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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 16, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable DAN MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rev. Pierce Klemmt, Rector, Christ Church, Alexandria, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves to be a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry and sound learning. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds.

We beseech Thee to guide and bless these Representatives in Congress assembled, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations and the peoples of the Earth.

All of this we ask in God's name, Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. KILPATRICK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. KILPATRICK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate passed a bill of the following title, in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1283. An act to award congressional gold medals to Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, commonly referred collectively as the ''Little Rock Nine'' on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the integration of the Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 318) ''An Act to require automatic cancellation and notice of cancellation rights with respect to private mortgage insurance which is required as a condition for entering into a residential mortgage transaction, to abolish the Thrift Depositor Protection Oversight Board, and for other purposes'' with amendments.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair wishes to advise Members there will be 10 one-minutes per side this morning.

WELCOME TO THE REVEREND PIERCE W. KLEMMT

(Mr. RIGGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take just a moment to welcome a very special person, the Reverend Pierce Klemmt, who is our guest chaplain today and just gave our opening prayer.

Rev. Pierce Wittfield Klemmt was born in 1949 in Cincinnati. He received his undergraduate degree from Wabash College and his Master in Divinity from Yale University.

Following his ordination, Pierce served as the Associate Rector of St. Mark's Church in Evanston, Illinois, and then as Rector of Trinity Church in Troy, Ohio, and Christ Church in Springfield, Missouri. He has been the rector of Christ Church in Alexandria since 1994.

This is a very special and historic church. Throughout its history, Christ Church has played a significant role as a parish attended by General George Washington and later by General Robert E. Lee. It remains today one of the largest Episcopalian Churches in the United States, with over 3,000 parishioners, many of whom are active leaders in the government, military, and corporate world.

The church's mission is centered in serving the poor, voiceless, and those in trouble. Outreach programs and missions overseas in Russia, Africa, and Central America are amply served by this committed and talented congregation.

Again, we are delighted to welcome Reverend Klemmt today. He is married to the former Mary Tuke Gates of Louisville, Kentucky, my birthplace, and

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