The background of the entire page is a dense, repeating pattern of blue brushstrokes. These strokes are vertical and slightly irregular, creating a textured, hand-painted appearance. The colors range from a light sky blue to a deeper, more saturated blue.

**PRAYERS**  
*FOR*  
**MEMORIAL DAY**

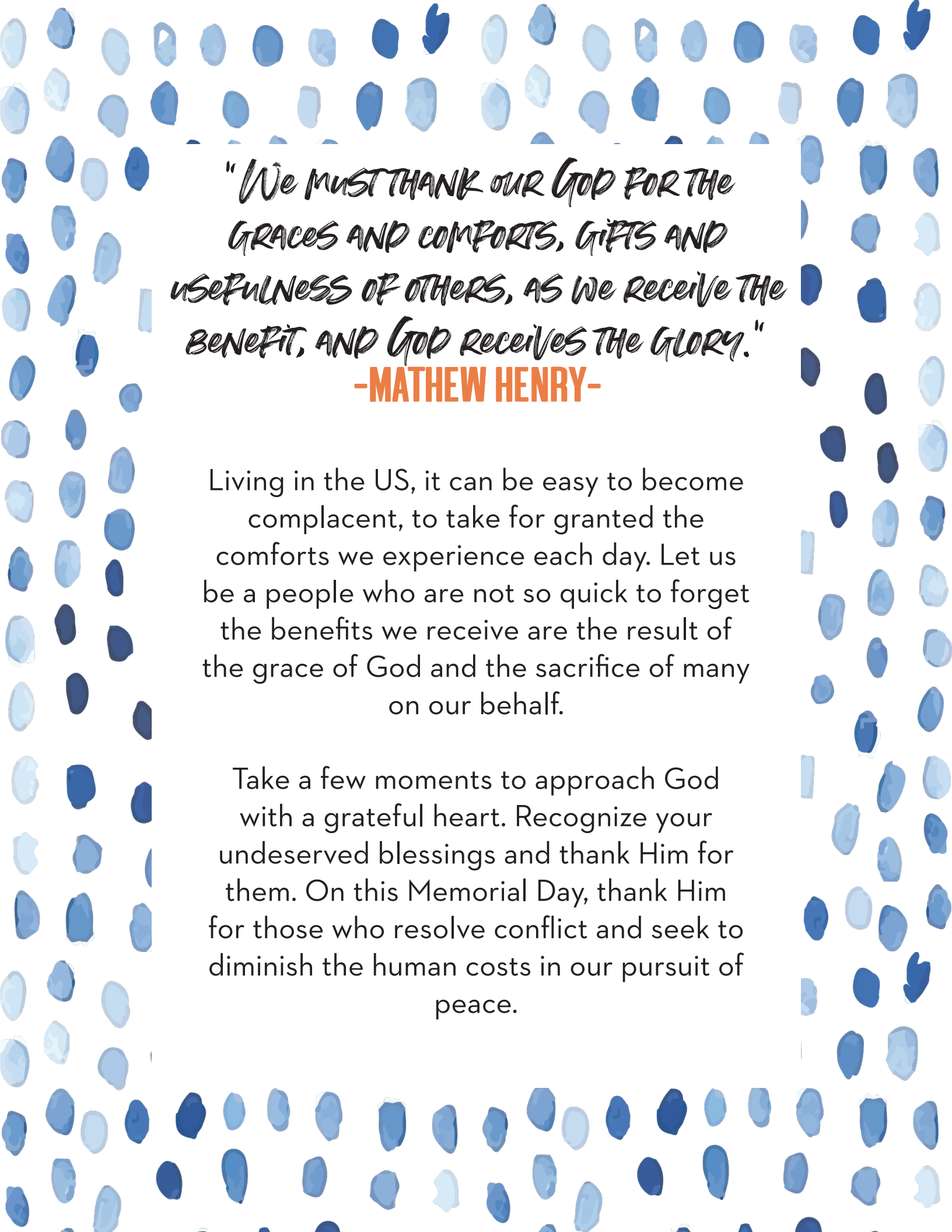


*GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN  
THIS, THAT SOMEONE LAY DOWN HIS  
LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.*

**JOHN 14:13**

On this Memorial Day, we take a pause to remember and honor those who have laid down their lives...not simply for their friends but for people they may never meet. It is a sacrifice few of us can even comprehend.

Take a few moments of silence here to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made by those who have fought bravely for our freedom and and the freedom of others around the world.

The background of the entire page is a pattern of blue watercolor spots in various shades and sizes, scattered across a white background. The spots are more densely packed in some areas and more sparse in others, creating a textured, artistic feel.

*"We must thank our God for the  
graces and comforts, gifts and  
usefulness of others, as we receive the  
benefit, and God receives the glory."*

**-MATHEW HENRY-**

Living in the US, it can be easy to become complacent, to take for granted the comforts we experience each day. Let us be a people who are not so quick to forget the benefits we receive are the result of the grace of God and the sacrifice of many on our behalf.

Take a few moments to approach God with a grateful heart. Recognize your undeserved blessings and thank Him for them. On this Memorial Day, thank Him for those who resolve conflict and seek to diminish the human costs in our pursuit of peace.

*Rejoice with those who rejoice,  
Mourn with those who mourn.*  
**-ROMANS 12:15-**

While the sacrifice made by our service men and women may be incomprehensible to most of us, it is the reality that so many families live with. Take a few moments to pray for families who have lost loved ones.

Jesus, while we are so thankful for the bravery and commitment from these men and women, we lament that the sacrifice needed to be made. We know all too well that this world is not as you intended it to be. We mourn with those who have lost those that are precious to them. May your arms of comfort surround them. May your grace go before them and pave the way as they step into the new normal of their lives. Give them your peace which goes beyond our understanding.

*AMEN*





# A PRAYER FOR PEACE

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom  
no sword is drawn but the sword of  
righteousness, and no strength known but  
the strength of love: so mightily spread  
abroad your Spirit that all people may be  
gathered under the banner of the Prince of  
Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be  
dominion and glory, now and for ever.

O God, the Father of all, whose Son  
commanded us to love our enemies: lead  
them and us from prejudice to truth:  
deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and  
revenge; and in your good time enable us  
all to stand reconciled before you, through  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*AMEN*



*I THANK MY GOD EVERY TIME I  
REMEMBER YOU.*  
**-PHILIPPIANS 1:3-**

Let's also take a minute to give thanks and pray for all those who have also sacrificed much for the sake of others. There are many in our community who put their lives in danger each day to keep us safe, healthy, and fed. Let's give thanks and pray for our law enforcement, first responders, and fire departments. Let's also pray for our medical professionals, as well as grocery and agricultural workers who have continued to keep showing up throughout a pandemic. Let us also not forget those who stood up for justice despite oppression and personal cost. Take a few minutes and ask the Lord to bring to your mind someone who has made sacrifices for others and pray for them by name.



# A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, don't let our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart [and especially the hearts of the people of this land], that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*AMEN*

*WE HAVE BEEN MADE HOLY THROUGH  
THE SACRIFICE OF THE BODY OF JESUS  
CHRIST ONCE FOR ALL.*

**-HEBREWS 10:10-**

While this day is a day in our country to reflect on the sacrifice of our brave service men and women, we would be remiss to not also spend some time in gratitude for the ultimate sacrifice of our savior.

Jesus laid down his life for you, paving the way for you to not only live with him forever in eternity, but to live into his Kingdom here on earth. It is through this sacrifice that you have been forgiven, made whole, rescued from the life you were living...a life bound for destruction. However, in his profound mercy he grabbed you and set you on a path that leads to living FULLY ALIVE in him!

Before you go, spend a few minutes with Jesus. thanking him for his sacrifice for you.