

Read according to custom
and by appointment of Vice President
Dick Cheney and designation of
the Republican leader, Mitch
McConnell.

I am proud to be continuing
on the Senate's most steadfast
tradition today with the reading
of our 47th President's Address.
By doing so, I am carrying on a
Tennessee tradition. It was
Tennessee Senator Andrew Johnson who
first introduced the practice in the
Senate as a morale boosting gesture
during the Civil War. Since then,
Tennessee Senators Nathan Baxter
and my predecessor, Bill Frist,
have also delivered the Address.
When read today in the Senate,
these words were ever more

meaningful and impactful. I believe that Washington's words regarding partisan politics are especially true today. We are a country that has "forgotten and triumphed together" and we must never "put in the place of the delegated will of the nation, the will of a party."

Bolecarh
USS Tennessee
2/26/07