



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Independence Day

Redeemer of the World, you once came on a rescue mission to deliver the human race from bondage to sin, death, and the devil.

In you alone can true freedom be found.

Your blood bought our freedom. Our souls are no longer slaves to sin, and death is not our master. But you have not promised us an earthly life free from danger or oppression.

You have promised to give us the strength to overcome Satan and his allies. You have assured us that the Crown of Life is waiting for all who put their trust in you.

And, Lord, you have added to this blessing. You have allowed us to live in a country that gives us the freedom to serve and worship you without hindrance. Our laws grant us personal freedoms that so many of the people of this world do not have. Our nation's law enforcement officers and our nation's military personnel stand behind those laws and defend those freedoms.

We thank you for these undeserved gifts, and we ask that you preserve these freedoms for our children, and their children's children.

Do not let our indifference or negligence forfeit these gifts. Do not let us forget that these freedoms come not as the result of our wisdom or strength, but only from your gracious hand.

Jesus, you once said that those whom the Son makes free are free indeed. Keep us in this freedom no matter what may be taking place in our life, or the world around us.

We thank you, Lord for our country. Hold it always in the palm of your hand.

We thank you Lord for freedom. Amen.

Psalm 34 (p. 80 in CW) might be used in connection with this prayer.

Suggested hymns: 440; 517; 618; 619; 620