

## The United Methodist Church at Absecon

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# Joy in Every Season

July 5, 2026

Today's Lay Reader: Jacob Hackett

## Welcome

## Call to Worship

**Leader:** Come! Come from our sanctuary or from your home. Come at 11 AM on Sunday or any time during the week. Come whenever and wherever you are. Come! Worship is called in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

**People:** **We come, ready to experience joy in every season.**

**Leader:** In many seasons, it is not easy to feel joyful. But finding joy isn't about denying the weight of current struggles. Instead, finding joy in a difficult season acknowledges that God is present and good in every moment.

**People:** **Joy doesn't immediately solve a problem. But it does help us get through the problem!**

## Hymn

## America the Beautiful

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

grain; for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a -  
 strife, who more than self their coun - try loved, and  
 years thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un -

bove the fruit - ed plain! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!  
 mer - cy more than life! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!  
 dimmed by hu - man tears! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca!

God shed his grace on thee, and crown thy good with  
 May God thy gold re - fine, till all suc - cess be  
 God mend thine ev - ery flaw, con - firm thy soul in

broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.  
 no - ble - ness, and ev - ery gain di - vine.  
 self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

## Opening Prayer

**Lord, when we don't see you, you are there. When we don't hear you, you are there. When the actions of others cause harm, you are there. When our actions cause harm, you are there. When natural things beyond our control cause harm, you are there. Help us to find your joy even when it's hard. Amen.**

## Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

#### \*Chorus

#### God Bless America

God bless America, land that I love.  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with a light from above.  
From the mountains to the prairies,  
To the oceans white with foam,  
God bless America, my home sweet home,  
God bless America, my home sweet home.

#### Scripture Lesson

#### Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God  
People: **Thanks be to God**

#### Message

### *Joy in Every Season*

#### Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

#### Offertory

Prelude on an American Hymn

Olive Nelson Russell

#### Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



## Hymn

## Battle Hymn of the Republic

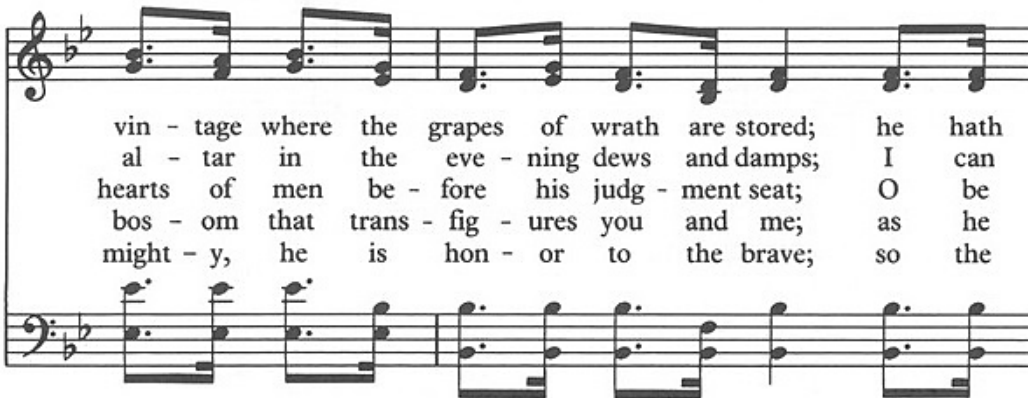
(verses 1, 2, and 3)



1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the  
 2. I have seen him in the watch - fires of a  
 3. He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall  
 4. In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was  
 5. He is com - ing like the glo - ry of the



com - ing of the Lord; he is tram - pling out the  
 hun - dred cir - cling camps; they have build - ed him an  
 nev - er call re - treat; he is sift - ing out the  
 born a - cross the sea, with a glo - ry in his  
 morn - ing on the wave, he is wis - dom to the



vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored; he hath  
 al - tar in the eve - ning dews and damps; I can  
 hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat; O be  
 bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me; as he  
 might - y, he is hon - or to the brave; so the

loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword;  
 read his righ - teous sen - tence by the dim and flar - ing lamps;  
 swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!  
 died to make men ho - ly, let us die to make men free,  
 world shall be his foot - stool, and the soul of wrong his slave.

*Refrain*

his truth is march - ing on.  
 his day is march - ing on.  
 Our God is march - ing on.      Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le -  
 while God is march - ing on.  
 Our God is march - ing on.

lu - jah!      Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!      Glo - ry,

glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah!      His truth is march - ing on.

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

Festive Prelude on “Materna”

David Lowe