



# Christ Lutheran Church

Thursday, July 4, 2024

Enews

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Office  
News

Community  
News

Church  
News



Beloved community!

Because today is a holiday (they rarely fall on days other than Monday) we are taking a break from the regular Enews. We'll be back next week with our usual updates on programs and events at church and in the community.

One of the opportunities that national, secular, holidays invite is for us to consider our relationship to the state as people of the church - the hands and feet of Christ who are, at the end of the day, beholden to a Sovereign God whose Kingdom (or Kin-dom) is becoming. For us on Independence Day, I wonder: how do we affirm our independence from oppressive regimes in the world, celebrate the belonging that comes from being all from a certain place, and still commit to community in the way that our faith demands?

I don't know if I have all the answers (and I don't want this to be a sermon). But I believe that we can hold a kind of "both/and" attitude as Christians. As one of my favorite hymns (This is My Song/ELW 887) affirms, we can recognize that "this is my home, the country where my heart is. . . here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine," and at the same time that there are "other hearts in other lands" with "hopes and dreams as true and high as mine." And, if we set our hopes and hearts on God's vision of a more just place where we can be better and do better, in the end it doesn't matter where you are from or what flag you salute: we are, truly, all one in Christ.

In peace,

Pastor Christophor

Listen to the Indigo Girls version of [This Is My Song](#).

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