September 11th Memorial Service: Benediction  
Heroes Garden  
September 9, 2005  

Led by Ken Durham, Minister, University Church of Christ  

Father, we ask you to continue to heal the wounds of our nation, and that  
you would continue to comfort and sustain the families who still suffer from the  
losses incurred four years ago.  

Forgive us, Father, when we give in to hatred, when we nurse our  
grievances. Make us ministers of reconciliation. Make us instruments not of  
hate but of your peace. Make us builders not destroyers … healers, not  
avengers.  

We give thanks for the shining spirit of courage and self-giving love that  
emerged from the darkness of 9-11. With such models of heroism before us,  
may we make a renewed commitment to work for mercy and kindness for  
peoples all over the world, especially for our neighbors along the Gulf Coast and  
avcross the Southeast. Increase and extend our compassion for all those  
everywhere who are the victims of misfortune, or violence, or injustice.  

Help us to identify for ourselves those sources of life and light that cannot  
be shaken by any terror, any terrorist. May we find in you, Lord, an unshakable  
place to stand, and the courage to build and live lives of courage and conviction.  

Keep our hearts tender, Father, and our minds alert, to the human need  
avround us. May we each seek out and find the works of love that we can do.  