

July 2026

The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of his heart to all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. Psalm 33:11-12

Our red, white, and blue, flag hangs on front porches. A beautiful stars and stripes bunting is draped on fences and railings. 250 years of our beautiful country is being celebrated all over the place. Even with all her imperfections, she's our country. We've been afforded many opportunities and freedoms that others envy and even relocate for. Others who came before us have entrusted her to our care that more generations would have opportunities and freedoms. It's a great thing to celebrate.

Some have given their lives for what we now enjoy. They believed it was worth it. And it is. Think of what we are able to do and enjoy. Want to go to church and not be afraid to live the Christian faith in public? Done. You can do it. Want to talk about Jesus with your neighbor or co-worker? You're free to do it. How many places in the world is it oh so different? Many. Christians having to secretly gather or watch what they say lest they persecuted, jailed, or worse. Not us. To be sure, there are battles happening. There are cake makers, side walk counselors, athletes in June, prayer circles on high school football fields in the fall - all feeling pressure or coercion to change their ways to the ways of the world. But here's the thing in our country: we are free rally around them to support and encourage them. We have the freedom to be bold and and not shy away from the good and true things our Lord has given us. She may not be perfect, yet even with all her warts and blemishes, our country is still the best place to live.

Don't take it lightly: use your freedom. Thank God for it and use it to raise your family in the Christian faith and bring them to church. Use it to openly have a Bible in your home which you read and share with others. Use it to speak the truth of God's revealed will and encourage your brothers and sisters who may face trouble because of it. Others who came before us fought and prayed for this freedom and God has given and made you an inheritor of it. While we adorn our homes with red, white, and blue, let us more so adorn our homes with God's Word and promises. May He continue to bless us and our country! 250 years! O Lord, let your Gospel have free course in the land that we love!

*God bless our native land;
Firm may she ever stand
Through storm and night.
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.
(LSB 965:1)*

Happy 4th of July!

In Christ,
Pastor Suggitt

LIFE QUOTE

God always makes life, and He always makes life worth it. The Good Giver of Life also accompanies each one as the Almighty Lord of 'my power is made perfect in weakness' (2 Corinthians 12:9). The crucifixion forgiveness of Jesus Christ proves that He constantly populates the adversities themselves with delights. *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

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