JULY 4, 2025
INDEPENDENCE DAY

taking faith home

Remembering God's blessings.

INDEPENDENCE DAY BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Independence Day observances.

Friday	**Deuteronomy 8:11-20**	**Do not forget God's goodness to you**
	Psalm 20	**Prayer for victory**
	Romans 12:9-21	**Exhortations to love**
	John 8:31-36	**The truth will make you free**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. **Deuteronomy 8:18 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Independence Day:
Almighty and merciful God, help us to give thanks for all that we have by loving our neighbor as you would have us do. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, thank you for the fruited plains, for amber waves of grain, for the abundant seas, and for all the ways you bless this country with ample food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God bless you with a thankful heart.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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HYMN FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

This Is My Song

INDEPENDENCE DAY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some Fourth of July traditions you have observed?
- The Declaration of Independence states that "all men are created equal." How is this recognized through the lens of Christianity?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Deuteronomy 8:11-20.
Independence Day is a good time to recall God's goodness. Why? Because according to Deuteronomy, when we take note of what we have in life, especially when the goodness of what we have has multiplied, the temptation is to forget God and God's design for our lives. That plan is straightforward. It is stated in God's commandments, statutes, and ordinances, a blueprint to love God and care for others. The Fourth of July is a time to recall our freedom, count the multitude of blessings we enjoy, and embrace our unfinished work to continue to "form a more perfect union" (beginning of the Constitution of the United States). This day is a time to remember God's goodness to us and to all people of the earth. It is a time to reflect on God's goodness lived out through our Lord Jesus Christ who sets us free.
Discuss: How can we give thanks for God's goodness by using our God-given gifts to seek "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" for all?
Pray: **Dear God, you provide for our needs and direct us to love you and all people. Help us to remember your goodness and be thankful for what we have through Christ Jesus, the one who came with your divine love for all. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Independence Day Bible Readings and theme for this day, in response to God's goodness, what can you do to show love and support to a neighbor in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Freedom has a price. Many in our communities have dedicated their lives to protecting others. Think or talk about those who serve in the armed services, law enforcement, emergency services, as politicians, medical staff, social workers, and others. Write a list of names of those you know who serve in this way. *Pray:* **We are thankful that we are free to practice our Christian faith. We give thanks for those who serve our communities and the nation and protect our lives so that we may live freely each day. Help us to support them through actions and prayer. Amen.**

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**