



GOD SHED  
HIS *Grace*  
on THEE

A Service for a National Holiday

**Creative  
Communications  
Sample**

GOD SHED  
HIS *Grace*  
*on* THREE

A Service for a National Holiday

Leader's Guide

# GOD SHED HIS *Grace* on **THEE**

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# GOD SHED HIS *Grace* on THEE

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## About This Service

*God Shed His Grace On Thee* is a complete order of service on CD for any or all of the national holidays of the summer and fall, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day.

This service reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Hymns include "America the Beautiful," "Before You, Lord, We Bow," "God of our Fathers" and "Beautiful Savior."

The CD includes a .pdf of the entire service, text of the order of service, readings, prayers, sermons, children's messages, and hymns in .rtf (rich text format), a list of contemporary music song suggestions and a PowerPoint document of all four services with text (with a copyright release) for use on screens.

# GOD SHED HIS *Grace* on **THEE**

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Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Memorial Day Newsletter Notice

*Join us for a special service for Memorial Day that reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Let the powerful words of Scripture, an original sermon and rousing hymns for a national holiday in this service help us to see how blessed we are by our God and how grateful we should be for those who sacrificed so much for our nation.*

Memorial Day Bulletin Notice

*Welcome to this special service for Memorial Day that reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Let the powerful words of Scripture, an original sermon and rousing hymns for a national holiday in this service help us to see how blessed we are by our God and how grateful we should be for those who sacrificed so much for our nation.*

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Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Independence Day Newsletter Notice

*Join us for a special service for Independence Day that reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Let the powerful words of Scripture, an original sermon and rousing hymns for a national holiday in this service help us to see how blessed we are by our God and how grateful we should be those who fought for and formed our nation.*

Independence Day Bulletin Notice

*Welcome to this special service for Independence Day that reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Let the powerful words of Scripture, an original sermon and rousing hymns for a national holiday in this service help us to see how blessed we are by our God and how grateful we should be those who fought for and formed our nation.*

# GOD SHED HIS *Grace* on THREE

A Service for a National Holiday

Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Labor Day Newsletter Notice

*Join us for a special service for Labor Day that reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Let the powerful words of Scripture, an original sermon and rousing hymns for a national holiday in this service help us to see how blessed we are by our God and how grateful we should be for the work we have been given to do as a nation.*

Labor Day Bulletin Notice

*Join us for a special service for Labor Day that reminds us of the grace we have been given by our God to live in a land of freedom, and the grace shed on us to receive freedom from our sin. Let the powerful words of Scripture, an original sermon and rousing hymns for a national holiday in this service help us to see how blessed we are by our God and how grateful we should be for the work we have been given to do as a nation.*

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## Complete Script For Labor Day

- The **Opening Hymn and Responsive Reading** are sung by the congregation to tune America the Beautiful and spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

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!

**P** Jesus said, “If you continue in my word you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

**C** For freedom Christ has set us free.

**P** *Stand fast, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

**C** The truth shall make us free.

**P** You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters. Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love be servants of one another.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern impassioned stress  
A thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!  
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!

Ⓟ The whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Ⓢ **The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

Ⓟ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
Till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine.

• **The Confession and Absolution** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

Ⓟ Let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his abundant grace.

Ⓢ **Almighty God, we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. We fail to show gratitude for your grace and gifts. We fail to live as faithful citizens of your kingdom. For the sake of Jesus, for the sake of your steadfast love, have mercy on us and forgive us.**

Ⓟ God has shed his grace on us and sent his Son to be our Savior. For the sake of Jesus, who died and rose for us, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Ⓢ **We rejoice in his grace and favor and seek to live in that grace from this day forward and forevermore.**

• **The Prayer of the Day** is spoken by the pastor:

Ⓟ Almighty and Everlasting God, our fathers and mothers have told us of your grace through Christ our Lord. We have learned of the salvation you won for all mankind when you sent him to the cross and raised him from the grave. Bless us to ever hear and retain this Word of grace, that we may share it with our children and our children's children, that they may ever be people who live in that grace as citizens of this fair land. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

- The **Children’s Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

*(Needed: a list of household chores that children might do)*

Ⓟ Raise your hand if you do things at home to help your family. *(Let children respond.)* Many of you help out around the house. I brought a list of chores that you might do to help your parents or brothers and sisters *(show and read the list)*. My list says: 1.) Clean my room; 2.) Put away toys; 3.) Help set the table for dinner; 4.) Take out the trash. Do any of you do those things to help at home? *(Let children respond.)* We all do different kinds of work to help our families.

Today we are celebrating Labor Day. That is a day to remember all the people who labor, or work, to help our country grow and be strong. People do all kinds of work to help us. Some people grow and harvest and cook food. Others drive trucks and pilot airplanes. Some people work in factories to build things we need. Others are bankers or teachers or doctors or nurses. All of these people have special work to do and they work together to make our country strong and free.

When Jesus came to earth, he had work to do. When he was a little boy, he probably helped Mary and Joseph, just like you help your parents at home. When Jesus was grown up he may have worked for a while as a carpenter, building tools and furniture for the people in his town. But Jesus also had other work to do, very special work, for all of us. What special work did Jesus have to do? The cross we have in our church reminds us of Jesus’ special work. *(Let children respond.)* Jesus came to die on the cross for us and rise from the dead. He came to do that special work for us so that our sins are forgiven and we will live with him forever. Today we give thanks for all the workers who help our country, and we give thanks for the special work that Jesus did to set us free! Let’s pray:

Jesus, thank you for all the workers who help our country. Thank you for your special work of dying on the cross and rising from the dead for us. Amen.

- **The First Lesson**, Zephaniah 3:16-20, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the Lord.

- **Psalm 148** is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader with responses sung to the tune Fred Til Bod 77 77 77:

- Ⓟ Praise the Lord, all you hosts of heaven! Praise him, sun and moon! Praise him, shining stars and all the firmament! Let them all praise the name of the Lord! He commanded and they were created; by his command they were fixed in their places; they cannot disobey.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!  
Let his praise be heard on high.

- Ⓟ Let the earth join his praise: the seas and all that dwell therein, the forces of nature that obey his command; hills and mountains, trees and forests, birds and animals of every kind.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!  
Let his praises fill the sky.

- Ⓟ Let the people praise the Lord--rulers and subjects, men and women, the old and the young alike. Let them all praise the name of the Lord! His name is greater than all others; his glory is above earth and heaven. He blesses all who are his own, so that all may praise him.

Hallelujah! Glory be  
To the Lord eternally!

- The **Second Lesson**, 2 Corinthians 9:8-12, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

- Ⓟ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God .

- The **Gospel Lesson**, John 1:1-16, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

- Ⓟ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose

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## Music Guide

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Measures 1-6 of the piece. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble clef begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bass line starts with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The piece features a mix of chords and single notes.

Measures 7-11 of the piece. The melody continues with a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. The bass line features a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The music includes various chordal textures and melodic lines.

Measures 12-16 of the piece. The melody concludes with a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bass line ends with a quarter note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a whole rest in the left hand.

- The **Opening Hymn and Responsive Reading** are sung by the congregation to tune Materna 85 85 86 86 and spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

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!

- Ⓟ Jesus said, “If you continue in my word you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

Ⓒ **For freedom Christ has set us free.**

- Ⓟ *Stand fast, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

Ⓒ **The truth shall make us free.**

- Ⓟ You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters. Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love be servants of one another.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern impassioned stress  
 A thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!  
 America! America! God mend thine ev’ry flaw,  
 Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!

- Ⓟ The whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Ⓒ **The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

- Ⓟ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,  
 Who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!  
 America! America! May God thy gold refine,  
 Till all success be nobleness, and ev’ry gain divine.