

“TAKE 10 - Worship While Away” (Sunday, July 5, 2026)

Share:

Lord, we are your people.

We are also the people of this land.

We seek to bring about your kingdom.

We also seek to be good citizens of this country.

Sometimes it's not difficult to reconcile these goals;

At other times we have a hard choice between allegiance to God or Caesar.

Help us to put our patriotism and our faith in perspective, O God.

Remind us that you love peoples of all nations,

That you are not necessarily on any one country's side.

And help us also take an active role in improving our country.

For we believe that our love of freedom can lead us to your justice,

And that a world of peace and compassion can come about through your grace.

Read these words from a hymn:

God of Grace and God of Glory

**God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story; Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.**

**Set our feet on lofty places; Gird our lives, that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not them nor Thee!
That we fail not them nor Thee!**

Read this scripture from worship:

Psalm 33:13-22, *The Message*

13-15 From high in the skies God looks around, he sees all Adam's brood. From where he sits he overlooks all us earth-dwellers. He has shaped each person in turn; now he watches everything we do.

16-17 No king succeeds with a big army alone, no warrior wins by brute strength. Horsepower is not the answer; no one gets by on muscle alone.

18-19 Watch this: God's eye is on those who respect him, the ones who are looking for his love. He's ready to come to their rescue in bad times; in lean times he keeps body and soul together.

20-22 We're depending on God; he's everything we need. What's more, our hearts brim with joy since we've taken for our own his holy name. Love us, God, with all you've got—that's what we're depending on.

Matthew 11:25-30, *The Message*

25-26 Abruptly Jesus broke into prayer: “Thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You’ve concealed your ways from sophisticates and know-it-alls, but spelled them out clearly to ordinary people. Yes, Father, that’s the way you like to work.”

27 Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. “The Father has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique Father-Son operation, coming out of Father and Son intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way the Father does, nor the Father the way the Son does. But I’m not keeping it to myself; I’m ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen.

28-30 “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

Talk Together:

- ✓ Where do you feel God is calling our country?
- ✓ How can our church respond to this call?
- ✓ What is your part?

Pray together:

Gracious and merciful God, you bear our burdens and break the chains that bind us. Save us from the sin that we often fail to recognize, both as individuals and as a nation. Show us your path of love and justice, that we might follow your leadership, for your way is perfect, now and forevermore. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.