

# **Ever Faithful to the Call**

*A Soldier's Hymn*

by  
Tom Lough

# From the Composer

“Ever Faithful to the Call” was designed to honor the service of our US Army soldiers and to provide a prayer for them in the form of a musical tribute.

This hymn is the result of a wide collaborative effort. Thanks to all who assisted with its development, including active duty military chaplains, retired chaplains, military veterans of many eras, Blue Star and Gold Star families, ecclesiastical endorsers, church music professionals, friends, and family.

Special thanks to the Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist military chaplains who provided feedback.

This PDF file was designed to make it as easy as possible to share this music widely. In the pages that follow, versions of the hymn appear in three different keys. Select the version that fits best with the range of the singers.

**Verses 1 through 4 make up the hymn.** As an option, verse 5 can be sung separately at the end of a service or event as a benediction or concluding musical event.

In the supplemental section are pages with a descant arrangement for the last verse in three different keys as well as words for three additional verses.

To make a copymaster of any page, just select it and print it out. Then make as many photocopies as needed.

I hope this music will provide inspiration and be a blessing to those who sing it and for those who hear it. **To multiply these blessings, please feel free to post on YouTube a video of your choir or congregation singing the hymn.**

I also hope that it will become a traditional selection for use with Veterans Day services and observances, as well as for other related events.

Blessings,  
Tom Lough  
[www.everfaithfultothecall.com](http://www.everfaithfultothecall.com)

Note: The license included with these hymn versions contains permission for nonprofit uses, such as in worship services and in public events that are free of charge.

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# Ever Faithful to the Call

Tom Lough  
everfaithfultothecall.com

1. Hold them safe, O Lord, we pray,  
 2. When their work comes to an end,  
 3. Touch our veterans, Lord, we pray.  
 4. Lord, we thank You grate - ful - ly

(Benediction) 5. Grant us peace, O Lord, we pray,  
 All our soldiers in harm's way,  
 Bring them home to us a - gain,  
 Keep their minds at peace each day,  
 For the ones who keep us free,  
 As we go upon our way  
 Keep - ing peace both night and day,  
 As our praise and prayers a - scend,  
 So their hearts can firmly stay  
 May they always boldly be  
 So that we may always stay  
 Ever - faithful to the Call.

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The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in four columns, with the first two columns of each system containing four numbered verses. The piano accompaniment includes various chords such as A, E, F#m, D, E sus, C#, B/D, E, B, C#, F#m, D/F#, E/G#, D6, and A.

1. Hold them safe, O Lord, we pray,  
2. When their work comes to an end,  
3. Touch our vet - 'rans, Lord, we pray.  
4. Lord, we thank You grate - ful - ly

(Benediction) 5. Grant us peace, O Lord, we pray,  
All our sold - iers in harm's way,  
Bring them home to us a - gain,  
Keep their minds at peace each day,  
For the ones who keep us free,  
As we go u - pon our way

Keep - ing peace both night and day,  
As our praise and prayers a - scend,  
So their hearts can firm - ly stay  
May they al - ways bold - ly be  
So that we may al - ways stay

E - ver faith - ful to the Call.

# Ever Faithful to the Call

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Chords: G, D, Em, C, D sus, D, G, Em, B, Em, A/C#, D, A, D, B, Em, D, G, C/E, D/F#, G, Em, C6, D, G

Lyrics:

1. Hold them safe, O Lord, we pray,  
 2. When their work comes to an end,  
 3. Touch our veterans, Lord, we pray.  
 4. Lord, we thank You grate - ful - ly  
 (Benediction) 5. Grant us peace, O Lord, we pray,  
 All our soldiers in harm's way,  
 Bring them home to us a - gain,  
 Keep their minds at peace each day,  
 For the ones who keep us free,  
 As we go upon our way  
 Keep - ing peace both night and day,  
 As our praise and prayers a - scend,  
 So their hearts can firmly stay  
 May they always boldly be  
 So that we may always stay  
 Ever - faithful to the Call.

# **Ever Faithful to the Call**

## **Supplemental Section**

Descants for Last Verse

Words for Additional Verses

# Ever Faithful to the Call

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Congregation and choir

Lord, we thank You grate - ful - ly

Chords: B<sup>b</sup>, F, Gm, E<sup>b</sup>, F sus, F, B<sup>b</sup>

For the ones who keep us free,

Chords: Gm, D, Gm, C/E, F, C, F

May they al - ways bold - ly be

Chords: D, Gm, F, B<sup>b</sup>

E - ver faith - ful to the Call.

Chords: E<sup>b</sup>/G, F/A, B<sup>b</sup>, Gm, E<sup>b</sup>6, F, Gm

Choir only

E - ver faith - ful to the Call.

Chords: Cm, B<sup>b</sup>/D, B<sup>b</sup>/F, Gm, E<sup>b</sup>6, F, B<sup>b</sup>

# Ever Faithful to the Call

Congregation and choir

Tom Lough

First system of musical notation for Congregation and choir. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "A E F#m D E sus E A Lord, we thank You grate - ful - ly".

Second system of musical notation for Congregation and choir. The lyrics are: "F#m C# F#m B/D# E B E For the ones who keep us free,".

Third system of musical notation for Congregation and choir. The lyrics are: "C# F#m E A May they al - ways bold - ly be".

Fourth system of musical notation for Congregation and choir. The lyrics are: "D/F# E/G# A F#m D6 E F#m E - ver faith - ful to the Call.".

Choir only

Musical notation for the choir only part. The lyrics are: "Bm A/C# A/E F#m D6 E A E - ver faith - ful to the Call.".

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THE CALL



# Ever Faithful to the Call

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Congregation and choir

Lord, we thank You grate - ful - ly

For the ones who keep us free,

May they al - ways bold - ly be

E - ver faith - ful to the Call.

Choir only

E - ver faith - ful to the Call.

## **Additional verses for optional use**

The following may be inserted  
between verse 1 and verse 2 of the  
arrangements on the preceding pages.

Bless our Army now on guard,  
Hatred blocked and terror barred,  
Helping us remain unscarred,  
Ever faithful to the Call.

If they must advance to fight  
Side by side in darkest night,  
Lord, protect them with Your might,  
Ever faithful to the Call.

Heal our wounded with Your hand.  
Ease their pain by Your command.  
Give them hope so they can stand  
Ever faithful to the Call.

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Additional option: For a more universal  
approach, “those defending” may be  
substituted for “all our soldiers” in the  
second line of verse 1.