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HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Words from the Cross

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*If my people who are called by my name humble themselves,
and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways,
then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

2 Chronicles 7:14

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, the atheists are at it again. I just received a letter from a brother in Christ informing me that some activist Colorado Court of Appeals judges have sided with some atheists from Wisconsin to declare our Governor's "Day of Prayer" unconstitutional. Fortunately, it appears that this ruling will be appealed to the Colorado Supreme Court where, hopefully, our freedom of speech, freedom of religious exercise, and freedom of assembly will be upheld.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of a good education in state sponsored (and tax supported) schools, there are many who have never learned that the first amendment to our constitution does not outlaw all religious expression. There is also much ignorance concerning the Christian faith held dear by most of our founding fathers. Here are just some samples:

George Washington – First President of the US; member of the Continental Congress; Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army; Judge; "Father of our Country"

"You do well to wish to learn our arts and ways of life, and above all, the religion of Jesus Christ. These will make you a greater and happier people than you are."

"While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens and soldiers, we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of a Christian."

John Adams – Second President of the US; First Vice President of the US; Signer of the Declaration of Independence; Diplomat; One of the two signers of the Bill of Rights.

"The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity. I will avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God."

John Hancock – Signer of the Declaration of Independence; President of Congress; Revolutionary General; Governor of Massachusetts where he called upon the people of the State of Massachusetts to pray:

"that all nations may bow to the scepter of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and that the whole earth may be filled with his glory" "that the spiritual kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ may be continually increasing until the whole earth shall be filled with His glory" and "to confess their sins and to implore forgiveness of God through the merits of the Savior of the World."

This is just a very small sampling of hundreds of similar quotes from nearly all of our founding fathers. Whether the atheists wish to acknowledge it or not, the founders of the USA were predominantly Christian.

As we celebrate this Fourth of July, let us give thanks to God for our Christian forefathers who pledged their "lives, fortunes, and sacred honor" to win their and our freedom and let us also resolve to fight to keep it. But more importantly, let us heed the word of God to Solomon at the dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem, which I quoted above. By the power of the Holy Spirit working through the means of grace, let us humble ourselves, confess our sin, turn from our wicked ways, and seek His face, knowing that God has redeemed us by the shed blood of His Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Skelton