

Good afternoon and welcome to all of you. My name is Mary Fetchet. I'm Founding Director of Voices of September 11<sup>th</sup> and mother of Brad Fetchet who died in the World Trade Center on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

On behalf of the 9/11 families I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Reverend Mallonee and everyone at St. Paul's for opening your doors for this special remembrance service. I would also like to thank Rabbi Feinberg for joining us today. A special thank you to Alessandra Pena, from St. Pauls' Chapel who gave her gift of time in planning the service and sculptor, Mark Pilato who created the sculpture, Ascent, a gift to the 9/11 families in honor of our loved ones.

On a personal note I remember visiting St. Paul's, shortly after we were notified of my sons remains. I wanted to bring flowers and a note to thank the rescue workers. As I entered the church I was overwhelmed by the outpouring from around the world - flags, pictures, cards lined the fences and were displayed throughout the church. Rescue workers were resting on the pews you are sitting in today. There was a feeling of reverence, compassion, sadness and determination. This beautiful Chapel stood as a symbol of love and faith, as a sanctuary for rescue workers in the face of brutality. only a few steps away. As we gather here today, St Paul's chapel is a place of solace for our families and our guests to remember our loved ones.

I want to thank each of you for taking time out of your busy schedule. Although it's been more than four years since September 11th, I recognize the holiday season can be bittersweet for our families - as we spend time with family and friends, and reflect and remember those we lost. It is my hope that by being together in this interfaith service we will find strength in each other.

We have a beautiful program planned for you today with music and performances that are a gift to each of you in honor of your loved one. We will begin with the candle lighting ceremony and hear from Flutist Ulla Suokko.