



# LCRL PRAYER PARTNERS

## NOVEMBER: DEFENDING LIBERTY

Two million United States military personnel were sent to Europe starting in 1917 to protect the cause of freedom from German aggression. Army Pvt. Henry N. Gunther, of the 79th Infantry Division's 313th Infantry Regiment, was one such soldier serving in the American Expeditionary Forces.

On the morning of November 11, 1918, Private Gunther took his position outside the village of Chaumont-deviant-Damvillers, France. At 10:58 AM, Private Gunther was shot and killed as he charged a German roadblock. Of the over 116,000 American military fatalities, Private Gunther's death was the last official one, for just two minutes later at 11:00 AM, the Armistice with Germany silenced every hostile weapon of the war.

November 11th is celebrated as Veteran's Day, a day the country pauses to give thanks, honor, and respect to all who have ever served or who currently serve in a branch of United States military service.

Private Gunther took an oath of office when he joined the Army in which he promised to defend the Constitution of the United States from all enemies, foreign and domestic. He was willing to honor his oath with his life. Every member of all the United States military branches of service promises to defend the Constitution of the United States, even to the point of death.

One critical part of the Constitution that all veterans defend is the Religious Liberty of the First Amendment. The Founding Fathers created the First Amendment to safeguard fundamental individual liberties, especially Religious Liberty. The Founders wanted to make sure that free people would have an opportunity to have a place for faith development and expression that was free from government control.

The opportunity to practice one's faith is not just a right the military defends, but a right the military provides through the office of Chaplain.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty partners with The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod's Ministry to the Armed Forces as it provides and supports Chaplains who minister to those in uniform. LCMS military chaplains serve as members of the military in every way but one – they are non-combatants. They eat, sleep, train, and exercise with their flock, both in garrison and in combat.

November 11, a day to honor our veterans, true Champions of Liberty!

Let Us Pray:

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV*

Dear Lord, we pray that You will keep these, our nation's defenders, physically safe and mentally sound. We also pray that You, who gave Your life upon the cross so that we might be forgiven and saved, will protect them from the spiritual enemies of evil they cannot see. Send Your holy angels to watch over them so that the wicked foe will have no power over them. In Your name. Amen.

Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for the chaplains of our armed forces. We give You thanks for these undershepherds. Keep them safe, and give them the words and the wisdom which will show to all that You are the Savior who is with Your followers wherever they go. In Your name. Amen.

Let Us Encourage:

PRINT – PERSONALIZE – Pray

The LCRL asks that you would commit to pray for the work of the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces as it ministers to our veterans and their families.

Not only do we ask that you would pray, but that you would share this prayer request with your family, friends, neighbors, and congregation.

Please see:

<https://www.lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces>

for more information about  
the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces

You can encourage this ministry and its Director, Rev. Craig Muehler, as you share the number of people who prayed.

For example: if you pray with your family of 3 for the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces, please send us the count of 3. If you publish a prayer request for ministry in your church bulletin and pastor prays with 234 people in attendance, then use the number 234. Please count all numbers and send them by November 27.

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR NUMBERS TO:  
[LCRLPray@gmail.com](mailto:LCRLPray@gmail.com)

Please feel free to cut it out and keep it in your Bible for handy reference.

The LCMS Ministry to  
the Armed Forces

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