Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor the approximate 750,000 who died during this horrific war. It was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. The date was chosen because it wasn’t the anniversary of any particular Civil War battle. Today, Memorial Day is a day to honor and pray for the approximate 1.4 million who have died during U.S. conflicts. Additionally, the “National Moment of Remembrance” resolution passed December 2000, asks that at 3:00 p.m. local time, all Americans “voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect for, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to “Taps.”

Prelude — Concerto in D Major — MVT 1 — Tartini

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Song — My Country ’Tis of Thee

Sign of the Cross and Greeting
Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
People: And with your spirit.

Penitential Act

Collect — Opening Prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading — Wisdom 3: 1-9

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if before men, indeed they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself. In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; they shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the LORD shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

Time of silent reflection on God’s Word

As sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.
Responsorial Psalm — Psalm 23

Together we sing:

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Verses by Music Ministry

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

2. He guides me in right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage.

3. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

4. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

Gospel Acclamation

Sing! Sing Alleluia!

Music: Maxx, Jesus, the Compassion of God, David Haas. © 1999, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Gospel — Matthew 5: 1-12a

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.” The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Universal Prayer Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Song — God of Our Fathers (U.S. Army Hymn)

Continued on next page
Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
People: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Preface

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right and just.

Prayer Over the Gifts  Response: Amen.

Eucharistic Acclamations

Holy
The assembly sings:

Memorial Acclamation
The assembly sings:

Amen
The assembly sings:

COMMUNION RITE

The Lord’s Prayer
Sign of Peace

3 - May 25, 2020
Priest: Behold the Lamb of God...
People: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

**An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**Communion Song** — Eternal Father, Strong to Save (U.S. Navy Hymn)

CONCLUDING RITES

Invitation to Prayer

After the invitation, all pray in silence.

Taps

Prayer of Commendation

Priest: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.   People: And let perpetual light shine upon them.
Priest: May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.   People: Amen.

Solemn Blessing & Dismissal

Sending Hymn — America the Beautiful

1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, For am-ber waves of grain,
2. O beau-ti-ful for pil-grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress
3. O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved In lib-er-at-ing strife,
4. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream That sees be-yond the years

1. For pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties A-bove the fruit-ed plain!
2. A thor-ough-fare for free-dom beat A-cross the wil-der-ness!
3. Who more than self their coun-try loved, And mer-cy more than life!
4. Thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

1. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,
2. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-’ry flaw,
3. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine,
4. A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed his grace on thee,

1. And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea.
2. Con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, Thy lib-er-ty in law.
3. Till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness, And ev-’ry gain di-vine.
4. And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea.


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