additional organizations to support on our Call to Action handout at the reception after the service. We urge you to support them generously as you're able.

Readings today from:

The Land Acknowledgement includes an excerpt from Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings by Joy Harjo

The Holy Bible, NRSV UE

The Declaration of Independence

Frederick Douglass, former slave, abolitionist, first Black vice-presidential candidate

Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the United Farmworkers

Heather Cox Richardson, American Historian & Author

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The Rt. Rev. Jennifer A. Reddall, Bishop