

MEMORIAL (DAY) PRAYERS

Almighty God our Heavenly Father, in Your hands are the living and the dead; we give You thanks for all those, our comrades and sisters, who have laid down their lives in the service of our Country. May they rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon them. May the good work of seeking justice for the oppressed and peace for all mankind be rewarded with success, that their sacrifices shall not have been in vain. And may we never fail to remember the awesome cost of the freedom which we enjoy.

Amen.

(Concluding prayer) Almighty God, our gratitude for Your generosity grows with each passing day. We acknowledge this day's special blessings. We have honored those who now enjoy Your eternal embrace. We ask Your blessings on all that are present here.. Especially do we seek Your consolation for those recently bereaved. May Your grace be with them and with us now and forever. And, if it by Your will, may we all be favored to gather again in these circumstances and in this company before another year has passed. **Amen**

O Lord Almighty, remember those who lived and died fighting to protect the dignity and the freedom of mankind. Let our spirits be proud of them. Let our hearts be compassionate, and our minds clear and determined in giving them honor and respect. And let us be dependent on the loving kindness of the Lord our God. As we remember the departed, let us be true soldiers in war and on peace. Let us be courageous protectors and true guardians of freedom. Let us be the true masters of brotherly love. O Lord, guide us in the way of moral responsibility; enlighten us—who are true believers in ethics and justice. Let this day be a day of commemoration and honor to those who sacrificed their lives in order to give us liberty and our Nation security. Remember them, O Lord, in Your mercy, and have compassion on us. Make us a generation of wisdom, discipline, and faith we pray in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

Eternal and ever-loving God, we thank You for the privilege of meeting on this hallowed day in this free nation to honor our noble dead and to re-dedicate our lives to You and our Country. We thank You that we are permitted to live through days of challenge, for the hours of the testing of our loyalty to our national heritage, and for our devotion to the high ideals for which others have lived and died. Bless, O God, the thousands of disabled veterans in our hospitals today and also the homeless veterans in our land. Relieve pain, ease their suffering, and give them cheer and hope. Help us to respond gladly and generously to their needs of body and spirit. We pay for our men who may still be in prisons in a strange and foreign land. Give to them courage in the face of hopelessness and comfort in the midst of loneliness. On this day of sacred memory, we ask for grace and power to live truer lives, to be better servants of the living God, finer fathers and mothers, nobler sons and daughters, and more loyal citizens of this great Country and of Your world. Lord, grant that we may yet see the day when war and fear of war shall no longer be; the day when peace shall become our common possession; the day when Your will shall be done on earth as it is in Heaven. O Lord, hear our prayer for our sakes. **Amen.**

O Lord God of Hosts, as we gather to honor and pay respects to our comrades and sisters who have departed this life, it is fitting that we remember first our great Nation. You have given us a rich and beautiful land for our heritage. We humbly pray that we may always prove ourselves a people constantly aware of Your favor, and therefore anxious to demonstrate our gratitude in seeking to know and to do Your will. May our land be blessed with honest and productive industry, and a people of integrity who are anxious to learn and willing to respect one another. All this we ask of You, Almighty God, in Your Holy Name. **Amen.**

Gracious God, grant that we may appreciate and treasure the freedom that is our gift and our heritage, and that we may never forget the great price at which it was purchased for us all. We remember this day before You all who serve in the Armed Forces of our nation. Protect and defend them in the day of battle, and in the time of peace. Grant that they may serve with honor and dignity both to Your great glory and to the credit of this Nation.

We ask also that You will watch over the veterans of this land, inspiring them to serve You and this Country in ever new and creative ways. Comfort our ill and wounded comrades who languish in hospitals or homes. Lighten their burdens, relieve their suffering and pain, and restore to them the blessings of health again. We also pray for those who have given their lives in the service of our Country (*moment of silence*), and for those, our fellow veterans who have served this Nation both in time of battle and in time of peace. May light perpetual shine upon them. May the good work which You have begun in them be brought to perfection, that this land may prosper and that there may be lasting peace throughout our world. All this we ask You, Almighty Father, in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

PRAYERS FOR DECEASED COMRADES/SISTERS

Heavenly Father, we are gathered here to commemorate those among Your servants who have been called to Your bosom in the Land of Light. We pray that Your mercy and justice have made right their human failings and faults. We pray that whatever justice was denied them in this vale of tears has been granted them a hundredfold. We pray that whatever comforts they were denied in this life, whatever evil they endured, may now rebound to their everlasting happiness.

We are thankful for their companionship and association in this life. By their efforts we are assured security and strength. Because they served well, we are proud to call them our own. We ask that, following in their footsteps, we may continue in Your service until Your summons comes. Then, in the knowledge that we have striven to observe Your councils and precepts, may be judged worthy to be united with them and with You forever in Heaven. **Amen.**

O God of mercy, peace, and love, we remember before You in this moment our comrade (sister) and friend (*name*). We recall with gratitude and respect all that he (*she*) stood for in this life. Help us to live in the companionship of his (*her*) spirit. May we be kind to the friends and family he (*she*) loved; devoted to the community in which he (*she*) lived; and loyal to the causes which he (*she*) served. Thus, in our life, may he (*she*) live on, to our great comfort, to the betterment of Your creation, and to the furthering of Your most Holy Will. **Amen.**

O Lord our God, we ask that You will comfort all who are bereaved with a spirit of faith and courage. May they remember, giving thanks, for the love and joy they shared in an earthly relationship. May they be comforted with the sure knowledge of a joyful reunion with those they love in Your Everlasting Kingdom. **Amen.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, You have shown us that death is but the gateway to a more glorious life, and that we must not fear its coming; and we know, also, that neither life nor death can separate us from Your love. Assure us yet again that our comrade/sister (*name*) departed is not lost to us, but sharing new life with You in the Kingdom of our Father, where we shall in Your good time be reunited. We know him/her to be with You forever. **Amen.**