

# FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1865

2 pm



10 pm



*"From this pulpit of broken stone ... we offer to the President of the United States our solemn congratulations that God has sustained his life and health under the unparalleled burdens and sufferings of four bloody years."*

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher (speaker, left center, white hat) uttered those words on the afternoon of Friday, April 14, 1865, while delivering an inspiring sermon during a flag-raising ceremony at the recently recaptured Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor, where the war had begun four years earlier. President Lincoln had considered attending this triumphant moment, but decided that it was too far from Washington, and so he remained in the nation's capital.