

**PRAYERS FOR THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE OF
THE TRAGEDY OF SEPTEMBER 11TH 2001
BEAVER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

September 12, 2021

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE:

All: God of smoke by day and fire by night, we gather to worship even as we continue to respond and recover from the events of September 11, 2001, and its aftermath. We remember how we felt as we witnessed those attacks. We know how the mere mention of that date affects us still. We grieve the loss of life, the families that have been torn apart, the façade of national security cracked, and the wars which continue in your global community. Your word tells us that we go on “not by might, nor by power, but by your Spirit.” Strengthen us for the challenges of justice, forgiveness and community building; challenge us when we veer off course, guide our feet as you lead us on the journey into abundant life for all. We pray in the name of Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LITANY FOR THOSE LOST

Leader: We gather on this day and remember 9/11.

People: Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Leader: We remember all of the many innocent lives lost and their families who grieve their loss still.

People: And Jesus said: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Leader: We remember acts of courage and compassion by so many.

People: No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

Leader: We gather to remember but we also gather in hope, for as Jesus said:

People: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

All: Together we will sing God’s praise!

CLOSING PRAYER

All: O God of all the nations, we gather on this day of remembrance confessing that as your children, the events of twenty years ago have not made us much wiser or enhanced our willingness to love one another without condition. Walls still divide, fear still separates, and strangers seem stranger than ever. Patient and loving God, look with mercy on your children gathered here today. Nudge us along the narrow way of Jesus, that we might be healed and become healers and helpers and leaven on this good earth you have given us to steward. Amen.