



# Ministering to Returning Soldiers and Veterans

## Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses Spirit Warrior, Central Maine — \$95,000

2021–2023 Biennium  
Mission Goal:  
**\$2,150,000**  
Mission Grant #2  
**\$95,000**

*Sing for joy, O heavens,  
and exult, O earth;  
break forth,  
O mountains,  
into singing!  
For the LORD has  
comforted his people  
and will have  
compassion  
on his afflicted  
(Isaiah 49:13).  
  
The LORD is near  
to the brokenhearted  
and saves the  
crushed in spirit  
(Psalm 34:18).*

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, Father, Son, + and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn: “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” (LSB 347) verses 1–2

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).

Response: Heavenly Father, we know that You are eager to provide comfort to all who call upon Your name. We pray that Your Word will chase away all fears.

Leader: *The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit (Psalm 34:18). Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD (Jeremiah 17:7). Jesus said: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28–30).*

Response: Precious Lord Jesus, we thank You for the work of Deaconess Kim Slininger and all who provide Your love and care to the veterans/service members in the Spirit Warrior program. Your Word tells us of Your merciful and loving arms encircling all who are in need of Your comfort. We pray that these horses help the veterans/service members to seek Your love, peace, and grace. May their hearts be open to hear of Jesus’ lifesaving sacrifice.

Leader: Lord and creator of all, You created the majestic horses to assist in battle. The Spirit Warrior name came from the description of the horse in the book of Job:

*(continued on page 2)*

Learn more about this mission grant at [lwml.org/mission-grants](http://lwml.org/mission-grants)





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*(continued from page 1)*

*“Do you give the horse his might? Do you clothe his neck with a mane?*

*Do you make him leap like the locust? His majestic snorting is terrifying.*

*He paws in the valley and exults in his strength; he goes out to meet the weapons.*

*He laughs at fear and is not dismayed; he does not turn back from the sword.*

*Upon him rattle the quiver, the flashing spear, and the javelin.*

*With fierceness and rage he swallows the ground;*

*he cannot stand still at the sound of the trumpet.*

*When the trumpet sounds, he says ‘Aha!’*

*He smells the battle from afar, the thunder of the captains, and the shouting*

*(Job 39:19–25).*

Response: Precious Lord, how fitting it is that You created these majestic horses to assist in providing Your comfort to those men and women who have been crushed in spirit, weary and suffering from military duties. We ask Your blessings on the horses, too, as they provide a vehicle for therapy treatment to those in the program who have experienced trauma and other mental health issues. We pray these horses help the veterans/service members seek Your love, peace, and grace. May they also assist in providing Your comfort and joy!

Leader: *Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth,*

*O mountains, into singing!*

*For the LORD has comforted his people and*

*will have compassion on his afflicted (Isaiah 49:13).*

All: All our petitions, Lord, we bring before You, in the name of our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

Closing

Hymn: “In Christ Alone” by Stuart Townend, verses 1 & 4

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