

Jacksons Grove  
United Methodist Church of Landrum, SC

**A LITANY**

**IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY**



**28 MAY 2017**

## **A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND HEALING \***

*(Dedicated to all military persons and civilians whether living or dead  
who have experienced the effects of armed conflict.)*

Pastor: The God of peace and love be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: We come before you O God on this Memorial Day observance, not to glorify war, but to honor and celebrate those who have tasted its bitterness. Especially do we remember those who have died of its poison. We are grateful for those who braved the chaos and evil of wars past. Yet today our world is noisy with the clatter of armed conflict in many places far away. And even in our own land there is an eerie uneasiness when we dare to read headlines or turn on the news. So we turn to you in thanksgiving for those whose sacrifices have purchased freedom and are securing liberty for us and the world. And we look to thee in this time of fear and need and ask for renewal, comfort and healing.

**All: In the Name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.**

Hymn: "My Country 'Tis of Thee"

# 697

### **Litany of Remembrance and Healing**

For those who have given their lives for their country, that they may rest in God's peace and that their sacrifice may inspire in us a commitment to the ideals for which they perished, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our veterans whom we have sent to distant lands, who for us have endured fear and trauma, that they may know of the sincerity of our gratitude and may feel the devotion of a grateful nation, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the men and women serving under orders this day, especially those currently in conflict or captivity, that they may be inspired by the ideals of duty, honor and love of country and that they may receive strength equal to every challenge they face, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For families of men and women now on active duty, families of veterans, those in reserve forces and their families who stand ready to answer their country's call and those civilian families who have suffered in time of war, and especially those families whose tables will always have an empty chair, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our leaders who have the power and responsibility of decisions regarding war and peace, that they may always submit themselves to prayer and solemn contemplation in the exercise of their commission, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those individuals dear to us whom we name now before you who may be included in any of the above petitions . . .

*(After the reading of the names of those of our number who have passed on to the church triumphant, you are invited to speak the names of persons you wish to recognize or remember.)*

. . . we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For ourselves, in this congregation and all persons of faith, that our faithfulness will make us builders of community as well as seekers of salvation, that we may seek outer peace as well as inner harmony, justice for our world as well as fairness for ourselves, to the end that the dwelling of God may indeed be with us, and we shall be God's people, that the former things pass away and war shall be no more, we pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Hymn: "Battle Hymn of the Republic" (1,4 & 5) # 717

Pastor: O God of all, we thank you for the gift of life and the promise of its abundance offered through your Son, Jesus Christ. With full divine knowledge, he became human, walked with us,

lived among us, suffered with us and, in sacrifice beyond comprehension, gave up immortality for death in order that we might regain the life we lost to sin. We praise you for his glorious resurrection. May the reality of it inspire us to honor all life, all creation, that we might be faithful stewards of what you have entrusted to our care. Be with us if, like Christ, we are called to endure suffering and death in order that others might live. Hasten the day O God, when we will discard our garments of war and don the vestments of peace. This we ask in Jesus' Name.

**All:        Amen**

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\* adapted from services by The Reverend Lisa Frenz and Chaplain Jackson H. Day

