



**74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day**  
**FREEDOM FOR JUSTICE**  
**Order of Service**  
**August 15, 2020**

**CELEBRANT: Rev. Navin K. John**  
**Preacher: Rev. G. Wilson**

**Call to worship:** as we celebrate our country's 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, as we step into a new era in our lives, let us thank God for the sacrifices of our forefathers and mothers who laid down their lives for our freedom. May this worship service strengthen us and our witness and our commitment to our country and above all to God.

**Opening Prayer:** Creator God, the Author and sustainer of our lives, we thank you for the freedom that you have given to our country, and for all the forefathers and mothers who laid down their lives for our freedom today. as we receive this freedom as a gift from them, we pray that you would continue to strengthen us through your word so that we may be responsible citizens and exceptional witnesses for you in our Church and society. Bless us and guide us through this worship service, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**OPENING HYMN:** Guide me O thou great Jehovah

Responsive reading: **Psalm 18:1-6**

Presbyter: I love you, LORD, my strength.

**Congregation : The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

Presbyter: I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies.

**Congregation: The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.**

Presbyter: The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me.

**Congregation : In my distress, I called to the LORD; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears.**

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be , world without end. Amen.**

**Sermon: Rev. G. Wilson**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

God of life, we thank you for all those forefathers and mothers of freedom and their sacrifice, dedication and commitment for the cause of freedom, unity, liberty and justice. We thank you for the qualities that they have shown through their struggle and through their life of liberty, unity, justice and solidarity, that these qualities would continue in the generations to come, just as it has been with the generations in the past. As we remember their sacrifices for the sake of liberty, equality and justice, enable us to uphold their values. We commit our country into your hands as we go through the covid crisis which continues to cripple societies day by day, we ask

for your intervention upon each society, community and state. We pray that people may be able to overcome the covid crisis. That you would give the right intervention, people, resources etc., to the right people at the right time, so that, we may be able to overcome these situations in our life.

We commit all the states / communities where there are conflicts, turmoil, prejudice and misunderstandings, and that you would give peace in our country, state and our communities. We pray for all the states, the Governors, the Chief ministers, all those who serve in the government. We pray for the Prime Minister, President, heads of the institutions and all those who are entrusted with the wellbeing and safety of our country. We especially pray for the Arms personnel , police, the medical, paramedical and all those who serve through their life and contributions. We pray that our country would continue uphold freedom in the tradition of liberty, equality and Justice. **Amen.**

### **OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

### **BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN:** Lead us, Heavenly Father

Lord, while for all mankind we pray,  
Of every clime and coast,  
O hear us for our native land,  
The land we love the most.

Our fathers' sepulchers are here,  
And here our kindred dwell:  
Our children, too—how should we love  
Another land so well?

O guard our shores from every foe;  
With peace our borders bless;  
With prosperous times our cities crown,  
Our fields with plenteousness.

Unite us in the sacred love  
Of knowledge, truth, and Thee;  
And let our hills and valleys shout  
The songs of liberty.

Here may religion, pure and mild,  
Upon our Sabbaths smile;  
And piety and virtue reign,  
And bless our native isle.

Lord of the nations, thus to Thee  
Our country we commend;  
Be Thou her refuge and her trust,  
Her everlasting friend.