

SERMON - THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY - 5 JULY 2009
St. John's Anglican Church, Greensboro, North Carolina

This morning, I would like to use a passage from the Psalm appointed for Independence Day.

Psalm 18:17-19 (KJV)

He delivered me from my strongest enemy, and from them which hate me: for they were too mighty for me. [18] They came upon me in the day of my trouble: but the Lord was my upholder. [19] He brought me forth also into a place of liberty; he brought me forth, even because he had a favour unto me.

Here we are this Sunday, the Fourth Sunday after Trinity, the Fourth of July Weekend. Here we are again, sitting in our pews, comfortable, safe, taking for granted all the wondrous things God has given us.

We have a nice place to worship. We do not have to go to far to come to church. We feel safe and secure. We have comfortable places to live. Most of us are reasonably well fed. Some of us are more than reasonably well fed.

We can choose which brand of church we want to attend and even pick which parish of which brand of church to attend.

But all of this came with a price, a price of human life and sacrifice.

In the 233 years that have passed since that 4th of July in 1776 we have witnessed our country grow and prosper. We have witnessed the Revolution that freed our nation from England but changed the face of Anglicanism in the new country.

We had to go to war again to convince the mother country not to interfere in our commerce. We fought Mexico for the Southwestern territory.

We went through the agony of the War of Secession where both sides of that conflict suffered the most casualties of any war we have ever had.

We have survived the Spanish-American War, two World Wars, Korea, Viet-Nam, Desert Storm and now we are again at war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We have lost over a million of our military men and now women and have had roughly a million and a half of them wounded in those actions over these last 233 years.

Their sacrifice and the sacrifices of their families should not be forgotten. The virtues and the values of our forefathers should not be cast aside in the pursuit of gratification. Our reliance on Almighty God, the foundation of this Christian land, should not be forgotten.

The flag under which all these brave persons have fought for our liberty, our freedom, our nation should always wave proudly as the symbol of a nation that welcomed all and assimilated all, molded all into these persons we call Americans.

We, by act of Congress, speak English rather than German by one vote.

Over these last 233 years we have developed our own unique American culture rooted in our mother tongue and in a Christian inspired Western Civilization.

But all of this is under attack. Our culture, our language and our religion is being undermined. We are becoming, if not already, a collection of individual groups, each with its own agenda, its own culture, and its own language.

Instead of one nation under God, we are becoming a mixture of divided political interest groups.

And we have sat by, safe, comfortable, and apathetic and let it happen.

Political expediency has replaced statesmanship. Greed and power have replaced God in the halls of our legislatures and in our national Congress. The desire for votes have marginalized every piece of legislature that is now passed.

We are in trouble.

Just as the barbarians overran Rome in the 5th Century desiring to live as the Romans, our borders are nothing more than a sieve as we are invaded by cultures that are not only different but also committed to the destruction of our Christian way of life and our own civilization, our own language, English.

It is time that we look beyond partisan politics because both the Republican and the Democratic parties have failed us. We have to begin to preserve our way of life as Christians in a Christian land. We have to vote for those who will preserve our culture, our language and our religion.

And if they don't, we need to find another who will.

We can no longer be complacent. We have to act.

Now.

Amen.

