

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,  
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,  
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain ma - jes - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!  
 thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

and con - firm thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
 and crown thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.  
 and crown thy good with bro - ther - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Words: Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929), alt. Music: *Materna*, Samuel Augustus Ward (1848-1903)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
***And blessed be His kingdom, now and forever***  
***Amen***

*The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
***Have mercy upon us.***

*The Celebrant says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

***Amen.***

## The Lessons

### *A Reading from Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67*

The servant said to Laban, “I am Abraham’s servant. The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master’s wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father’s house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.’

“I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, ‘Please give me a little water from your jar to drink,’ and who will say to me, ‘Drink, and I will draw for your camels also’ —let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master’s son.’

“Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels.’ So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son, whom Milcah bore to him.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left.”

And they called Rebekah, and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” She said, “I will.” So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes.” Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, “Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?” The servant said, “It is my master.” So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah’s tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother’s death.

The Word of the Lord!

***Thanks be to God!***

## Psalm 45: 11-18

11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely;  
forget your people and your father's house.

***12 The king will have pleasure in your beauty;  
he is your master; therefore do him honor.***

13 The people of Tyre are here with a gift;  
the rich among the people seek your favor."

***14 All glorious is the princess as she enters;  
her gown is cloth-of-gold.***

15 In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king;  
after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

***16 With joy and gladness they are brought,  
and enter into the palace of the king.***

17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons;  
you shall make them princes over all the earth.

***18 I will make your name to be remembered  
from one generation to another;  
therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."***

*A Reading from Romans 7:15-25a*

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

The Word of the Lord!

***Thanks be to God!***

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
***Glory to You, Lord Christ***

Jesus said to the crowd, “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord  
***Praise to You, Lord Christ***

**The Sermon**

## The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,*

*the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.*

*Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation*

*he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;*

*he suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day he rose again*

*in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven*

*and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.*

*With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.*

*He has spoken through the Prophets.*

*We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.*

*We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.*

*We look for the resurrection of the dead,*

*and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## **The Prayers of the People**

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;  
for our Bishop Megan; for this gathering;  
and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations;  
and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry,  
the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God,  
or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation  
in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth:  
Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us  
to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Amen.***

## Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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.*

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.*

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*And also with you.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give Him thanks and praise.***

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died.*

*Christ is risen.*

*Christ will come again.*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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,***

***for ever and ever.***

***Amen.***

*A period of silence is kept.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

And feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Almighty and ever living God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and forever.  
Amen.*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; And the +blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun doth his suc -  
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - oners  
 5 Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

1 ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from  
 2 throng to crown his head; his Name like sweet per -  
 3 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es  
 4 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -  
 5 hon - ors to our King; an - gels de - scand with

1 shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 2 fume shall rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 3 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his Name.  
 4 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 5 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Duke Street*, John Hatton (d. 1793)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

**Thanks be to God!**