

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
September 11, 2001**

## OPENING HYMN

### GREETING

Presider: ✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
All: Amen.

Presider: May the God of all consolation be with you.  
All: And with your spirit.

### INTRODUCTION

Presider: On September 11, 2001, the United States was senselessly attacked by terrorists. Thousands perished in the World Trade Center, in the Pentagon, and in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The victims were Americans; the victims were citizens of over fifty other countries.

We pause today to remember those who have died. We ask God to be merciful to them and to give them eternal rest. And we gather as a nation, still mourning so great a loss of life, still living under the possibility of more evil deeds, still at war with terrorist actions. We gather as a nation “under God,” and with full trust in his love, compassion, and justice.

Let us call to mind all those who died on September 11, 2001.

### AN ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Reader:

- ★ For the passengers on American Flight 11 and United Flight 175 which were flown into the World Trade Center.
- ★ For all the workers who perished in the World Trade Center and neighboring buildings.
- ★ For the firefighters, police, and rescue workers who died trying to save others.
- ★ For the crew and passengers on American Airlines Flight 77 which was flown into the Pentagon.
- ★ For the military personnel and civilians who were killed and injured at the Pentagon.
- ★ For the heroic crew and passengers on United Flight 93 which crashed into the field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.
- ★ For all military personnel who have died in the battle against terrorism.
- ★ For all those who have died as the result of terrorist activity and for those who mourn them.

## OPENING PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, merciful and strong,  
who crush wars and cast down the proud,  
be pleased to banish violence swiftly from our midst  
and to wipe away all tears,  
so that we may all truly deserve to be called your children.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
god, for ever and ever

All: Amen.

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## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Micah 4:1-4

#### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah

In days to come, the mount of the Lord's house  
Shall be established higher than the mountains.  
It shall rise above the hills, and peoples shall stream to it.  
Many nations shall come and say:  
"Come, let us climb the mount of the Lord,  
In the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us  
in his ways, that we may walk in his paths."  
For from Zion shall go forth instructions,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between many peoples and  
impose terms on strong and distant nations.  
They shall beat their swords into plowshares  
and their spears into pruning hooks.  
One nation shall not raise the sword against another,  
nor shall they train for war again.  
Every man shall sit under his own vine  
or under his own fig tree, undisturbed,  
for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken

### The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 85:9ab, 10-14**

R: The Lord speaks of peace to his people

I will hear what God proclaims; the Lord for he proclaims peace.  
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land.

R: The Lord speaks of peace to his people

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss.  
Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven

R: The Lord speaks of peace to his people

The Lord himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase.  
Justice shall walk before him, and salvation, along the way of his steps

R: The Lord speaks of peace to his people

**Second Reading**

**Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2**

**A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians**

Brothers and Sisters:

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,  
with which you were sealed for the day of redemption.  
All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting and reviling  
must be removed from you, along with all malice.  
And be kind to one another, compassionate,  
forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ.  
Be imitators of God, as beloved children,  
and live in love, as Christ loved us  
and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God  
for a fragrant aroma.

**The Word of the Lord**

**Gospel Acclamation****John 13:34**

I give you a new commandment: Love one another as I have loved you

**Gospel****John 15: 9-12****A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to his disciples:

“As the Father has loved me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father’s commandments  
and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy might be in you  
and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.”

**The Gospel of the Lord****HOMILY**

## Universal Prayer

Celebrant: Our Lord is kind and merciful.

Confident in his love, let us turn to him with our petitions.

Response: Lord Hear Our Prayer

For the Church throughout the world, especially where her members are persecuted, that the gift of faith will give them peace, we pray to the Lord.

For the President, Congress, and for all national leaders, that their judgments be guided by compassion and justice, we pray to the Lord.

For all who protect us, especially for our military, police, and firefighters, we pray to the Lord

For peace throughout the world and for an end to terrorist attacks, we pray to the Lord.

For all who are victims of violence and oppression, for spouses who have been widowed, for children who have been orphaned, and for all who have been traumatized, we pray to the Lord.

For the people of New York City, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania, who live with the daily reminder and effects of evil deeds, that they may find peace, we pray to the Lord

For all who lost loved ones on September 11, 2001, may the darkness and doubt which comes from grief, be enlightened by faith and friendship, we pray to the Lord.

Concluding Prayer:

Lord God,

Your own Son was delivered into the hands of the wicked, yet he prayed for his persecutors and overcame hatred with the Blood of the Cross. Relieve the suffering of those harmed by violence. grant them peace and renewed faith in your protection and care. Protect us all from violence, keep us safe from the weapons of hate, and restore us to tranquility and peace.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Offertory Hymn**

### **Prayer over the Offerings**

Presider: Let us pray.

Be mindful Lord that your Son. Who himself is peace,  
has destroyed our hatreds by his Blood;  
Look in mercy on our evil deeds and grant that to those  
whom you love this sacrifice may restore peace and tranquility.  
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **Communion Hymn**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Presider; Let us pray.

Grant to us O Lord, that nourished with the delights  
of the one bread that fortifies the human heart,  
we may successfully overcome the fury of war  
and resolutely keep your law of love and justice.  
Through Christ our Lord

All; Amen

### **Final Blessing and Dismissal**

### **Recessional Hymn**