



## **A MEMORIAL SERVICE OF HOPE AND REMEMBRANCE**

*The Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church of Clearwater in Florida*

*Daniel P. McGeachy Memorial Garden*

*September 11, 2021 – Nine o'clock in the Morning*

### **CARILLON TOLL**

*A time of silence will be observed at 9:04 a.m.*

### **VOLUNTARY**

*String Quartet No. 1, Op. 11 – Adagio*  
Aaron Hilsinger, violin i; Vasile Danue Muresan, violin ii;  
Kaitlin Springer, viola; Laura Smith, cello

Samuel Barber

### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled  
and do not let them be afraid. – John 14:27

As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear God. – Psalm 103:13

As a mother comforts her child so I will comfort you,  
says the Lord. – Isaiah 66:13

Do not fear, for I am with you,  
do not be afraid, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you,  
I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand. – Isaiah 41:10

God is our refuge and strength,  
a help always near in times of great trouble.  
That's why we won't be afraid when the world falls apart,  
when the mountains crumble into the center of the sea,  
when its waters roar and rage,  
when the mountains shake because of its surging waves.  
God is bringing wars to an end in every corner of the world,  
breaking the bow and shattering the spear,  
burning chariots with fire.  
That's enough! Now know that I am God!  
I am exalted among all nations; I am exalted throughout the world!  
The Lord of heavenly forces is with us!  
The God of Jacob is our place of safety. – Psalm 46:1-3; 9-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**



## HYMN

*O God, Our Hearts Were Shattered*

## PASSION CHORALE



1 O God, our hearts were shat - tered on  
 2 We heard of those who per - ished— of  
 3 Some sought to an - swer ter - ror the  
 4 God, give us faith and wis - dom to



that hor - ren - dous day; we heard the news and  
 he - roes' sac - ri - fice. We paused a - gain to  
 on - ly way they knew— with an - ger t'ward the  
 be your heal - ing hands; give o - pen minds that



gath - ered to grieve and then to pray. We  
 cher - ish the gifts of love and life. We  
 stran - ger and calls for ven - geance, too. Yet  
 lis - ten to truth from all your lands. Give



cried to you and won - dered, "where  
 wor - ried for the fu - ture; we  
 this is not your an - swer, nor  
 strength to work for jus - tice; grant



did the vi - olence start?" The world as we had  
 hugged our loved ones then. We cried, "can peace be  
 what you would cre - ate. May we live t'ward a  
 love that casts out fear. The peace and not de -



known it had just been torn a - part.  
 found here?" "We can't let ter - ror win!"  
 fu - ture where love will con - quer hate.  
 struc - tion will be the vic - tor here.

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## PRAYERS OF REMEMBRANCE, LAMENT, COMFORT AND HOPE

### REMEMBRANCE

God of the years, we call to you this day when the memories of 9/11 weigh so heavily upon our hearts. We recall with horror and renewed shock that day when airplanes flew into buildings and fields and people perished. We remember our fear and anger, our confusion, and sense of threat.

**We remember all that was lost to us that day: our sense of security, our peace, our innocence, our belief that we were safely beyond such random violence and death. Most of all we remember those who died in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania, their lives of promise extinguished in hatred. We remember, too, that it was not only Americans who died that day; families from 61 nations suddenly and brutally lost their loved ones. On that day, Americans were joined with sisters and brothers in a global experience of terror. On this day of remembrance, we lift to you not only our own broken hearts but also the hearts of those families to whom we are forever linked. Amen.**

### A SIGN OF REMEMBRANCE

Let us place a flower and remember those we lost, remember the families whose lives were never the same, remember the first responders, the unknown heroes who ran toward the danger to help strangers, those whose names never made the news, but whose lives were forever and irrevocably changed; let us remember who we have been altered by this experience, individually and communally.

*Make me a channel of your peace.*

*Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.*

*Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,*

*and where there's doubt, true faith in you. – Prayer of Saint Francis*

Michelle Thomas, soprano soloist  
Cathedral Church of Saint Peter of Saint Petersburg in Florida

### LAMENT

God of consolation, twenty years of war, suffering and death are the legacy of that terrible day. We lament the more than 120,000 lives that have been lost: civilian children, women and men, American and Afghani military personnel, and aid workers. We lament the families fractured and torn apart. We lament for those who feel helpless, hopeless, abandoned, and trapped within their own country. We lament the devastation that has come and the fears of what might be.

**Out of the depths we cry to you, O God. We grieve; we weep. Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our supplications! We wrestle with regret for 20 years of violence, destruction of civilian communities and the desperate fear of those trying to escape the land of their birth. May we return to your ways, O God, the ways of righteousness, mercy and peace. With you, there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem. For this we yearn, for this we pray, and toward this end we rededicate ourselves as children of a loving God. Amen.**

#### A SIGN OF LAMENT

Let us place a flower in recognition of our common lament and the trust we have in God to enter our places of darkness and pain and to bring forth light and healing in our lives.

*Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy. – Prayer of Saint Francis*

#### COMFORT

God of mercy, even in our worst moments your loving kindness surrounds us. In those tragic days two decades ago, our confident faith that you were with us enabled us to go on. We give you thanks for the ways in which you comforted us in those grim days through a deepened sense of community.

We trace the movement of your grace through those among us who risked their lives to save others. We are comforted by those who offered kindness and succor and shelter to persons in distress, and by those who would not let hatred overcome love. For those whose witness to a deeper wisdom and faith comforted us, we give you thanks.

**For the gentle power and presence of your Spirit, for our neighbors, friends, and strangers who brought to our troubled lives solace and clarity of purpose, we give thanks. For the calm and reassuring voices of the wise who gave us comfort and strength, we offer words of thanksgiving.**



## A SIGN OF COMFORT

Let us place a flower in tribute to those persons and also those places which gave us comfort and for the words and deeds that restored to us peace.

*O, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.* – Prayer of Saint Francis

## HOPE

O God, you have taught us that faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. We live by hope in the future you hold for us and the whole world. Grant us, we pray, hope for our children and our children's children that they may not know or inflict the horror and terror we recall this day. Bolster our hope when it flags and teach us to strive in all that we do to realize the hope that is in your Word and witness.

**Jesus, our Lord, in you our hope is boundless. You renew hope in us through the promise of a future in which none shall be afraid or lift up sword against a neighbor. We pray in hope for the peace of the world among peoples and nations, religions and cultures, until we become a beloved community reconciled to one another.**

## A SIGN OF HOPE

Let us place a flower and give voice to our hopes for our lives and the lives of all God's children around the world.

*Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.* – Prayer of Saint Francis

May these flowers represent for us the preciousness of our shared memories, the beauty of comfort and strength, and the sweetness of our hope. In memory, comfort and hope God abides now and forever and unto ages of ages. **Amen.**

WITNESS

Nancy King-Williams  
United States Navy Captain, retired

PRAYER

**God of all creation, our hearts are broken over the destruction and loss we remember this day. And we acknowledge, O Lord, that on that day of human carnage, yours was the first heart to break. In our remembering, may we stand with those who mourn and those who cannot stop mourning. Through remembering, may we find new comfort in your care. In our remembering, may we be drawn to a new hope for the whole world, and may we gain for ourselves a measure of your peace.**

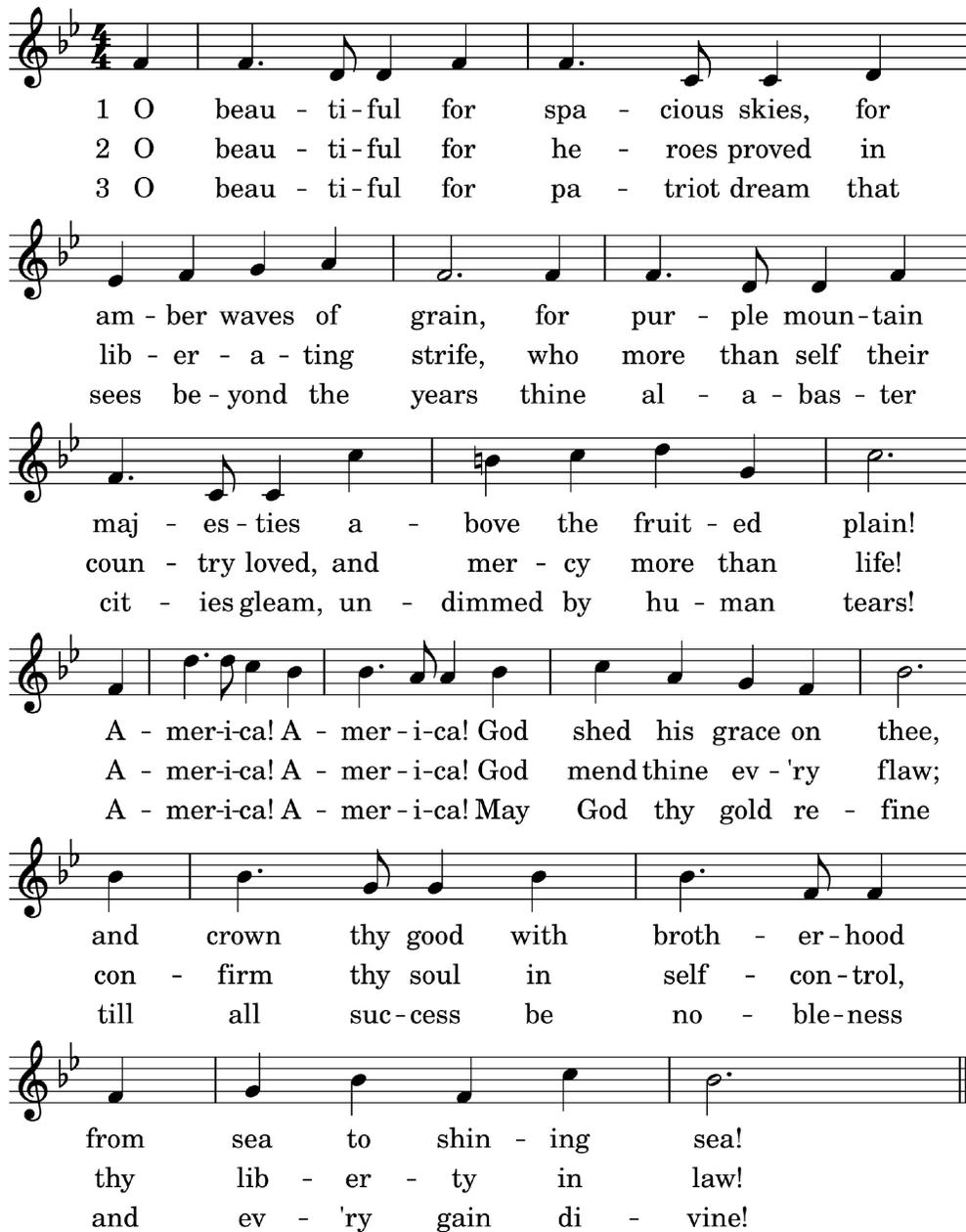
**You can turn the shadow of night into the bright promise of a new day, empower us to shape a world marked by ways of life that lead to justice and peace for all peoples. We pray at last that you would cultivate such love in us that we may reach out in compassion to all those who are still wounded by the events of that day; and in seeking to heal others, may we experience a love that makes us whole. In your Holy Name we pray, Amen.**



## HYMN

*O Beautiful for Spacious Skies*

## MATERNA



1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for  
2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in  
3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that

am - ber waves of grain, for pur - ple moun - tain  
lib - er - a - ting strife, who more than self their  
sees be - yond the years thine al - a - bas - ter

maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!  
coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!  
cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw;  
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood  
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol,  
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness

from sea to shin - ing sea!  
thy lib - er - ty in law!  
and ev - 'ry gain di - vine!

## BLESSING

Assisting in the leadership of this public memorial service are:  
Dr. Dawn M. Haeger and Rev. Robert Scott,  
pastors of Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church.

*Resources created by the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. have been modified for this occasion.*