**“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”**

**Verse 1: Naval (General)**

Lord, guard and guide the men who fly

And those who on the ocean ply;

Be with our troops upon the land,

And all who for their country stand:

Be with these guardians day and night

And may their trust be in thy might.

**Verse 2: Fliers**

Lord, guard and guide the men who fly

Through the great spaces in the sky

Be with them always, in the air

In darkening storms and sunlight fair.

Oh hear us when we lift our prayer

For those in peril in the air.

**Verse 3: Submariners**

Lord God, our power evermore

Whose arm doth reach the ocean floor

Dive with our men beneath the sea

Traverse the depths protectively

O hear us when we pray, and keep

them safe from peril in the deep.

**Verse 4:Female Sailors**

O God, protect the women who,

in service, faith in Thee renew;

O guide devoted hands of skill

And bless their work within Thy will;

Inspire their lives that they may be

Examples fair on land and sea.

**Verse 5: United States Marines**

Eternal Father, grant, we pray

To all Marines, both night and day

The courage, honor, strength, and skill

Their land to serve, Thy law fulfill

Be Thou the shield forevermore

From every peril to the Corps.

A LITANY FROM THE BOOK OF WORSHIP FOR UNITED STATES FORCES

Leader: Let us give thanks to God for the land of our birth with all its chartered liberties. For all the wonder of our country's story:

**People: We give You thanks, O God.**

Leader: For leaders in nation and state, and for those who in days past and in these present times have labored for the commonwealth:

**People: We give You thanks, O God.**

Leader: For those who in all times and places have been true and brave, and in the worlds common ways have lived upright lives and ministered to their fellows:

**People: We give You thanks, O God.**

Leader: For those who served their country in its hour of need, and especially for those who gave even their lives in that service:

**People: We give You thanks, O God.**

Leader: O almighty God and most merciful Father, as we remember these your servants, remembering with gratitude their courage and strength, we hold before you those who mourn them. Look upon your bereaved servants with your mercy. As this day brings them memories of those they have lost awhile, may it also bring your consolation and the assurance that their loved ones are alive now and forever in your living presence.

 *(moment of silence)*

Amen.

© (*The Armed Forces Chaplains' Board, 1974)*

A LITANY FOR TWO VOICES

LEFT: Remember with clear eyes the horrific cost of war.

**RIGHT: Remember with deep sorrow those who killed and were killed.**

LEFT: Remember with grief the blood-stained battlefields.

**RIGHT: Remember with tears the rending of people from their homes.**

LEFT: Remember with compassion the bereaved and the wounded.

**RIGHT: Remember with reverence those who risked their lives for peace.**

LEFT: Remember with tenderness the children’s longing for freedom.

**RIGHT: Remember with gratefulness all who forgave their enemies.**

LEFT: Remember with hope that the kingdom is planted with small seeds.

**RIGHT: Remember with confidence that faith, hope and love abide.**

***All: Remember with joy that our Saviour is the Prince of Peace.***