

CELEBRATION of  
the BICENTENNIAL  
July 4, 1976

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Organ and Piano Prelude

Ringing of the Liberty Bell

Posting the Colors (everyone stand & remain standing for Pledge)

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Invocation (seated)

Hymn: O Beautiful for Spacious Skies (see song sheet)

Welcome address and acknowledgements

Responsive Reading: May God Be Gracious (Psalm 67)  
May God be gracious to us and bless us

AND MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE UPON US,

that thy way may be known upon earth,

THY SAVING POWER AMONG ALL NATIONS.

Let the peoples praise thee, O God;

LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE THEE!

Let the nations be glade and sing for joy,

FOR THOU DOST JUDGE THE PEOPLES WITH EQUITY AND

GUIDE THE NATIONS UPON EARTH.

Let the people praise thee, O God;

LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE THEE!

The earth has yielded its increase;

GOD, OUR GOD, HAS BLESSED US.

God has blessed us;

LET ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH FEAR HIM!

Music Special: This Is My Song

Special Reading: The Declaration of Independence

Hymn: Faith of Our Fathers (see song sheet)

Introduction of speaker

Guest speaker: "Zeko" Zbranek

Hymn: My Country, 'Tis Of Thee

Closing Prayer and Blessing of the meal



Every time we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America we commit ourselves to "one nation, under God, indivisible."

#### WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR A NATION TO BE "UNDER GOD"?

It means that that nation is subject to the laws and judgments of Almighty God. No nation, however blessed or powerful, is a law unto itself. When, in domestic practice or foreign policy, it violates the will of God, it will be held accountable.

A nation "under God" will be preoccupied with questions of justice and righteousness. A nation "under God" will feed the hungry, cloth the naked, identify with the poor and alienated and oppressed. It will be concerned about private morality and public responsibility.

A nation "under God" will recognize that its own interests must be made subservient to global need and global reality. If the United States has a right to place its "national interest" above all else, then so do one hundred fifty other nations on the face of the earth. This philosophy legitimizes the law of the jungle. It makes some form of international anarchy inevitable.

Today we are celebrating the two hundredth birthday of the United States of America. There is no better time to remember the words of the Psalmist:

Sing praises to God, sing praises! For God is king of all the earth;  
God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.  
For the shields of the earth belong to God;

he is highly exalted!

Laymen in Service:

Mr. George Tully  
Mr. Joe Barrow  
Mr. Harley Carruthers  
Mr. Kevin Basham  
Mr. Pete Campbell

Our guest speaker is Mr. "Zoke" Zobranck, an attorney from Liberty and a long time friend of the community.

Song leader: Gene Barrier

Pianists: Ann Cain  
Mrs. David Elliott

Organist: Kitty Key

We wish to acknowledge the help and support of the following:

Hull - Daisetta Lions Club  
Hull - Daisetta Motor Club  
The Ladies Garden Club  
Best Food Store  
Neely's Drive Inn

And a special thanks to Mary Lou LeNormand, who was so helpful in preparing the food arrangements and services.

We wish to also thank each and every one of you who have taken the time to be with us this morning in this special celebration of our nations Two Hundredth Birthday. May God continue to bless each one here and the churches and homes ~~represented~~.

Your Hull-Daisetta Ministerial Alliance

SONG SHEET

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves, of grain,  
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.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,  
Confirm thy soul in self-control, Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,  
Whom more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
Till all success be nobleness, And every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Un-dimmed by human tears!  
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea. AMEN

Faith of our fathers! living still In spite of dungeon, fire  
and sword; O how our hearts beat high with joy  
Whene'er we hear that glorious word! Faith of our fathers,  
holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers! we will strive To win all nations  
unto thee; And through the truth that comes from God  
Mankind shall be truly free. Faith of our fathers,  
holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our fathers! we will love Both friend and foe in  
all our life strife; And preach thee too, as love knows how  
By kindly words and virtuous life. Faith of our fathers,  
holy faith! We will be true to thee till death. AMEN

My country, tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing:  
Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride, From every  
mountain side Let freedom ring!

Our fathers' God! to Thee, Author of liberty, To thee we sing:  
Long may our land be bright With freedom's holy light; Protect us  
by thy might, Great God, our King!