



# Sunday, July 4, 2021

## Independence Day Weekend

**Prelude** *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* arr. Charles Callahan  
Velda Graham Bell, organ  
*America the Beautiful* arr. Carol McMillen  
Kay Strand, piano

**Welcome and Announcements** Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* **Call to Worship** Pastor Jeanine Alexander

One: We come to worship the God who leads us forth in beauty.

**All: Our grateful songs to God arise!**

One: God's love leads us into freedom.

**All: God's paths are our chosen way!**

One: God is our ever-sure defense.

**All: God's goodness nourishes us in peace!**

One: God refreshes our souls.

**All: God, fill our lives with love and grace divine!**

\* **Hymn** *God of the Ages* UM Hymnal #698

**Morning Prayer** Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon  
Concerns and Celebrations

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Affirmation of Faith** Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Leader: We believe in God -

**People: who created life and continues to create new life in us; who works in the hidden stillness of every dawn.**

Leader: We believe in Jesus, the risen Christ -

**People: who meets us on every path; who names and calms our fears; who calls us to walk and talk as children of the Light.**

Leader: We believe in the Holy Spirit -

**People: who gathers us together in community; who nudges our prayers, kindles our longings and prompts our praise.**

Leader: We believe we are called to be a Resurrection people -

**People: challenging despair with hope; acting peacefully in the midst of violence; living joyfully in all circumstances.**

Leader: We believe in the church -

**People: the hand holding, hearty singing and passionate fellowship of seekers and finders.**

**All: This we believe!**

**Children's Message** Jojo Coffin-Langdon, director of family ministries

**Scripture Reading** Kelby Werner, pastoral intern

**Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery... You, my sisters and brothers, were called to be free. But

do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, live by the Spirit and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

**Sermon**      *How to be Truly Free*      Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* **Hymn**      *O Jesus, I Have Promised*      UM Hymnal #396

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**      Pastor Jeanine Alexander, Rev. MaryAnne Korsch

**Communion Music**      *Soft Mist is Rising*      Robert Hobby  
Kelby Werner, tenor; Velda Graham Bell, piano

**Benediction**      Pastor Jeanine Alexander

**Postlude**      *God of Our Fathers*      J. Wayne Kerr  
Velda Graham Bell, organ

\* Please stand as you are comfortable.



## *Announcements*

*Please fill out the attendance cards* each week. At least for now, they are replacing the pew pads. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of the church records. On the back of the card, you will find a list of ministry opportunities, places where your help can make a difference! These opportunities will change often, so check them out each week and please sign up where you can.

*Fellowship, coffee and doughnuts* will be available following the service in Lakeview Social Hall, on the lower level.

*Thank you* to Adair Ballavance, Mary Beamish, Ann Gumpper, and Kelby Werner for leading hymns today.

*Jojo Coffin-Langdon*, our director of children's and family ministries, is preaching today at Asbury UMC.

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