

Christ Congregational Church

Upholding the evangelical and congregational tradition of the Reformed Faith since A.D. 2010



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JULY 5, A.D. 2026

Call to Worship

The entrance tower bell and carillon bells are rung.

Organ Prelude

I Vow to Thee, My Country, All Earthly Things Above — Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

Minister. This is the day the LORD has made;

Answer. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

✝ The congregation shall stand for the processional hymn.

Processional Hymn 597

God of Our Fathers

✝ The congregation shall sit at the conclusion of the hymn.

Opening Prayer

The Reverend Randall K. Green

✝ Then shall the Lector read the first lesson.

Hear the first lesson, written in Deuteronomy 17, vv. 14-15, 18-20 (Pew Bible, p. 161).

When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, “I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,” 15 you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. . . .

18 And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, 20 that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

Lector. The Word of the Lord.

Answer. **Thanks be to God.**

† Then shall the Lector lead a responsive reading from Psalm 33.

Lector. The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;

Answer. **he frustrates the plans of the peoples.**

Lector. The counsel of the Lord stands forever,

Answer. **the plans of his heart to all generations.**

Lector. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

Answer. **the people whom he has chosen as his heritage! R**

Lector. Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,

Answer. **on those who hope in his steadfast love.**

Lector. That he may deliver their soul from death

Answer. **and keep them alive in famine.**

Lector. Our soul waits for the Lord;

Answer. **he is our help and our shield.**

Lector. For our heart is glad in him,

Answer. **because we trust in his holy name.**

Lector. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

Answer. **even as we hope in you. R**

† The congregation shall stand for the singing of the *Gloria Patri*, the second lesson and the hymn following.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. Amen.

Hear the second lesson, written in I Timothy 2, vv. 1-6 (Pew Bible, p. 991).

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

Lector. The Word of the Lord.

Answer. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 599
My Country, 'Tis of Thee

✠ The congregation shall sit at the conclusion of the hymn.

Sermon
Blessed Is the Nation

✠ The congregation shall stand at the conclusion of the sermon; then shall the Lector lead *The Nicene Creed*.

Let us confess the Holy Faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

I believe in one God the Father Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, in accordance with the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

✠ All shall remain standing for the singing of the *Doxology*.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye, heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✠ The congregation shall sit at the conclusion of the *Doxology*; then shall the *Prayers of the People* be offered, each petition ending with:

Intercessor. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever,

Answer. **Amen.**

✠ The Minister shall conclude the prayers, ending with *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, forever. Amen.

✠ Then shall the congregation stand for the recessional hymn and closing prayer.

Recessional Hymn 601

America the Beautiful

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forevermore.

Answer. **Amen.**

Organ Postlude

My Country, 'Tis of Thee — arr. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953)



WORSHIP LEADERS The Reverend Randall K. Green, *minister*; Mr. M. Todd Stracener, *lector*; Mr. David C. Lawson, *organist*; Mary Kathryn Stracener & Henry Springfield, *acolytes*.

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CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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