

Speaker One _____

We are here today to honor all those who have served in the Armed Forces and are currently still serving our country. The American flag is a symbol of our country that represents freedom.

Speaker Two _____

The American flag is more than just a piece of cloth shaped into a colorful design; it is the silent symbol of freedom for the greatest sovereign nation on earth and it is an inspiration for which American patriots gave their lives and fortunes; it is also a symbol of hope for all those who have served in the American Armed Forces and it is the emblem of our country.

Speaker Three _____

Our flag is a symbol of our people, our freedom, and our strength. Our flag would not be a symbol for Freedom, Justice, Liberty and Peace if it were not for the men and women who served and are still serving our country today. Today we honor all those who have served.

Speaker Four _____

Please join me in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Speaker Five _____

Today there is, and perhaps there always will be, conflict in the world. But the United States, thankfully, enjoys peace and freedom. Like other things of great value, this security did not come cheaply. The cost has been paid by the many Americans who have answered the call to serve in the military. They have served in 11 wars from the Revolution to Afghanistan, earning the special distinction 'veteran.' But another part of freedom's cost must continue to be paid long after the guns have been silenced.

Speaker Six _____

This debt is owed America's veterans. Some need their country's help, even as their country once needed theirs, to readjust, to recover from wounds or to overcome hardships of age and illness. Most need something but ask nothing in repayment for their sacrifices. Let us continue to help those veterans in need with the greatest possible compassion and efficiency. To the rest, since they ask no special help, we can best pay tribute this day by recognizing what they have achieved and join them in their resolve to keep America strong and free.

Speaker Seven _____

Please join me in prayer for our veterans. Let us bow our heads and say:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

We ask for blessing on all those who have served their country in the armed forces.

We ask for healing for the veterans who have been wounded, in body and soul, in conflicts around the globe.

We pray especially for the young men and women, in the thousands, who are coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan with injured bodies and traumatized spirits.

Bring peace to them, O Lord; may we pray for them when they cannot pray.

Speaker Eight _____

We ask for an end to wars and the dawn of a new era of peace as a way to honor all the veterans of past wars.

Have mercy on all our veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Bring peace to their hearts and peace to the regions they fought in.

Speaker Nine _____

Bless all the soldiers who served in non-combat posts;
May their calling to service continue in their lives in many positive ways.

Speaker Ten _____

Give us all the creative vision to see a world which, grown tired of fighting, moves to valuing the life of every human being. O Prince of Peace, hear our prayer. Amen.