



Fourth of July Prayer

Fr. Ed Hays

A Pilgrim's Almanac, p. 111

We lift up our hearts, O God,
on this day of celebration in gratitude
for the gift of being Americans.

We rejoice with all those who share
in the great dream of freedom and dignity for all.

With flags and feasting, with family and friends
we salute those who have sacrificed
that we might have the opportunity
to bring to fulfillment
our many God-given gifts.

As we deny all prejudice a place in our hearts,
may we also clearly declare our intention
to work for the time when all people,
regardless of race, religion, or sex,
will be granted equal dignity and worth.