



Did you know Katherine Lee Bates...

Katherine Lee Bates is best known as the author of "America the Beautiful" but she did much more than that.

Her mother, Cornelia Frances Lee raised her and her family. Her father Rev. William Bates died soon after she was born.

Despite a difficult start Katherine got a college education at Wellesley and, with some prize money, went on to study further at Oxford University in England. She came back to Wellesley to teach but did not stop there. She pioneered courses in American Literature, wrote a text to support the courses and established American Literature as a discipline.

Katherine was known as a mentor and encourager of young women. She authored books of poetry, travel, essays, children's and young people's literature. She popularized the figure of Mrs. Santa Claus. Near the end of WW I she became a war correspondent for the New York Times.

She wrote for *The Congregationalist* and *Christian Century*. It was on a trip to Colorado and climbing Pikes Peak that she was inspired to write "America the Beautiful".

...was a Congregationalist?

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Call To Worship

L: Pilgrims are we, O Lord God we come

C: 400 year old travelers with Your Son

L: When we have been weary, You have restored our souls

C: And set us on the path again, of redemption

L: We come to this hour seeking refreshment, courage, and the will

C: To continue this journey toward the community of heaven

Invocation (in unison)

We remember this day our Pilgrim forebears, whose constant prayers and unshakable courage brought them to this land we now call home. They brought their sins, their cares, their temptations, too, and found their help and strength from You. We approach You with the same needs and the hope that this hour may be for us a time of grace and empowerment to live with courage as Christ's new pilgrims. Amen

Historical story by: Rev. Will Lange

Liturgy by: Rev. Tom Richard