

**September 11<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service: Invocation**  
**Heroes Garden**  
**Sept. 9, 2005**

**Led by: Kevin Mills, Seaver Student**  
**Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, fellow**

Dear Lord, today we gather under your omnipotent presence and loving grace as we remember the lives that were lost only four years ago. While we feel great anguish to see so much destruction and experience so much pain, you give us comfort as we know that you are in control. Although the world can seem so broken and so full of evil, we can be assured that in you there is justice, and there is peace, and there is hope. Even amongst such incomprehensible suffering and trauma, we know that you were there, right beside each of your children as they departed this world and came to return to You. Lord, we pray for a special blessing on this day of remembrance and ask that you be with those wives, those husbands, those parents, and those children who lost someone so dear to them and for whom today represents a gaping wound that seems impossible to heal. Likewise Father, we humbly pray that you give your comfort and strength to the thousands who have lost everything in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Fill our nation and our world with the love and strength that can overcome any tragedy. Thank you Lord for the one gift that can truly bring redemption to our broken world, your Son, Jesus Christ. In Christ's Name We Pray, Amen