

## OUR SHIP'S PRAYER

Originally Invoked at the Commissioning of  
USS TICONDEROGA (CV 14) 8 May 1944

*Most High and Mighty Ruler of the Universe,  
By Whom our Nation hath been established  
In freedom and preserved in union;  
We thank Thee for our heritage which is rich  
In heroic examples of self- sacrifice  
In the interest of freedom and justice.  
We thank Thee too, that Thou hast not withheld from us  
The opportunity to participate  
In the Heroism of our fathers.  
Mindful of our past and present, we pray for the ship  
Oh God bless this ship;  
May she be in Thy hands, an avenger to all  
Who have disturbed the peace of the world.  
May she strike terror into the hearts of those  
Who plan slavery for fellow men.*

*Father in Heaven, we invoke thy Blessing upon this ship,  
Make her the Champion of all those who are crushed  
By tyranny and despotism.  
May she have the greater glory of being an instrument in  
Thy hands for creating the Kingdom of God upon earth.  
Most merciful god bless this ship.  
Bless him who is Captain and all who have authority  
Under him. That working together we may please  
Him to who belongeth all authority.  
As our home, may this ship be a place where each forgets  
Himself in the interest of the common good. May each  
One follow the example of Him who lived to serve.  
May the lord bless us and keep us; May the Lord  
Make his face to shine upon us and be gracious  
Unto us, and bring us to righteous and enduring peace.  
Amen*

*The Reverend Reuben E. Gilmore*