



SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, BLESS OUR LAND

A SERVICE FOR A NATIONAL HOLIDAY



WORSHIP KIT

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Sample**

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Index

About This Service	5
Newsletter/Bulletin Notices	6-9
Order of Service	10-14
Complete Script For Memorial Day	15-24
Complete Script For Independence Day	25-34
Complete Script For Labor Day	35-44
Complete Script For Veterans Day	45-54
Music Guide	55-70

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About the Service

The service acknowledges that because of (and through) God's redeemed people a nation experiences God's blessings. The service may be used for Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and/or Veterans Day. Hymns are set to familiar and stirring hymn tunes like "America the Beautiful," "For All the Saints," "O Worship the King" and the Navy Hymn.

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), web banners, a list of contemporary music song suggestions and a PowerPoint document to use with all four services with text (with a copyright release) for use on screens.

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Memorial Day Newsletter Notice

As we gather for worship to celebrate Memorial Day, we will give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through the ultimate sacrifice of those who gave their lives for our freedom and liberty.

Memorial Day Bulletin Notice

On this Memorial Day weekend, we give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through the ultimate sacrifice of those who gave their lives for our freedom and liberty.

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Independence Day Newsletter Notice

As we gather for worship to celebrate Independence Day, we will give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through the freedoms we have been given as a nation.

Independence Day Bulletin Notice

In our celebration of Independence Day in worship this day, we give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through the freedoms we have been given as a nation.

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Labor Day Newsletter Notice

As we gather for worship to celebrate Labor Day, we will give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through the work we are enabled to do by his grace.

Labor Day Bulletin Notice

On this Labor Day weekend, we give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through the work we are enabled to do by his grace.

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Veterans Day Newsletter Notice

As we gather for worship to celebrate Veterans Day, we will give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through those who sacrificed and served through our armed forces and those who continue to serve.

Veterans Day Bulletin Notice

As we celebrate Veterans Day in worship today, we give thanks to God for saving his people through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus and for blessing our land through those who sacrificed and served through our armed forces and those who continue to serve.

SAVE YOUR PEOPLE, BLESS OUR LAND

A SERVICE FOR A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Order of Service

God's People Gather.....Melody: America the Beautiful

Almighty God, to you we fly for mercy and for grace.
Oh, hear our penitential cry and do not hide your face.
Arise, arise, O Lord of hosts; be jealous for your name.
Oh, come, and drive from out our coasts the sins that put to shame.
The pow'rs, O Lord, ordained by you with heav'nly wisdom bless.
Make them your servants just and true who rule in righteousness.
The Church of your beloved Son inflame with love's pure fire;
Unite your people, Lord, as one, and life and truth inspire.

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful things.

C Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.

P Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

C The Lord has been mindful of us; he will bless us. He will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great.

P Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness, come into his presence with singing.

C Declare the wonderful deeds of God who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

P For the Lord God said, “If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession among all peoples.

C For all the earth is mine, and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.”

P Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth.

C “Yes,” says the Spirit, “for they rest from their labors, and their works follow after them.”

Prayer of the Day

Children’s Message

Your finest blessings from on high in rich abundance pour
That we may laud and magnify and praise you more and more.
O Lord, adorn with precious peace our own, our native land,
And crown with joys that never cease the labors of our hands.

First Reading

Christ, by heav’nly hosts adored, gracious, mighty, sov’ reign Lord,
God of nations, King of kings, head of all created things,
By the Church with joy confessed, God the Son forever blessed,
Pleading at your throne we stand; save your people, bless our land.

On our fields of grass and grain, send, O Lord, the kindly rain,
And throughout the spacious land crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be over commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand; save your people, bless our land.

Give us rulers faithful, true, such as love and honor you;
Let the powers you ordained be in righteousness maintained.
In the people’s hearts increase love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand one wide, free, and happy land.

Second Reading

Before you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, boundless in pow’r and love.
Our thanks we bring
In joy and praise, our hearts we raise to you, our king!

Holy Gospel

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.
Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.

Homily

A Creedal Hymn Sine Nomine

In God we trust, Lord of eternity,
By whose strong Word creation came to be,
Lord of the nations, clothed in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In God we trust, the Father's own true Son,
By whose strong death redemption has been won,
And by whose rising new life is begun.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In God we trust, the Holy Spirit dear,
Whose inspiration shines the Gospel clear
That all the world the saving Word may hear.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Offering

Prayers

Each petition ends with this response:

P Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C Save your people, bless our land.

Lord's Prayer Hanover

Our Father on high, give ear to our prayer.
Your name, far and nigh, revered ev'rywhere.
Your kingdom come, Sov'reign, and your gracious will,
On earth as in heaven be done by us still.

The bread that we crave provide us each day.
Be near us to save from evil always.
In time of temptation your strong guidance give;
As we forgive others, our sins, Lord, forgive.

For you, Lord, are King; almighty you reign.
Your glory, we sing with grateful refrain.
Amen. From this hour so may it be done;
Your kingdom, your power, your glory alone!

A Benediction Psalm 67

P God, be merciful to us and bless us; make your face to shine upon us,

C that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

P Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

C The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

P May God continue to bless us. May people everywhere honor him.

Closing Hymn.....Melita

To Abraham in days of old
A wondrous blessing was foretold:
“By you the world will come to know
The saving grace which I bestow.”
That promise kept we now confess:
“God truly has drawn near to bless!”

Descendants of God’s promise true,
We dedicate ourselves anew
“One nation under God” to be
In justice, truth and liberty.
O Lord, fulfill your purpose grand;
Through your saved people bless our land!

So may your people now be led
Throughout the world your Word is spread,
By word and deed the cross proclaim
That all may trust Christ's saving name
And share God's age-old pledge to bless
With peace and hope and righteousness.

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Complete Script For Memorial Day

- If desired, an **Environmental Projection** is shown on a screen or on the walls of your worship space to set the tone for the service before the service begins or throughout the service at various points:

<https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/close-united-states-flag-outside-sun-787443613>

- The **God's People Gather** section is sung by the congregation to the tune Materna CMD and spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

Almighty God, to you we fly for mercy and for grace.

Oh, hear our penitential cry and do not hide your face.

Arise, arise, O Lord of hosts; be jealous for your name.

Oh, come, and drive from out our coasts the sins that put to shame.

The pow'rs, O Lord, ordained by you with heav'nly wisdom bless.

Make them your servants just and true who rule in righteousness.

The Church of your beloved Son inflame with love's pure fire;

Unite your people, Lord, as one, and life and truth inspire.

☞ Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful things.

C Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.

P Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

C The Lord has been mindful of us; he will bless us. He will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great.

P Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness, come into his presence with singing.

C Declare the wonderful deeds of God who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

P For the Lord God said, "If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession among all peoples.

C For all the earth is mine, and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

P Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth.

C "Yes," says the Spirit, "for they rest from their labors, and their works follow after them."

- The **Prayer of the Day** is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

P We laud and magnify your glorious name, O Lord, for saving your people and blessing our land. Through the suffering, death and resurrection of your Son Jesus, you saved us who are your people from sin, death and the devil forever. By your grace, you now bless our land with freedom and liberty. For those who fought and died defending our nation and the freedoms we enjoy, we give you thanks, O Lord, and ask for your protection of all those who currently serve in our military forces. Guard and keep them all in your care. Amen.

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

Needed: a small American flag and a small cross

P Hello, boys and girls. This weekend we celebrate Memorial Day, a day when we honor those who gave their lives in defending our country. Brave men and women gave their lives on the battlefield so that we could have the freedoms we enjoy in our country today. These soldiers kept us, the citizens of this country, safe and blessed our land with continued life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We often put a flag like this next to the graves of those soldiers who died as a reminder of the sacrifices that they made for us. (*Wave American flag.*)

We as Christians honor someone else this weekend and every day of our lives. We honor Christ who died on the cross to keep his people, those who believe and trust in him, safe and protected from the enemies of sin, death and the devil. The battle Jesus fought and won for us on the cross has brought the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation to us forever. We remember how God saved and blessed us through Jesus every time we see a cross like this. (*Hold up cross.*) Sometimes gravestones even are shaped like a cross or have a cross etched into them.

Keeping our eyes focused on the cross of Christ reminds us that the death of Jesus frees to us live for him in this country and this world, and no enemy on earth can take the victory of the cross away from us. Let us pray:

Dear Jesus, as we remember this Memorial Day those who fought and died for our country, help us to remember, too, that you fought and died for us on the cross so that we would be free in you from every sin and evil. Let us honor you with our very lives every day. Amen.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Materna CMD:

Your finest blessings from on high in rich abundance pour
That we may laud and magnify and praise you more and more.
O Lord, adorn with precious peace our own, our native land,
And crown with joys that never cease the labors of our hands.

- The **First Reading**, Deuteronomy 26:12-19, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

¶ When you have finished paying all the tithe of your produce in the third year, which is the year of tithing, giving it to the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, so that they may eat within your towns and be filled, then you shall say before the Lord your God, "I have removed the sacred portion out of my house, and moreover, I have given it to the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, according to all your commandment that you have commanded me. I have not transgressed any of your commandments, nor have I forgotten them. For ask now of the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created. I have not eaten of the tithe while I was mourning, or removed any of it while I was unclean, or offered any of it to the dead. I have obeyed the voice of the Lord my God. I have done according to all that you have commanded me. Look down from your holy habitation, from heaven, and bless your people Israel and the ground that you have given us, as you swore to our fathers, a land flowing with milk and honey."

This day the Lord your God commands you to do these statutes and rules. You shall therefore be careful to do them with all your heart and with all your soul. You have declared today that the Lord is your God, and that you will walk in his ways, and keep his statutes and his

commandments and his rules, and will obey his voice. And the Lord has declared today that you are a people for his treasured possession, as he has promised you, and that you are to keep all his commandments, and that he will set you in praise and in fame and in honor high above all nations that he has made, and that you shall be a people holy to the Lord your God, as he promised.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune St. George's, Windsor 77 77
D:

Christ, by heav'nly hosts adored, gracious, mighty, sov'reign Lord,
God of nations, King of kings, head of all created things,
By the Church with joy confessed, God the Son forever blessed,
Pleading at your throne we stand; save your people, bless our land.

On our fields of grass and grain, send, O Lord, the kindly rain,
And throughout the spacious land crown the labors of each hand.
Let your kind protection be over commerce on the sea.
Open, Lord, your bounteous hand; save your people, bless our land.

Give us rulers faithful, true, such as love and honor you;
Let the powers you ordained be in righteousness maintained.
In the people's hearts increase love of piety and peace.
Thus united, we shall stand one wide, free, and happy land.

- The **Second Reading**, 1 Peter 2:1-10, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

¶ So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Darwall's 148th 66 66 88:

Oh, praise the Lord, America; sing anthems gratefully.
And let God's saving Word sound forth from sea to shining sea.
Alleluia! Alleluia! With hearts and voices raised
God's mercies sing: Let freedom ring, for which the Lord be praised!

- The **Gospel Reading**, Luke 25:13-35, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

¶ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

- The **Gospel Response** is sung by the congregation to the tune Darwall's 148th 66 66 88:

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.
Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.

- The **Homily for Memorial Day** is delivered by the pastor:

¶ The concept of “celebrating Memorial Day” almost seems like an oxymoron, doesn't it?—a contradiction in terms. For Memorial Day, by its very nature, bears witness to the fact that people died—usually not a cause for celebration, “Hey, let's have a holiday, let's have a picnic, let's have a family get-together, let's a church service ... because people died!”

But we do it, don't we? We celebrate Memorial Day and acknowledge—gratefully!—that people died. In fact in the grand scheme of things, we may even come to see their dying as a blessing (although that may sound like a contradiction in terms too).

The holiday was originally inaugurated to remember those who had given their lives in the military, in war. And in their case, the BLESSING is obvious: by their sacrifice—their extreme sacrifice—our nation has been kept free and safe. It was a terrible price to pay, but we regard it as “worth it,” and take the time (like this Memorial Day) to honor them for it, and to thank God for the blessings that resulted.

[In my own case, for example, of my 16 great-great-grandparents, the only one whose name I know is the one who died in the Civil War. And besides his name, I also know his story ... as it was told to me by my father and grandfather, and as I have told it, frequently, to my own children. Almost by default, it seems that one who died serving his country is worth remembering.]

Over the years the holiday has grown to include more than just the military. Today we remember folks like valiant firefighters and police officers ... and beyond those in uniform, nowadays Memorial Day is an occasion to remember others who have died: not only long-ago ancestors, but also parents and grandparents, friends, neighbors, co-workers, sometimes even siblings and children.

We remember them as people who have inspired us; we are different because of them; we are BLESSED by their having been here.

And not only individually, but also collectively. We as a congregation, for example, as a community, as a country, find ourselves enriched by the memories of those who have gone before us, and by what they inspire us to be and do.

Sometimes, as in war, the cost of BLESSING is DEATH. We remember them and regard them as blessings because they *died*.

That is certainly true, of course, of our eternal blessing. Every Sunday we gather here to observe a kind of “memorial day”—to remember and recount the blessed fact that as God’s children we are SAVED. The title of today’s service, you may notice, begins with “SAVE your people.” The way that saving came about was that (as an ancient liturgy puts it) “the salvation of the world was hung on the cross.” “Christ Jesus died to save sinners,” we confess week after week. Without his DEATH, that BLESSING would never be possible.

The Holy Eucharist is also a memorial celebration, isn’t it? “Do this for the remembrance of me,” Jesus said—to which the Word of God responds, “As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim THE LORD’S DEATH until he comes.”

Most of us will not be asked to give our lives for our Lord or for our country. Because others made the supreme sacrifice, we are able to enjoy that blessing. Still, without paying that price, we continue to ask God to “bless our land.” Could it be that one of the blessings God intends ... is that we who live should live our lives as beneficiaries of those who died ... and as beneficiaries of our Lord’s holy death for all of us.

“Whether we live or die,” the Bible says, “we are the Lord’s.” What a wondrous blessing to have! What a wondrous blessing to share!

- A **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Sine Nomine 10 10 10 and alleluias:

In God we trust, Lord of eternity,
By whose strong Word creation came to be,
Lord of the nations, clothed in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In God we trust, the Father’s own true Son,
By whose strong death redemption has been won,
And by whose rising new life is begun.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

In God we trust, the Holy Spirit dear,
Whose inspiration shines the Gospel clear
That all the world the saving Word may hear.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

- The **Offering** is collected at this time.
- The **Prayers** are spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

Each petition ends with the following response:

P Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

+

P Lord of the nations, Ruler of the rulers of the earth: with high thanksgiving we come before you, celebrating your goodness to us, whom you have made your people, and to our nations, richly blessed by your gracious providence. May that historic grace continue in our day, and may it be passed on to our children and all who come after us. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P We give you thanks for those who gave their lives that we might enjoy your gifts of freedom and security; and we ask your blessing on those who continue to protect and defend us, often at the risk of their own lives. Protect and defend them, eternal Lord, that together we may acknowledge your blessing. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P Continue to guide, inspire, and bless our president and Congress, our judges and magistrates, our governors and mayors, and all who bear the weight of authority, that we may be led in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P According to your good pleasure, shower our land with your blessings, our fields and orchards with your bounty, our flocks and herds with health and growth. Make us responsible stewards of your abundant gifts, and in every good endeavor bless the labors of our hands and minds. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P Move the members of your Church to responsible citizenship. Let the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ be proclaimed fully and freely, and enacted in the lives of your people. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P Lord of strong and healing compassion, look with mercy and might on the sick and needy among us, the grieving and the dying, the confused and misguided, the oppressed and afflicted, and grant your much-needed blessing to each. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P Lift our eyes to anticipate that great celebration yet to be, when Christ—who shared our death and rose from it triumphantly—will come again to open the graves of all believers in joyous resurrection, that we may be truly free at last. Lord, stretch forth your mighty hand.

C **Save your people, bless our land.**

P And when our work on earth is done, call us, as citizens of heaven, to share with those who have gone before us your blessings yet to be bestowed, eternal peace and freedom, the gifts of your unending love, made ours through the merits of him who shared our life and died our death, and conquered both for us in resurrection glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- A hymned version of the **Lord's Prayer** is sung by the congregation to the tune Hanover 10 10 11 11:

Our Father on high, give ear to our prayer.
Your name, far and nigh, revered ev'rywhere.
Your kingdom come, Sov'reign, and your gracious will,
On earth as in heaven be done by us still.

The bread that we crave provide us each day.
Be near us to save from evil always.
In time of temptation your strong guidance give;
As we forgive others, our sins, Lord, forgive.

For you, Lord, are King; almighty you reign.
Your glory, we sing with grateful refrain.
Amen. From this hour so may it be done;
Your kingdom, your power, your glory alone!

- A **Benediction**, from Psalm 67, is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P God, be merciful to us and bless us; make your face to shine upon us,

C **that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.**

P Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

C The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

P May God continue to bless us. May people everywhere honor him.

- The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Melita 88 88 88:

To Abraham in days of old
A wondrous blessing was foretold:
“By you the world will come to know
The saving grace which I bestow.”
That promise kept we now confess:
“God truly has drawn near to bless!”

Descendants of God’s promise true,
We dedicate ourselves anew
“One nation under God” to be
In justice, truth and liberty.
O Lord, fulfill your purpose grand;
Through your saved people bless our land!

So may your people now be led
Throughout the world your Word is spread,
By word and deed the cross proclaim
That all may trust Christ’s saving name
And share God’s age-old pledge to bless
With peace and hope and righteousness.

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A SERVICE FOR A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

Music Guide

Materna CMD (Opening Hymn)	56-57
Materna CMD (After the Children's Message).....	58-59
St. George's, Windsor 77 77 D.....	60-61
Darwall's 148th 66 66 88	62-63
Sine Nomine 10 10 10 and alleluias.....	64-65
Hanover 10 10 11 11	66-67
Melita 88 88 88.....	68-69
Contemporary Music Song Suggestions.....	70

Tune..... Materna CMD

Musical notation for measures 1-6. The score 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 half note G4, and continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass line starts with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, and continues with eighth and quarter notes. Measure numbers 1 and 6 are indicated at the start and end of the system.

Musical notation for measures 7-11. The melody in the treble clef continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a chromatic descent. The bass line continues with eighth and quarter notes. Measure numbers 7 and 11 are indicated at the start and end of the system.

Musical notation for measures 12-16. The melody in the treble clef continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending with a whole note. The bass line continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending with a whole note. Measure numbers 12 and 16 are indicated at the start and end of the system.

- The **God's People Gather** section is sung by the congregation to the tune Materna CMD and spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

Almighty God, to you we fly for mercy and for grace.
 Oh, hear our penitential cry and do not hide your face.
 Arise, arise, O Lord of hosts; be jealous for your name.
 Oh, come, and drive from out our coasts the sins that put to shame.

The pow'rs, O Lord, ordained by you with heav'nly wisdom bless.
 Make them your servants just and true who rule in righteousness.
 The Church of your beloved Son inflame with love's pure fire;
 Unite your people, Lord, as one, and life and truth inspire.

- P** Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful things.
- C** **Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.**
- P** Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.
- C** **The Lord has been mindful of us; he will bless us. He will bless those who fear the Lord, both small and great.**
- P** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness, come into his presence with singing.
- C** **Declare the wonderful deeds of God who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.**
- P** For the Lord God said, "If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession among all peoples."
- C** **"For all the earth is mine, and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."**
- P** Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth.
- C** **"Yes," says the Spirit, "for they rest from their labors, and their works follow after them."**

Tune..... Materna CMD

Musical notation for measures 1-6. The score 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 concludes with a final chord of G3, B3, and D4.

Musical notation for measures 7-11. The melody in the treble clef features a sequence of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3. The bass line consists of a steady accompaniment of quarter notes: G3, A3, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2. The piece ends with a final chord of G2, B2, and D3.

Musical notation for measures 12-16. The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2. The bass line consists of quarter notes: G3, A3, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2, B1, A1, G1. The piece concludes with a final chord of G1, B1, and D2.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Materna CMD:

Your finest blessings from on high in rich abundance pour
That we may laud and magnify and praise you more and more.
O Lord, adorn with precious peace our own, our native land,
And crown with joys that never cease the labors of our hands.

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