

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018

(Scriptures: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9: 24-28; MARK 12:38-44)

ON THIS SPECIAL DAY, WE FOCUS AND REFLECT ON REMEMBERING.

*(WHEN I SAY "GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET"
PLEASE SAY OUT LOUD "THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY.")*

TODAY WE MARK REMEMBRANCE DAY, THE CELEBRATION AND MEMORIAL OF THOSE WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR US THROUGH WORLD WAR I AND II, AND LATER, KOREA AND AFGHANISTAN. OUR MEN AND WOMEN HAVE GONE THERE TO PRESERVE OUR WAY OF LIFE, TO PRESERVE DEMOCRACY AND TO SUPPORT OUR ALLIES, AT GREAT COST. BECAUSE OF THEM, WE ARE FREE.

*GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY*

MANY OF US HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS WHO WERE IN THE GREAT WARS – SOLDIERS, PILOTS, DOCTORS, NURSES, CLERGY – OR WHO WORKED FOR THE WAR EFFORT AT HOME. AND MANY OF THESE NEVER CAME BACK. OR EVER SPOKE OF WHAT THEY SAW AND DID. PTSD WAS NOT KNOWN OR NAMED UNTIL WELL AFTER VIETNAM. BECAUSE OF THEM, WE ARE FREE.

*GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY*

MANY OF US WILL GO TO THE SOLEMN CEREMONIES AT OUR CENOTAPH THIS MORNING. WE WILL SING, PRAY, OBSERVE SILENCE, PERHAPS HEAR VINTAGE PLANES FLYING OVERHEAD, AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, WILL SEE THOSE STILL REMAINING, HAVING SERVED US, PARTICIPATING IN REMEMBRANCE THE DAYS THEY ACTUALLY TOOK PART IN. AND BECAUSE OF THEM, WE ARE FREE.

*GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY*

TOO MANY COUNTRIES IN OUR WORLD ARE STILL TRAPPED IN CYCLES OF WAR, TERROR, PRIVATION OR OPPRESSION. THE SEARCH FOR POWER AND CONTROL SEEMS TO BE LIMITLESS. MONEY, EVEN IN DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES, IS SPIRALLING INTO THE TRILLIONS, WHILE WE REMEMBER IN OUR OWN LIVES THAT MILLIONS USED TO BE A FANTASTIC FIGURE. DEFENSE BUDGETS TAKE UP MUCH OF OUR OXYGEN, SO TO SPEAK, LEAVING US WITH INSUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO HELP OUR COUNTRY AND THOSE IN OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS THREATENS OUR SECURITY AND VALUES. BUT AT THIS MOMENT, WE ARE STILL FREE.

*GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY*

*WE PRAY FOR THOSE CAUGHT IN THE WILDFIRES *IN CALIFORNIA, AS A QUARTER OF A MILLION PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EVACUATED. WE PRAY FOR THOSE CAUGHT IN THE MASS SHOOTING IN THAT AREA FOUR DAYS EARLIER AND WE PRAY FOR THE SYNAGOGUE IN PITTSBURG, WHERE SEVERAL JEWISH CONGREGANTS WERE MURDERED IN A SHOOTING SPREE. WE PRAY THAT ALL VOTES ARE COUNTED IN THE UNITED STATES MIDTERM ELECTIONS, AND THAT PEACE AND CIVILITY WILL PREVAIL, NOT FEAR AND HATRED. WHEN THESE THINGS GO RIGHT, WE REMAIN FREE.*

*GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY*

ON THIS ISLAND AND OFF, WE KNOW THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND IN PAIN. LET US THINK OF THEM NOW, OUT LOUD OR IN OUR HEARTS, AND WISH THEM COMFORT AND BETTER DAYS AHEAD..... MAY ALL OF US BE FOREVER UNDER GOD'S WINGS OF GRACE.

*GRACIOUS GOD, LEST WE FORGET
THANK YOU FOR YOUR MERCY*

*OUR HOPE IN YOU KEEPS US FREE
AMEN*

**25 DEAD, 7000+ HOMES GONE, 35,000 ACRES BURNED, HISTORIC FIRES AT BOTH ENDS OF THE STATE*

PADDY WAYMARK

THE LORD'S PRAYER, AS PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN