

**PRAYER FOR PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD, 38TH
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, ARRIVAL
CEREMONY, CAPITOL ROTUNDA**

Saturday, December 30, 2006

Dr. Barry C. Black

ETERNAL, LORD GOD, THE GIVER OF EVERY GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT, THIS EVENING WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR GIVING OUR NATION THE BLESSING OF PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD.

LORD, WHEN THIS LAND DESPERATELY NEEDED STRONG MORAL LEADERSHIP, YOU GAVE IT PRESIDENT FORD'S ASTUTENESS, HONOR, COMMITMENT, AND COURAGE.

WHEN WE NEEDED A MODEL OF UNSWERVING INTEGRITY, YOU PROVIDED US WITH SOMEONE WHO WAS TRUE AND HONEST.

ACCEPT OUR GRATITUDE FOR HIS COURAGE TO DECIDE BASED UPON PRINCIPLES, FOR HIS PRAGMATIC LEADERSHIP DURING CYNICAL TIMES, AND FOR HIS LONG LIFE OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE.

THANK YOU FOR HIS EFFORTS TO DO WHAT WAS IN THE COUNTRY'S BEST INTEREST AND FOR HELPING TO BIND THE NATION'S WOUNDS AFTER WATERGATE AND VIETNAM.

THANK YOU ALSO FOR PERMITTING HIM TO REMIND US THAT FAMILY AND FAITH STILL MATTER, AND THAT RIGHT LIVING IS A LANGUAGE WHICH IS CLEAR TO EVERYONE.

COMFORT THOSE WHO MOURN, PARTICULARLY MRS. FORD AND THE CHILDREN.

MAY THE MEMORY OF PRESIDENT FORD'S DIGNITY, DECENCY, DILIGENCE, AND DECISIVENESS CHALLENGE US TO USE OUR LIVES FOR YOUR GLORY.

WE PRAY IN THE NAME OF HIM WHO IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. AMEN