**A Sung & Spoken Litany of Thanksgiving & Prayer for our National Life**

*This Litany is drawn from lyrics composed by Katherine Lee Bates and prayers for our national life found on page 838 in the Book of Common Prayer.*

Priest: Let us continue standing as we offer our prayers, being particularly mindful this Sunday

closest to our nation's celebration of independence of our gratitude for this freedom and

the duties it imposes upon us.

Cantor: O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,

***People:*** *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.*

**Intercessor**: Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

***People****:* *Heal us.*

**Intercessor**: We thank you for the great resources of this nation.

They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

***People****: Forgive us.*

Cantor: O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,

***People****: 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.*

**Intercessor**: We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong.

They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

***People****:* *Inspire us.*

**Intercessor**: We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land.

It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

***People***: *Enlighten us.*

Cantor: O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years

***People***: *Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!*

*America, America, God shed his grace on thee,*

*And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

**Intercessor**: We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety.

It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

***People***: *Renew us.*

**Intercessor**: Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name.

***People***: *Amen.*

Celebrant: Let us also offer our prayers for the Church and for the world beyond our national borders.

**Intercessor**: We pray for all bishops, including Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Andrew--our bishop, for this parish and its leaders, and for all ministers and people.

*Silence, during which the people may add petitions.*

**Intercessor**: Let us pray for peace in the world; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

*Silence, during which the people may add petitions.*

**Intercessor**: Let us pray for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and for all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens.

*Silence, during which the people may add petitions.*

**Intercessor**: Let us pray for those who have died.

*Silence, during which the people may add petitions.*

*The Celebrant offers a concluding Collect, and invites the people to kneel for the Confession.*

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| **At 8:30 a.m.**  Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.  *The Celebrant stands and says*  Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* | **At 10:30 a.m.**  Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.  *The Celebrant stands and says*  Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.* |