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Senate

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. STEVENS].

PRAYER

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

Let us pray:

Eternal Spirit, who created us for harmony, You decide the number of the stars and call each one by name. Lord, a challenging week beckons and we desperately need Your spirit, power, and wisdom.

Long hours promise to test our patience and civility as unresolved issues seek to exasperate, producing discord. Help the Members of this body to sidestep the divisive power of contention and find common ground. Remind them

that soft answers turn away anger. Destroy the winner-takes-all mentality and help them seek to understand before they are understood.

Make them exemplary models of reconciliation for a nation and world that watch their deliberations. May their serious efforts to build bridges have a ripple effect that will have a positive impact on our Nation and world.

We pray this in the name of the God of peace and concord. 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 ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The assistant majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today we will begin consideration of the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill.

Several Members have indicated they are prepared to offer amendments during today's session. Senators should expect rollcall votes to occur this afternoon. It is hoped that we can make substantial progress on the bill today.

NOTICE

If the 108th Congress, 1st Session, adjourns sine die on or before November 21, 2003, a final issue of the Congressional Record for the 108th Congress, 1st Session, will be published on Monday, December 15, 2003, in order to permit Members to revise and extend their remarks.

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By order of the Joint Committee on Printing.

ROBERT W. NEY, *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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