

**Memorial Day Sunday Remembrance**  
**Ground Oak Lutheran Church**  
**May 26, 2019**

**INTRODUCTION**

P: We meet in the presence of God.

We remember with thanksgiving and sorrow  
those whose lives,  
in wars domestic and foreign, and conflicts past and present,  
have been given and taken away.

We pray for all  
who in bereavement, disability and pain  
continue to suffer the consequences of  
fighting, violence, and terror.

We commit ourselves to work  
in penitence and faith  
for reconciliation between peoples and nations,  
that all of your children may, together,  
live in freedom, justice and peace.

**OPENING PRAYER**

P: Ever-living God

We remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of warfare into  
the peace of your presence; may that same peace calm our fears, bring justice  
to all peoples and establish harmony among the nations, through Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

C: Amen.

**MEMORIAL DAY SCRIPTURE..... John 15:12-17**

<sup>12</sup>My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup>I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup>This is my command: Love each other.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God give us peace.

For the service men and women who have died in the violence of war and armed conflict, each one remembered and known to God.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

For those who love them in death as in life, offering the distress of our grief and the sadness of our loss.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

For all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

For civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace.

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, those whose lives we did not know, and those whose names we will never know. Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us dignity as we pray for those who wish us harm. As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**ACT OF REMEMBRANCE**

P: Let us remember before God,  
and commend to his sure keeping  
those who have died in the service of their country –  
those whom we knew, whose memory we treasure,  
as well as those whom we did not know personally  
and all who have lived and died  
in the service of humanity.

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

C: We will remember them.

*Although Memorial Day is a day set aside to remember those who died while serving in our country's armed forces, we will remember all those who served in our military and are buried in our cemetery.*

**ROLL CALL OF THE VETERANS FOLLOWED BY TAPS**

*Names are listed in the back of the bulletin*

**ACT OF COMMITMENT**

P: Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life:  
Hear our prayers and thanksgivings  
for all whom we remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them,  
to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord

C: Amen.

P: Let us commit ourselves to responsible living and faithful service.

P: Will you strive for all that makes for peace?

C: We will

P: Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?

C: We will

P: Will you work for a just future for all humanity?

C: We will

C: Lord God our Father,  
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humanity,  
in the cause of reconciliation and peace,  
for the relief of want and suffering,  
and for the praise of your name.  
Guide us by your Spirit;  
give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope;  
and keep us faithful now and always.  
Amen.

**BLESSING**

P: God grant to the living, grace;  
to the departed, rest;  
to Christ's body on earth the Church,  
our Commonwealth, our Nation, and all people,  
peace and concord;  
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting.  
And the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
come down upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen

*Following the Service of Remembrance, the children will place flowers on the graves.*

*\*\*All scripture passages are quoted from the New Revised Standard Version ©1989\*\**

**THE MESSAGE**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY.....LBW #567**

**GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**\*THE OFFERTORY.....Maranatha #251**

**"We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"**

We bring the sac-ri-fice of praise in-to the house of the Lord; We bring the sac-ri-fice of praise in-to the house of the Lord. And we of-fer up to You the sac-ri-fic-es of thanks-giv-ing; And we of-fer up to You the sac-ri-fic-es of joy.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: We bring these gifts before you, O Lord, not to gain approval or reward, but out of love for your children everywhere.

C: Use them to serve your greater purpose in the world, and to keep our hearts focused on your gospel of grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**\*THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Loving God, you are.....

P: Gracious God,

C: Hear our prayer

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN.....LBW #332**

*OUR SERVICE WILL CONTINUE OUTSIDE IN OUR CEMETERY  
(WEATHER PERMITTING)*