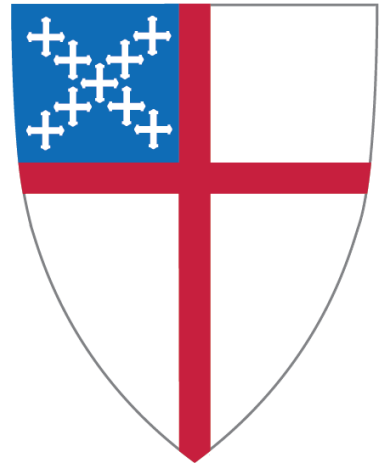


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the
Independence Day

Year A, RCL

July 5, 2026



(First Reading)

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

The LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall fear the LORD your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your

praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(People: Thanks be to God.)



(Psalm)

Psalm 145

Let's say it responsively by half verse.

I will exalt you, O God my King, *

and bless your Name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you *

and praise your Name for ever and ever.

Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *

there is no end to his greatness.

One generation shall praise your works to another *

and shall declare your power.

I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *

and all your marvelous works.

They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *

and I will tell of your greatness.

They shall publish the remembrance of your great

goodness; *

they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *

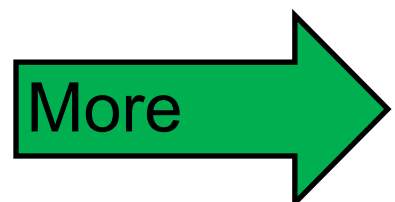
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The LORD is loving to everyone *

and his compassion is over all his works.

All your works praise you, O LORD, *

and your faithful servants bless you.



They make known the glory of your kingdom *

and speak of your power;

That the peoples may know of your power *

and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; *

your dominion endures throughout all ages.

The LORD is faithful in all his words *

and merciful in all his deeds.

The LORD upholds all those who fall; *

he lifts up those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, *

and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand *

and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

The LORD is righteous in all his ways *

and loving in all his works.

The LORD is near to those who call upon him, *

to all who call upon him faithfully.

He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; *

he hears their cry and helps them.

The LORD preserves all those who love him, *

but he destroys all the wicked.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; *

let all flesh bless his holy Name for ever and ever.



(The Epistle Reading)

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old-- and Sarah herself was barren-- because he considered himself faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants

were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

(People: *Thanks be to God.*



Prayers of the People

You may stand, sit or kneel for the prayers

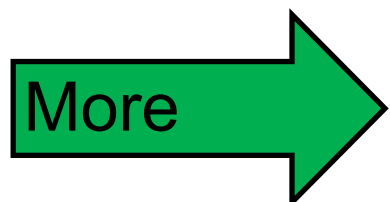
**Intercessor: Let us pray for the whole state of
Christ's Church and the
world.**

**Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy
Word hast taught us to make prayers, and
supplications, and to give thanks for all men:
Receive these our prayers which we offer
unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to
inspire continually the Universal Church with
the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and**

grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.



We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

(Please add your own intercessions or thanksgivings out loud or in the silence of your heart.)

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially Mary & Otto Diehl in whose memory the altar flowers are given, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. Paul and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom..

**Grant these our prayers, O Father,
for Jesus Christ's sake, our only
Mediator and Advocate. Amen.**

