



Memorial Day

In a week where we have had several mass acts of gun violence... in a two-week period where there is war and peace in the Middle East... in a season where we continue to grapple with the pandemics of Racism and of Covid 19... and this weekend, where we remember those who have died in battle to the service of our country... I offer a prayer which holds many of our petitions together. I hope you might pray this prayer each day over the weekend Friday – Memorial Day.

This weekend, Patti and I will be visiting cemeteries honoring the dead and remembering those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

A Prayer for Memorial Day

Almighty God, before whom stand the living and the dead, we are your children, whose mortal life is but a hand's breadth, give thanks to you:

For all those through whom you have blessed our pilgrimage, whose lives have empowered us, whose influence is a healing grace...we lift up thankful hearts.

For the dear friends and family members whose faces we see no more, but whose love is with us forever...we lift up thankful hearts.

For the teachers and companions of our childhood and youth, and for the members of our household of faith who worship you now in heaven...we lift up thankful hearts.

For those who sacrificed themselves, our brothers and sisters who have given their lives for the sake of others...we lift up thankful hearts.

That we may hold them all in continual remembrance, and ever think of them as with you in that city whose gates are not shut by day and where there is no night...we lift up thankful hearts.

That we may now be dedicated to working for a world where labor is rewarded, fear dispelled, and nations made one,

O Lord, save your people and bless your heritage. Day by day we magnify you, and worship your name, for ever and ever. Amen.

(United Methodist Book of Worship #440)

Peace,

Todd

Rev. Dr. Todd D. Anderson, West Ohio Area Superintendent
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