

HOLDING ELECTION DAY IN PRAYER

Prayer is an essential component to our civic engagement.

Please use this prayer guide as a list of prompts to pray over, rooting yourself as a Christian in something stronger than politics and policies.

What follows is simply a guide, allowing you to focus your thoughts and prayers throughout the day. We pray it is a helpful tool for you to engage during this important day.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NRSV)

Pray over the day in general. Pray for good weather, safe travels for those headed to the polls, and clear minds for all involved in the day.

Pray for poll workers, election officials and all of the volunteers who make the democratic process possible. Pray for their safety, for joy over their day, and thank God for these civil servants.

Pray for campaign staff, donors, and volunteers who have made sacrifices for their campaigns, whether time, money or energy.

Pray for the candidates who are on the ballot. Lift up their peace throughout the day, their rest knowing they have done what they can, and their mental and spiritual preparation for the outcomes of the day. Ask that they be able to breathe deeply as voters engage in democracy.

Pray for those who cannot vote. We know that policies and politicians affect them as well, whether because of age, immigration status, or standing with the judicial system. Pray for ease within their spirits and pray for leaders who will protect them and value their voices.

Pray for those most vulnerable in our society, the ones most affected by the outcomes of an election.

Pray for families and friends who politically disagree. Ask God to grant them the courage to hear one another out, the strength to treat one another with kindness, and the hope that they can continue in formative relationship with one another, despite today's outcomes. *Lord, remind us all that we are far more alike than different.*

Pray for those who are voting today for the first time. Ask that they vote with hope, courage, and excitement. Ask that they have prayerfully considered and discerned the call to civic engagement.

Pray for those who are ending their time in office during this election cycle, whether knowingly or unknowingly. Ask that God grant them peace, rest, and meaningful work outside of their political careers.

Pray for those on the “right,” those on the “left,” and those “in between.” Ask God for leaders who promote peace, restore dignity, and demonstrate empathy.

Pray for those who have great anxiety surrounding this day and the outcomes. *God, we know you are our comfort in times of trouble, and we humbly ask that your presence be made known to those who need comfort this day.*

Pray for those running in races other than the presidency. Pray that these folks feel seen and valued and that they are good examples of empathy and care for their communities.

Pray for those who are some of the last in line to vote. Ask that they are granted patience and perseverance as they engage, and pray that they are able to successfully cast their ballots.

Pray for those who voted early or absentee, who have been patiently waiting for this day to see their vote counted. Thank God for their engagement as well as the engagement of those who voted today.

Pray for those who work in journalism and the media. Ask that they report with grace and truth, representing with accuracy the decisions of the American people, and that they are granted safety and integrity in the midst of deep contention.

Pray for leaders worldwide, that they lead with truth and justice. *God, we ask for cooperation and good spirits among nations, and we ask that our new leaders will be models of love and peace.*

Pray for all of those who will be appointed in this new presidency. Ask that quality leaders are appointed and that they stand for what is best for the American people.

Pray for reconciliation. *Lord, in times of divisiveness, you call us to unity. Lead us in the way we should go, and guide us into connection, honesty, and community.*

Pray for peace. *God, we seek honesty and acceptance, and for fairness and justice to win always. May we place our hopes in you over any political figure.*

first united methodist church

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