

Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—June 28, 2026



Freedom 250

On July 4, 2026, our nation will celebrate a significant milestone: 250 years of American Independence.

This pivotal moment offers an opportunity to reflect on our country's past, cultivate a renewed appreciation for American history, explore the beauty of our nation, and ignite a spirit of adventure and innovation that will elevate our country to new heights for generations to come. -National Archives

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from *Discipleship Ministries UMC*

LEADER: Come, let us gather with joyful hearts,
for where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is true freedom.

PEOPLE: We gather to celebrate the blessings of
liberty and to remember the story of God's
grace among us.

LEADER: What does the Lord require of us on this
day and always?

PEOPLE: To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk
humbly with our God.

Leader: Let us worship the Source of all our
freedoms, who calls us to a life of peace,
unity, and love.

*HYMN

America the Beautiful
#696 UMH

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 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 every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.

Author: Katharine Lee Bates (1904)
Composer: Samuel A. Ward (1888)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed
#881 UMH

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God
the Father Almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church.
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins.
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*universal

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 13: 3-6 (NRSVUE)

³ Consider and answer me, O Lord my God! Give light
to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death, ⁴ and my
enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice
because I am shaken.

⁵ But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall
rejoice in your salvation. ⁶ I will sing to the Lord
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

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TIME SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20am

TIME WITH CHILDREN—9:40am

HYMN

God of the Ages
#698, vs 2 UMH

Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
in this free land with thee our lot is cast;
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,
thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.

Words Daniel C. Roberts (1876)
Music: George W. Warren (1894)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Adapted from *Andy Langford, U.S.A., 20th Century*

Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth.
Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you
have committed the responsibility of government and
leadership in the nations of the world.

Give to them the vision of truth and justice, that by
their counsel all nations and peoples may work
together.

Give to the people of this country zeal for justice and
strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty
in accordance with your gracious will.

Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our
hearts to see and love the truth. We pray all these
things through Jesus Christ.

Receive now the words Jesus taught us to pray saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy
name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on
earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive
those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Offer the peace of Christ by saying:
The peace of Christ be with you.
Respond: And also with you!

HYMN

God of the Ages
#698, vs 4 UMH

Refresh thy people on their toilsome way;
lead us from night to never-ending day;
fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.

Words Daniel C. Roberts (1876)
Music: George W. Warren (1894)

GIVING

OFFERTORY

*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2: 13-17 (NRSVUE)

¹³ For the Lord's sake be subject to every human
authority, whether to the emperor as supreme ¹⁴ or to
governors as sent by him to punish those who do
wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is
God's will that by doing right you should silence the
ignorance of the foolish. ¹⁶ As servants of God, live as
free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext
for evil. ¹⁷ Honor everyone. Love the family of
believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Witness to Freedom
Rev. David W. Brown

Galatians 5:1—True Freedom is found in Christ

*HYMN

America
#697 UMH

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 mountainside let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
land of the noble free, thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills, like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
and ring from all the trees sweet freedom's song;
let mortal tongues awake;
let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.

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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.

Author: Samuel F. Smith (1832)
Music: *Thesaurus Musicus*, 1744

Liturgist at 8:20 – Lisa Dayton

Liturgist at 9:40 – Rev. Steve Hoard

Greeters at 9:40 – Sally Scheer and Victoria and Mark Rhodus

Offertory at 9:40 – *Battle Hymn of the Republic* -Hayes

Our guest soloist today is Paul Bower, who presently teaches music in the Yantai Huasheng International School in China. Paul is a former student teacher of Chester Imhausen.

BENEDICTION

adapted from Nancy C. Townley

Freedom is coming!
We can hear it in the voices of the oppressed.
Hope is coming!
We can see it in the eyes of all those who despair.
God is here!
We count on God's presence with us, to guide,
heal and uplift our spirits.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer
we pray. Amen.



Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40 service!

REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE
GIVING



POSTLUDE

**Stand in body or in spirit*

4TH OF JULY
250TH CELEBRATION
RIVER'S EDGE
BRASS BAND
★ FREE CONCERT ★
JULY 4 | 2:00 PM | ARMSTRONG CHAPEL



A Welcoming Community Alive in Serving Christ

Stay connected with

Armstrong
CHAPEL United Methodist Church

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acumc@armstrongchapel.org

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armstrongchapel.org

Rev. David Brown, Lead Pastor Amy Voss, Director of Preschool
Rev. Elizabeth Brown, Congregational Care Pastor Shanon Rice, Director of Digital Communications
Rev. Brandon Long, Director of Discipleship

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Backpacks
Pens, Pencils, Highlighters
Crayons, Markers
Binders, Paper, Dividers
Spiral Notebooks
Flashcards, Post-it Notes
Index Cards
School Year Planners and Calendars
Whiteout and Erasers
Thumb Drives (new/unopened)
or monetary donations and we will shop

Benefitting Found House IHN
Supplies Due by July 19

VBS Prep!

We have nearly 200 wonderful kids signed up and want to ensure they have a wonderful experience here at Armstrong Chapel. Part of that is creating a fun, inviting space – a trip to the rainforest! That’s where you come in! Take a look at the slots available to come in and help create and setup for this fantastic week. There is a space for everyone – from collating needed materials to painting and crafting set design! You do not need to stay the entire time slot – come when you are available. Meet in the Children’s Center. <https://bit.ly/4wR6wgj>



Armstrong PRESCHOOL

A Ministry of Armstrong Chapel

Armstrong Preschool still has spots available for the 2026-2027 school year!

If you or someone you know is looking for a preschool, please email Amy at avoss@armstrongchapel.org.



7th Annual

Golf SCRAMBLE

REGISTRATION OPEN

REGISTER ONLINE
or Scan the QR code



FRIDAY JULY 10 | SHOTGUN START 9:00 AM
HAMILTON ELKS GOLF CLUB

HOLE AND EVENT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
Benefitting Inter Parish Ministry, Freestore Foodbank, and the Madisonville Braves



Armstrong **MEN**
ARMSTRONGCHAPEL.ORG