



**Order of Worship for
July 4, 2021, 10:00am
Independence Day!**

***Welcome to IN-PERSON and Online Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are here today.***

Worshippers at the Meeting House:

- Are required to wear masks, even while signing
 - Must maintain social distance protocols
- Will not leave their pews during Passing the Peace of Christ
- Can wave or use another non-physical gesture to Pass the Peace

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN PRELUDE:

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J.R. Johnson
Bob Gilbert, Organ

WELCOME to Center Church!

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

One: Holy God, we gather in worship and to meditate
on the unfailing love and justice of our God.

**All: We come as living witnesses to the steadfast
and enduring compassion and mercy of our God.**

One: We come together, to reverently celebrate
the wonders and powers of our Glorious God.

**All: Together, we can marvel, and share with others
the blessings of being in God's Holy Presence.**

One: Our God has always been a Guiding God, and
we rejoice and give thanks for this great gift.

**All: Awesome God, may your name be praised
through all the earth, by all peoples - forever. Amen.**

INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

OPENING HYMN:

NCH 594 How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies

MATERNA

Bob Gilbert, Piano

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steven Lewis

PASSING OF THE PEACE: *If attending in person, please stay in your pews and wave*

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE - PSALMS 48: 1-14 (NRSV) *Steven Lewis, Liturgist*

48:1 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain, **48:2** beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. **48:3** Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense. **48:4** Then the kings assembled, they came on together. **48:5** As soon as they saw it, they were astounded; they were in panic, they took to flight; **48:6** trembling took hold of them there, pains as of a woman in labor, **48:7** as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish. **48:8** As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God, which God establishes forever. Selah **48:9** We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. **48:10** Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory. **48:11** Let Mount Zion be glad, let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments. **48:12** Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers, **48:13** consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation **48:14** that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.

New Testament Scripture- Mark 6:1-13 (NRSV)

6:1 He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. **6:2** On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! **6:3** Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. **6:4** Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." **6:5** And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. **6:6** And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. **6:7** He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. **6:8** He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; **6:9** but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. **6:10** He said to

them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. **6:11** If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." **6:12** So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. **6:13** They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

SERMON: "Home"

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

SOLO:

Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor

arr. Irving Berlin
Andre Keitt, soloist

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Liturgy

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

One: The Lord be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Donique McIntosh

CLOSING HYMN:

NCH 591 This Is My Song

FINLANDIA
Bob Gilbert, Piano

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

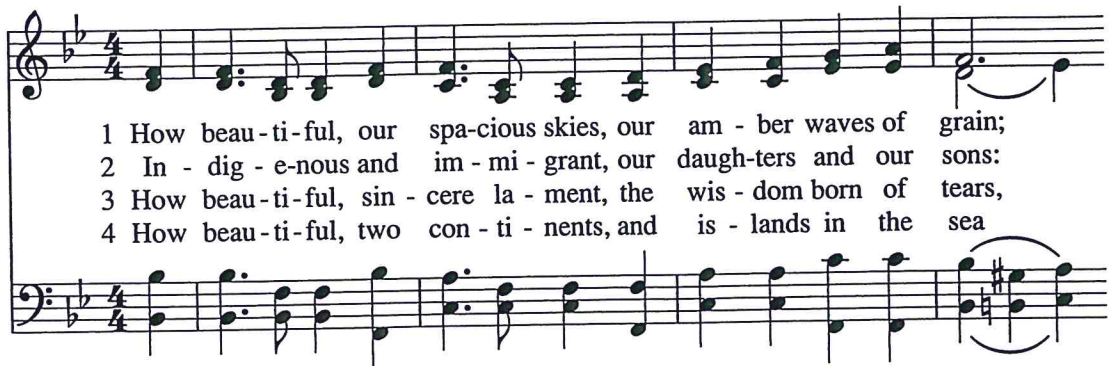
ORGAN POSTLUDE:

Glory, Glory Hallelujah

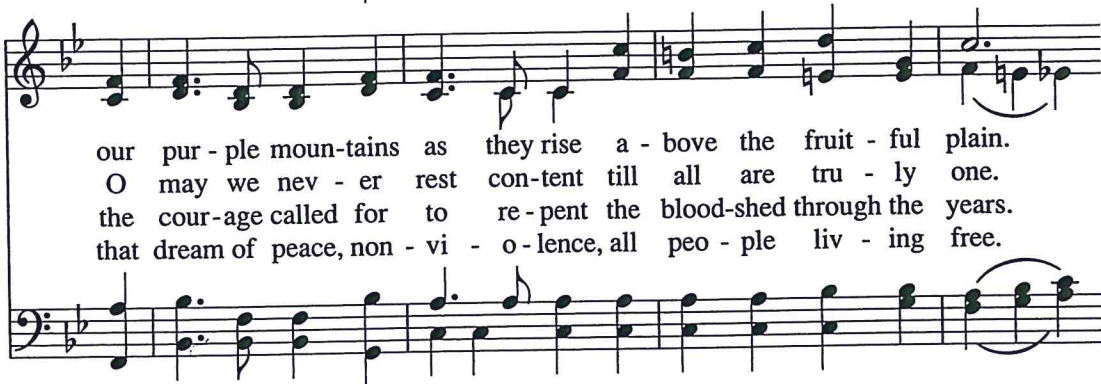
Arr. P. Wilhousky
Bob Gilbert, Organ

How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies

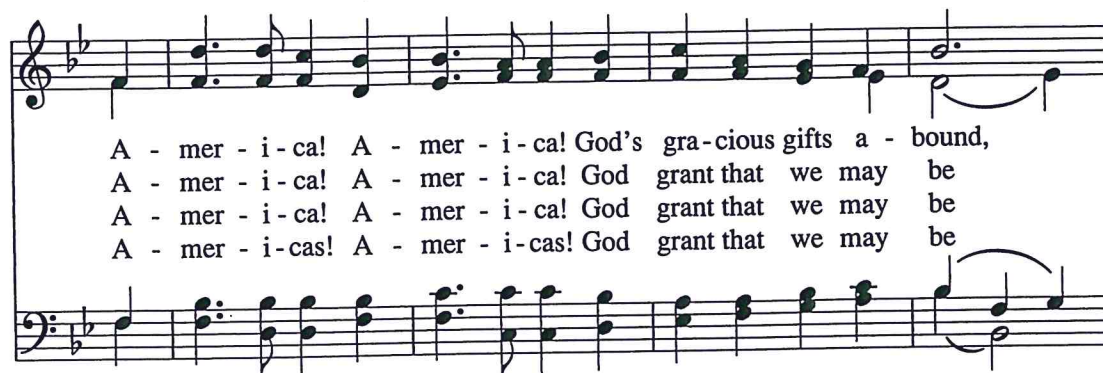
*St. 1, Katharine Lee Bates, 1893; alt.
St. 2, 3, 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*



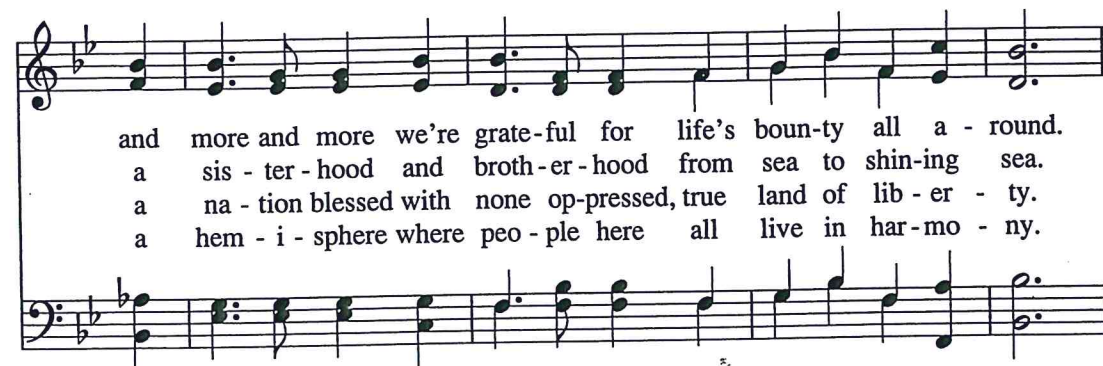
1 How beau-ti-ful, our spa-cious skies, our am - ber waves of grain;
2 In - dig - e-nous and im - mi - grant, our daugh-ters and our sons:
3 How beau-ti-ful, sin - cere la - ment, the wis - dom born of tears,
4 How beau-ti-ful, two con - ti - nents, and is - lands in the sea



our pur - ple moun-tains as they rise a - bove the fruit - ful plain.
O may we nev - er rest con-tent till all are tru - ly one.
the cour-age called for to re-pent the blood-shed through the years.
that dream of peace, non - vi - o - lence, all peo - ple liv - ing free.



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God's gra-cious gifts a - bound,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God grant that we may be
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God grant that we may be
A - mer - i - cas! A - mer - i - cas! God grant that we may be



and more and more we're grate-ful for life's boun-ty all a - round.
a sis - ter - hood and broth-er - hood from sea to shin-ing sea.
a na - tion blessed with none op-pressed, true land of lib - er - ty.
a hem - i - sphere where peo - ple here all live in har-mo - ny.

Tune: MATERNA C.M.D.
Samuel A. Ward, 1882

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions, a song of
 2 My coun-try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean, and sun-light

peace for lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the
 beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine; But oth - er lands have

coun - try where my heart is; here are my hopes, my
 sun - light, too, and clo - ver, and skies are ev - ery -

dreams, my ho - ly shrine; But oth - er hearts \in oth - er lands are
 where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the

beat - ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 na - tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

Tune: FINLANDIA 10.10.10.10.10.

Jean Sibelius, 1899

Arr. for The Hymnal, 1933

*Our thanks to everyone who created & participated in today's service.
Go in peace!*

