Veterans Day

Everlasting Protector and Defender, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 the guns of World War I went silent. To celebrate this armistice a holiday was made of this date. But, the world soon learned that the War to end all Wars did not. A series of wars followed with increased efficiency in killing. Thus the holiday was changed to honor everyone who has served in our nation's Armed Forces. We now call it Veterans Day.

We thank you, Lord, for our military veterans. Through them you have provided us with blessings that people around the world envy.

But the presence of our veterans reminds us of your warning that wars and rumors of wars will continue until the end of time.

In your mercy, keep war from our shores, and frustrate the plans of all those who would cause us terror.

Lord of the Nations, we ask that you would continue to bless our country with men and women who are willing to go to distant and dangerous places to protect us from those who would do us harm.

We pray that you will continue to bless us with veterans who have served faithful and true.

Be with our veterans as they continue their march through life. Protect them from the ambush of sin and the firepower of Satan. Give them the health and strength they need to carry out the missions in life that you have laid before them.

Be, Lord, their shield and strength, their guide and their rearguard. Give to them the peace that surpasses all understanding as they place their trust in Jesus.

When their tour of duty in the world is over, give them the order to come home. Bring them to where there are no more wars.

Grant unto them this blessing: when we are listening to taps being played over their grave, they may be listening to the joyous trumpet call of God and the music of heaven's choirs. Grant this for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Psalm 73 (p. 94 in CW) might be used in connection with this prayer.
Suggested hymns: 234; 417; 422; 610; 620

Commission on Special Ministries

WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.