

Gracious God on this one-year anniversary of Katrina shield our country from forgetfulness, so that those whose lives were twisted and ripped a part by wind and water find a hopeful future for their families in new opportunities.

Spirit of Truth; strengthen our resolve to stand for our national values that promise opportunity for all.

We thank you for leaders and people of the Gulf Coast who have not waited for others to help, but have with their broken hearts and bare hands begun to rebuild a new life for themselves and their neighbors.

May their courage and faithfulness strengthen our resolve to call in America a new day of opportunity and equality? Bring to justice those who have in the midst of devastation stolen from the poor! Bring to repentance those whose behavior excludes the poor from the opportunities they enjoy.

Unleash among us a new birth of creativity that protects and expands opportunity for every one in our national community. For you are the author of Shalom, peace and prosperity for all.

Amen.