

**PEOPLE WITH HUMBLE HEARTS** will not overlook the opportunity to express their gratitude for those who have given their lives to protect our nation's freedoms. Memorial Day is just such an opportunity as we pause and contemplate those sacrifices.

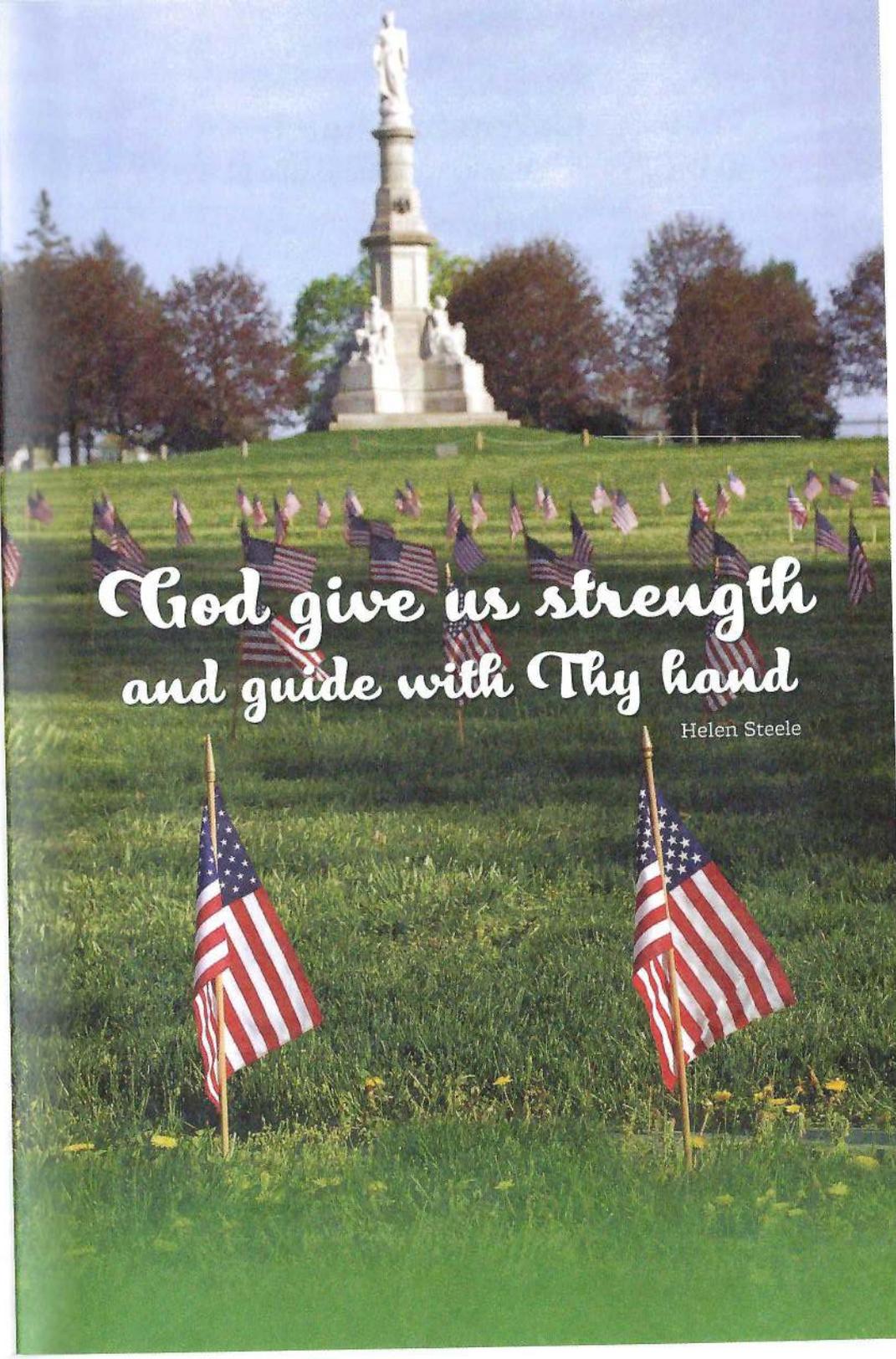
It takes effort to remember and express our gratitude in acts of commemoration—rather than spending the entire day entertaining ourselves—humbly and unselfishly reflecting on the freedoms we enjoy in our country, knowing our freedom cost the suffering and death of so many. Even with its faults and concerns it's still the greatest country to live in. Those who have visited other countries know the inner joy when their plane touches down back in the USA.

There are two other days—though not called Memorial Day—that are days of remembrance for believers in Christ. First, there is Good Friday, the day Christ was crucified, nailed to a cross as His sacrificial payment for the sins of the world. When we take the Lord's Supper it is a time of remembrance and gratitude for that sacrifice, causing us to wholeheartedly desire to serve the Lord. Then, proving the validity of Christ's cruel death is Easter, His resurrection from the grave. Celebrating Resurrection Sunday also helps us remember God's love in rescuing those who come to Christ in faith, believing. Romans 5 tells of God's love in giving His eternal Son to die for our sin, giving eternal life to all who believe in Him. Verse eight is a key verse: "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

It is believers in Christ who can best celebrate Memorial Day, as Christians and as citizens.

*Paul J. Twist*

National Cemetery, Gettysburg, PA ©Visions of Maine/Stock • Printed in USA



God give us strength  
and guide with Thy hand

Helen Steele

# Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

May 29 2022

**Call to Worship**

*Sounds of Hope*

**Invocation**

*Don Mauldin*

**Sing Unto the Lord**

Hymn #492 At Calvary

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Recognition of Guests**

**Mission Moment**

**Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**Worship in Song**

Hymn # 809 God of Our Fathers

**Offertory Prayer**

*Joe Morgan*

**Offertory**

*Rose Morgan*

**Special Music**

*Sounds of Hope*

**Sermon:**

*Reverend Don Mauldin*

**Hymn of Benediction**

God Bless America

*Pastor Don Mauldin*

*352-262-5349*

***Happy Memorial Day!***

## ***Covenant News***

Today is the last day we will be collecting paper goods and toiletries for Pine Grove and donatios for Arbor House.

*Freedom Isn't Free*

*by Kelly Strong*

*I watched the flag pass by one day it fluttered in the breeze  
A young Marine saluted it, and then he stood at ease*

*I looked at him in uniform, so young, so tall, so proud  
With hair cut square and eyes alert he'd stand out in any crowd.*

*I thought how many men like him had fallen through the years  
How many died on foreign soil? How many mothers' tears?*

*How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea?  
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?  
No, Freedom isn't free*

*I heard the sound of taps one night, when everything was still  
I listened to the bugler play And felt a sudden chill.*

*I wondered just how many times that taps had meant "Amen"  
When a flag had draped a coffin of a brother or a friend*

*I thought of all the children, Of the mothers and the wives,  
Of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives*

*I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea  
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.  
No, Freedom isn't free!*