

**Worship Resources for the  
Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 Attacks**

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## **MUSIC RESOURCES**

### **Suggested Hymns for the Day – Presbyterian Hymnal:**

When Morning Gilds the Skies 487  
O God, Our Help in Ages Past 210  
God Of Our Life 275  
A Mighty Fortress (alternative version) 259  
Great Is Thy Faithfulness 276  
O God of Every Nation 289  
Comfort, Comfort You My People 3  
Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley 80  
The Lord=s My Shepherd, I'll Not Want 170  
Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us 387  
Lift Every Voice and Sing 563  
For All the Saints 526

### **Additional Suggested Songs of Praise and Comfort:**

You Are Mine (David Haas, 1991, G.I.A. Publications)  
On Eagle's Wings (Michael Joncas, 1979, New Dawn Music)  
The Steadfast Love of the Lord (Edith McNeill, 1974, Celebration Inc.)  
Be Not Afraid (Robert Dufford, S.J., 1975, New Dawn Music)  
You Are My Hiding Place (Michael Ledner, 1981, Maranatha! Music)  
God of the Poor (Graham Kendrick, 1993, Make Way Music/Integrity Music)  
Make Me A Channel of Your Peace (Sebastian Temple, 1967, OCP Publications)  
Rock of My Salvation (Teresa Muller, 1982, Maranatha! Music)  
Come and Fill (The Taize Community, Les Presses de Taize)  
In the Bulb There Is a Flower (Natalie Sleeth, 1986, Hope Publishing Co.)

## **GENERAL WORSHIP RESOURCES**

A number of worship services and resources were collected at the time of the original September 11, 2001 tragedy. These are available on line at:  
[www.pcusa.org/crisis/worship.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/crisis/worship.htm)

## **RESOURCES FOR THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY, SEPTEMBER 8 OR 15, 2002**

(From the *Book of Common Worship*)

## **Gathering**

### *Prayer of Confession 1*

Let us now ask God to cleanse our hearts,  
to redeem our memories,  
and to renew our confidence in the goodness of God.

**Holy God, you see us as we are,  
and know our inmost thoughts.  
We confess that we are unworthy of your gracious care.  
We forget that all life comes from you  
and that to you all life returns.  
We have not always sought or done your will.  
We have not lived as your grateful children,  
nor loved as Christ loved us.  
Apart from you, we are nothing.  
Only your grace can sustain us.**

**Lord, in your mercy, forgive us,  
heal us and make us whole.  
Set us free from our sin,  
and restore to us the joy of your salvation  
now and forever.**

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30

### *Prayer of Confession 2*

**Merciful God,  
in your gracious presence  
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.  
Although Christ is among us as our peace,  
we are a people divided against each other  
in our pursuits of power, control, and security.  
The fears and jealousies that we harbor  
set neighbor against neighbor  
and nation against nation.  
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,  
of intellect and reason,  
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.  
Lord, have mercy upon us;  
heal and forgive us.  
Set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### *Prayer for Illumination*

Eternal God,  
Your love for us is everlasting;  
you turn the shadow of death  
into the brightness of the morning light.  
Help us to turn to you with believing hearts.  
In this solemn hour,  
speak to us of eternal things,  
so that, hearing the promises in scripture,  
we may have hope and be lifted above distress  
into the peace of your presence;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession*

#### *Bidding Prayer*

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.  
**O God, in you I trust.**

Dear people of God,  
God sent Jesus into the world,  
not to condemn the world,  
but that the world through him might be saved,  
that all who believe in him  
might be delivered from the power of sin and death  
and become heirs with him of eternal life.

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth,  
and for those in authority among them:  
for George W. Bush, the President of the United States,  
and the Congress and Supreme Court,  
for the members and representatives of the United Nations,  
for leaders of the nations,  
for all who serve the common good,  
that by God's help  
they may seek justice and truth,  
and live in peace and concord.

#### *Silence.*

Almighty God,  
kindle, we pray, in every heart  
the true love of peace,  
and guide with your wisdom

those who take counsel for the nations of the earth,  
that justice and peace may increase,  
until the earth is filled  
with the knowledge of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for all who suffer  
and are afflicted in body or in soul:  
for the hungry and destitute,  
for those in doubt and despair,  
for the sorrowful and bereaved,  
for prisoners and captives  
and those in mortal danger,  
that God will comfort and relieve them,  
and grant them the knowledge of God's love,  
and stir up in us the will and patience  
to minister to their needs.

*Silence.*

Gracious God,  
the comfort of all who sorrow,  
the strength of all who suffer,  
hear the cry of those in misery and need.  
In their afflictions show them your mercy,  
and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them,  
for the sake of him who suffered for us,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for all who have not received the gospel of Christ:  
for all who have not heard the words of salvation,  
for all who have lost their faith,  
for all whose sin has made them indifferent to Christ,  
for all who actively oppose Christ by word or deed,  
for all who are enemies of the cross of Christ,  
and persecutors of his disciples,  
for all who in the name of God have persecuted others,  
that God will open their hearts to the truth  
and lead them to faith and obedience.

*Silence.*

Merciful God,  
creator of the peoples of the earth and lover of souls,  
have compassion on all who do not know you  
as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ.  
Let your gospel be preached with grace and power  
to those who have not heard it.

Turn the hearts of those who resist it,  
and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray;  
that there may be one flock under one shepherd,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to God,  
and pray for the grace of a holy life,  
that with all who have departed this life  
and have died in the peace of Christ,  
and those whose faith is known to God alone,  
we may be accounted worthy  
to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord,  
and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

*Silence.*

Eternal God of unchanging power and light,  
look with mercy on your whole church.  
Bring to completion your saving work,  
so that the whole world may see  
the fallen lifted up,  
the old made new,  
and all things brought to perfection  
by him through whom all things were made,  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Pastoral Prayer for the Grieving*

God of compassion,  
in sorrow, we receive from you the comfort you alone can give.  
Enable us to see that you are always working for our good.  
You are our dwelling place, O God,  
and underneath us are your everlasting arms.  
Assure us of your love  
that we may be able to accept what we cannot understand.  
Help us to be aware  
not only of the shadows of death,  
but also of the splendor of life eternal.  
Enable us even now to face life with courage;  
give us the grace and the strength to go on,  
knowing that the great cloud of witnesses surrounds us.  
Let the lives of those who have departed in tragedy still inspire us.  
Comfort and uphold us,  
until we share together the light of your glory  
and the peace of your eternal presence;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Eucharist**

### *Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy

to give you thanks and praise,

O God our creator and redeemer.

In your wisdom, you made all things  
and sustain them by your power.

You formed us in your image

to love and serve you,

but we forgot your promises

and abandoned your commandments.

In your mercy, you did not reject us

but still claimed us as your own.

When we were slaves in Egypt you freed us

and led us through the waters of the sea.

You fed us with heavenly food in the wilderness,

and satisfied our thirst from desert springs.

On the holy mountain you gave us your law

to guide us in your way.

Through the waters of Jordan

you led us into the land of your promise,

and you sustained us in times of trial.

You spoke through prophets

calling us to turn from our willful ways

to new obedience and righteousness.

You sent your only Son

to be the way to eternal life.

Therefore we praise you,

joining our voices with choirs of angels

and with all the faithful of every time and place,

who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

## **Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
He took upon himself the weight of our sin  
and carried the burden of our guilt.  
He shared our life in every way,  
and though tempted, was sinless to the end.  
Baptized as your own, he went willingly to his death  
and by your power was raised to new life.  
In his dying and rising,  
you gave birth to your church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.  
Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,  
we take this bread and this wine  
from the gifts you have given us,  
and celebrate with joy  
the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.  
Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
as a living and holy offering of ourselves,  
that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

Gracious God,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break  
and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ,  
and with all who are baptized in his name,  
that we may be one in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

[Intercessions for the church and the world may be included here.]

Help us, O God, to be obedient to your call  
to love all your children,  
to do justice and show mercy,  
and to live in peace with your whole creation.  
Guide us through the desert of life,  
quench our thirst with the living waters,  
satisfy our hunger with the bread of heaven.  
Give us strength to serve you faithfully

until the promised day of resurrection,  
when with the redeemed of all the ages  
we will feast with you at your table in glory.  
Through Christ,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending**

### *Concluding Prayer 1*

Great God, you are one God,  
and you bring together what is scattered  
and mend what is broken.  
Unite us with the many peoples of the earth  
that we may be one family of your children.  
Bind up all our wounds,  
and heal us in spirit,  
that we may be renewed as disciples  
of Jesus Christ, our Master and Savior.

**Amen.**

### *Concluding Prayer 2*

Eternal God,  
you call us to ventures  
of which we cannot see the ending,  
by paths as yet untrodden,  
through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with courage,  
not knowing where we go,  
but only that your hand is leading us  
and your love supporting us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### *Blessing/Benediction*

The Lord bless us,  
defend us from all evil,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

## **SUPPLEMENTAL PRAYERS — APPROPRIATE FOR SERVICE ON THE LORD'S DAY, OR FOR A WEEKDAY OBSERVANCE**

### *Prayer for Peace 1*

Lord Christ,  
at times we are like strangers on this earth,  
taken aback by all the violence, the harsh oppositions.  
Like a gentle breeze, you breathe upon us the Spirit of peace.  
Transfigure the deserts of our doubts,  
and so prepare us to be bearers of reconciliation  
wherever you place us,  
until the day when a hope of peace  
dawns in our world.  
**Amen.**

*Prayer for Peace 2*

Eternal God, our only hope,  
our help in times of trouble:  
show nations ways to work out differences.  
Do not let threats multiply  
or power be used without compassion.  
May your will overrule human willfulness,  
so that people may agree and settle claims peacefully.  
Restrain those who are impulsive,  
lest desire for vengeance overwhelm our common welfare.  
Bring peace to earth, through Jesus Christ,  
the Prince of Peace and Savior of us all.  
**Amen.**

*Prayer for Peace 3*

Strong God of love:  
your Son Jesus told us  
that in this world we will endure tribulation.  
If we should suffer for righteousness' sake,  
save us from self-righteousness.  
Give us grace to pray for enemies,  
and to forgive them,  
even as you have forgiven us;  
through Jesus Christ,  
who was crucified but is risen,  
whom we praise forever.  
**Amen.**

*Prayer of Commemoration of Those Who Have Died*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for all who have fought the good fight,  
finished their race, and kept the faith,  
and for those dear to us and to others  
who are at rest with you. . . .  
Grant us grace to follow them

as they followed Christ.  
Bring us, with them, to those things  
which no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
which you have prepared for those who love you.  
To your name,  
with the church on earth and church in heaven,  
we ascribe all honor and glory,  
forever and ever.

**Amen.**

*Intercession for the Church and the World*

Remember your church. . . .  
Unite it in the truth of your Word  
and empower it in ministry to the world.  
Remember the world of nations. . . .  
By your Spirit renew the face of the earth;  
let peace and justice prevail.  
Remember our family and friends. . . .  
Bless them and watch over them;  
be gracious to them and give them peace.  
Remember the sick and the suffering,  
the bereaved and victims of violence. . . .  
Encourage them and give them hope.  
Rejoicing in the communion of saints,  
we remember with thanksgiving  
all your faithful servants, and those dear to us,  
whom you have called from this life. . . .  
Grant that wars may cease,  
suffering be healed,  
hunger be satisfied,  
and justice be established,  
as we look forward to the day  
when wars and suffering,  
hunger and injustice,  
shall be no more,  
and your reign be established,  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Prayer for the Nation and its Servants*

O Lord, our governor,  
your glory shines throughout the world.  
We commend our nation to your merciful care,  
that we may live securely in peace  
and may be guided by your providence.  
Give all in authority the wisdom and strength  
to know your will and to do it.  
Help them remember that they are called to serve the people

as lovers of truth and justice;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Prayer for Victims of Tragedy 1*

God of compassion,  
you watch our ways,  
and weave out of terrible happenings  
wonders of goodness and grace.  
Surround those who have been shaken by tragedy  
with a sense of your present love,  
and hold them in faith.  
Though they are lost in grief,  
may they find you and be comforted;  
through Jesus Christ who was dead, but lives  
and rules this world with you.

**Amen.**

*Prayer for Victims of Tragedy 2*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
the comfort of the sad,  
the strength of those who suffer,  
let the prayers of your children who cry out of any tribulation  
come to you.

To every soul that is distressed,  
grant mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**