

CLOSING HYMN - God Bless America

God Bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night with the light from above,
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the ocean, white with foam,
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home.

CLOSING PRAYER – Scout Law

Spoken together

When facing deceit and dishonesty, help us to be *trustworthy*.
If we see hypocrisy and selfishness, help us to be *loyal*.
Where the disregard of others is so common, help us to be *helpful*.
When we find people in despair, let us be *friendly*.

In an atmosphere of ill manner, help us to be *courteous*.
Where some measure adulthood in coarseness, help us to be *kind*.
Though lawlessness and rule-bending are common, help us be *obedient*.
While others grumble and complain, help us to be *cheerful*.

In a world blighted by waste and extravagance, help us to be *thrifty*.
When confronted with danger or temptation, help us to be *brave*.
As we see filth and pollution everywhere, help us to be *clean*.
While surrounded by impiety and moral decay, help us to be *reverent*.

Digital copies of this program, today's message,
and related instructional materials can be found at

www.ScoutingForGod.org

Scouts' Own Service

Interfaith Worship Service *in honor of Veterans and their loved ones*

**As we express our gratitude,
we must never forget that
the highest appreciation is not to utter words,
but to live by them.
-- John F. Kennedy**

CALL TO WORSHIP

AN ACT OF FRIENDSHIP

Please exchange an act of friendship with the people immediately surrounding you.

OPENING SONG – America

My country 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died.
Land of the pilgrim's pride.
From every mountainside let freedom ring

Our father's God, to Thee,
Author of liberty, to Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might, great God, our king.

Responsive Reading – Scout Oath

Everyone will read the facets of the Scout Oath – a Chaplains Aide will read the prayer

On My Honor, I Will Do My Best ...

Creator, please keep us always mindful that our honor is a possession to be cherished as dearly as life itself. Endow us with firmness of purpose and uncommon integrity that will enable us to fulfill those responsibilities with which we are charged. Make us ever conscious of the trust others have placed in us as Scouts.

To Do My Duty to God ...

Creator of the universe, how often we forget the true source of life's joys and pleasures? How often, too, have we failed to remember the origin of the inward strength that has enabled us to be aware of Your continual presence in our daily lives? Help us to understand the rewards of service.

And My Country ...

We thank our Creator for the privilege of living in the United States of America. Keep foremost in our minds that the freedoms that we enjoy were earned through the unselfish sacrifices of those who have gone before us. As the strength of a country is in her people, let us never avoid our responsibility to maintain this nation as a beacon of hope and freedom to all mankind.

And to Obey the Scout Law ...

Please accept the heartfelt thanks of us Scouts and Scouters for men of vision and leadership of those that came before us. Keep always before us the ideals that they set forth, and grant us the courage to live by them when others may not. Allow us never to forget that our actions may be the examples others choose to follow.

To Help Other People at All Times ...

Grant us forgiveness when we place the wants in our lives above the necessities of others. Please teach us to recognize and understand the problems facing others and prepare us for each day's task of helping all those in need.

To Keep Myself Physically Strong, Mentally Awake, and Morally Straight.

God of our ancestors, let us never forget that our bodies and minds are but temporary gifts from You. Help us to preserve, strengthen, and use them for the betterment of ourselves, our homes, and our country.

MESSAGE

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter; so help me God.

It is the Soldier – Charles M. Province

It is the Soldier, not the minister
... who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the Soldier, not the reporter
... who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet
... who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer
... who has given us freedom to protest.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
... who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the Soldier, not the politician
... who has given us the right to vote.

It is the Soldier
Who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
Whose coffin is draped by the flag,
and Who allows the protester to burn the flag.

PERSONAL PRAYERS OF REFLECTION

Lord Baden-Powell wrote: *“First love and serve God, second love and serve your neighbor. In doing your duty to God, always be grateful to Him. Whenever you enjoy a pleasure or a good game, or succeed in doing a good thing, thank Him for it, if only a word or two.”*

Let us pause for a time of silent, personal meditation.