The House met at 9 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. On this national day of prayer and remembrance, moved by the exhortation of President Bush and the tragic events of Tuesday, we gather first to pray and then be about the work of Congress.

Ever mindful of the many victims, we pray, O Lord, in solidarity with their families, all who have come to their assistance, and with friends around the world. Circumstances such as Tuesday’s horror shake us to new awareness and the need to pray, but prayer itself originates in You, O Lord. By Your own spirit in us we are moved, act, and have our being. Weeping and groaning deep within us the spirit cries out Abba, Father. Your spirit animates us as we struggle to find words to express all the sentiments of the heart.

As each of us searches the depths of our own being in his or her own way, we know it is You alone who can change human hearts. You alone, through dialogue with You, can give us the right words and the right thing to do, if only we would listen and enter into the silence of Your presence. You alone can reshape perspective and bring to focus determined goals based on the truth that removes illusion. You alone can move hearts to repentance for evil perpetrated on others. You alone can take stony hearts and recreate them by Your Holy Spirit into fleshy hearts, hearts which are moved beyond self to respond to the pain of brothers and sisters in the human family.

You, Lord, can make us one, heal our wounds, forgive our sins, and bring us to a new level of peace and freedom, where all people of faith can find expression, moved by Your spirit. And with Your help, together, we can create a truly pluralistic world where we can live in peace and unity, promised by Your kingdom, Thy kingdom come.

Borne out of pain, moved by compassion, strengthened by the diversity of others, we know it is You, Lord God, who brings us to pray and declare Your praise, now and forever. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. THORNBERRY 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.

The text of H.R. 2888 is as follows:

H.R. 2888

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to provide emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, namely:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND

INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS

For emergency expenses to respond to the terrorist attacks on the United States that occurred on September 11, 2001, to provide assistance to the victims of the attacks, and to deal with other consequences of the attacks, $40,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, including for the costs of (1) providing Federal, State, and local preparedness to mitigate and respond to attacks, (2) providing support to counter, investigate, or prosecute domestic or international terrorism, (3) providing increased transportation security, (4) repairing public facilities and transportation systems damaged by the attacks, and (5) supporting national security. Provided, That these funds may be transferred to any authorized Federal Government activity to meet the purposes of this Act; Provided further, That the Congress designates the entire amount as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That $60,000,000,000 shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request, that includes designation of the $60,000,000,000 as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, is transmitted by the President to the Congress: Provided further, That the President shall consult with the chairmen and ranking minority members of the Committees on Appropriations prior to the transfer of these funds: Provided further, That of the $40,000,000,000 made available herein, $10,000,000,000 shall be available for transfer to any Department or Agency until 15 days after the Director of the Office of Management and Budget has submitted to