



*The Tampa Area Marine Parents Association would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Veterans for their personal service and sacrifice. It is our sincere hope, that through our organizations continued work, we can show our true commitment to you by our outreach in our communities, this nation and far beyond. We pledge our continued love & support today and forever more.*

O God, we give you thanks today for our nation's Veterans. We honor them for their faithful service to our country, and for what they have done to defend and preserve our freedom.

Generation after generation, young men and women have answered our country's call, and their lives have been changed forever.

We are grateful to all who have served, whether in peacetime or in conflict.

But today we especially remember those who have been tempered by fire, those who continue to bear wounds of the body or the spirit as a result of what they endured.

They lie in our veterans' hospitals or struggle for recovery in rehabilitation centers; they suffer from post-traumatic stress and survivor' guilt; they yearn for peace in their souls.

Dear God, we ask you to heal their wounds, to banish whatever inner demons may haunt them, and to give them peace within so they may return fully to their families and to society.

We thank you, God, for all of our country's veterans — those of past generations, and those who continue to earn this title today.

May we never forget what our country has asked of them and what they have given in return. Help us to give them the respect and honor they are due. And strengthen our resolve to build a world modeled on your realm, where war will be pursued no more.

by the Rev. John Gundlach

