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FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Prelude** *Grand Choeur in D Major*

Alexandre Guilmant

**Call to Worship**

One: Come to me, Jesus says. All who are weary,

**All: come to me.**

One: And you, who carry heavy loads,

**All: come to me.**

One: For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

**All: Let us draw near to Jesus, whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light.**

**Hymn** *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

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! God mend thine every flaw;  
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!  
O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!  
America! America! May God thy gold refine  
till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, we seek to fill our lives with comfort and convenience, distractions that consume our energy and time. We chase after wealth, power, and autonomy as if they would satisfy the hunger in our souls. You beckon us toward new life, a life made rich through Sabbath and service. Free us from the yokes that bind us and draw us close to you. Help us learn to walk with Christ. It is in his name that we pray. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Passing the Peace**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**New Testament Reading:** Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

<sup>16</sup>“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, <sup>17</sup>‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ <sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” <sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to

infants; <sup>26</sup> yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

**Homily** “An Invitation”

Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair

**Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)**

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit we trust in the one Triune God, the holy one of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Offering** *From Sea To Shining Sea*

Samuel A. Ward

Marilyn Wilkins, soprano

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 pilgrim feet whose stern impaction'd stress  
A thoroughfare from freedom beat across the wilderness.  
America, America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
Confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.  
O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years  
Thine alabaster cities gleam undimm'd by human tears.  
America, America! God shed His grace on thee,  
And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.  
From sea to shining sea!

**Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Postlude** *Festival Fanfare and Prelude on God of Our Fathers*

J. Wayne Kerr



**Remember in your thoughts and prayers:**

**Health concerns:** Louis McCaleb; Jimmy Gilchrest; Donna Morrison; Bill McPhail; Jane Christopher; Dee Lowery & Joannie King; Harvey Coe (Brett Coe's father); Lauren (Imelda Carrillo's granddaughter)

**Emergency Contact for each member needed for our church records**

We are updating our records and want to have an emergency contact for everyone. Please contact the church at 281-991-8700 (*leave a message*) or email at [office@fpcpasadena.org](mailto:office@fpcpasadena.org) with your designated Emergency Contact. All information will be kept confidential. Thanks!