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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Merciful God, enthroned far above all powers, thank You for the gift of another day. Help us to use this borrowed time wisely. Forgive us when we forget that You are still on Your throne and that the hearts of humanity are in Your hands. Remind our lawmakers

that Your sovereignty is far above any conceivable command, authority, or control. May this knowledge of Your unstoppable providence motivate them to contribute to peace in our time.

Bless the members of our military and their families, surrounding them all with the shield of Your Divine favor. Lord, bless also those who are ill and in pain, poor and in need, worried and in distress, discouraged and in despair, tempted and in danger.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. CAPITO). The majority leader is recognized.

NOTICE

If the 114th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before December 24, 2015, a final issue of the *Congressional Record* for the 114th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on Thursday, December 31, 2015, to permit Members to insert statements.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

GREGG HARPER, *Chairman*.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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