

THE WASHINGTON PRAYER MEETING

PRAYER GUIDE





INTRODUCTION

1 Peter 2:13-17

“Submit yourself for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right. For such is the will of God that by doing right you may silence the ignorance of foolish men. Act as free men and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil but use it as bondslaves of God. Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

Father in Heaven, we love our country and we are obedient to your Word as citizens of Your kingdom who live in America. Over these many years we have seen our nation choose other paths than the path you first set America on. We once asked You to crown Your good with brotherhood, but today, having chosen other paths, brotherhood in America is hard to find. The things that we as a people have cherished most, unity and civility, prosperity and generosity, courage and hope, all the good gifts of heaven, have been left on the wayside of the path that has led us away from you. Father, as we pray today, we pray FOR America and we pray WITH America, that we will find a new path that leads *away* from division and *toward* unity, *away* from distrust and *toward* belief in one another, *away* from conflict and *toward* Your peace, *away* from hopelessness and *toward* You, our Father.

Give us Your Spirit as we pray.



PRAYERS FOR AMERICA

Father, we pray for this country, the United States of America. This country did not come to be like most other countries. America was birthed as You led people looking for Hope. It was this Hope that drove people to risk ocean crossings in wooden boats. It was this Hope that drove people to risk their lives and the lives of their children in search of a better life. It was this Hope that led us to war with each other so this Hope could be extended to all people. It was this Hope that has made us a nation of immigrants from every country in the world. And through it all Lord, you were there: blessing when we needed blessing, correcting when we needed correcting, giving us a vision for a future free from want and filled with Hope. Today Father, America does not know the poverty it once knew and that many nations still suffer, but as our shelves are full our souls are empty. Now that we are the wealthiest country in the world, we suffer from a spiritual poverty that our American ancestors would not recognize. Help us, we pray Father. Heal the spiritual poverty that plagues our country. We pray repentance for our country Father. We pray that You would send Your Holy Spirit and bring a sweeping revival across this country and that people would turn to You as never before. Only then Lord will we see the divisions and wounds healed and Hope restored. Forgive us Father and send Your Healing, Your Hope, and Your Harvest.

Open Prayer Time for America



PRAYERS FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Father we pray for our President, the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.. He enters the office leading a nation that is fractured in many pieces. There is yet violence in our streets as there was violence on Capitol Hill on his Inauguration Day. There is widespread distrust and anger. We are still coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. And there are expectations of this man that neither he nor any other person can meet, for the only real solutions to the problems this country faces can be found in You Father. On our own, no matter our economic, military, or political power, we cannot solve the problems before us. So Father we pray for President Joe Biden. We pray that he will turn to You for the answers he needs, just as so many who held the office before him. Mr. Lincoln said that “I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had no where else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for that day.” We pray Father that the very present burdens of this office will drive Mr. Biden to same conclusions so that he may lead America and influence the world with Your Truth and Justice and Hope. We pray for his health and safety and that of his family. And we pray Your blessings on him as he leads America. Lord bless the President of the United States.

Open Prayer Time for the President of the United States





PRAYERS FOR THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Prayers for the Senate

- President of the Senate, Kamala Harris
- President Pro-tempore, Patrick Leahy
- Chaplain, Dr. Barry Black

Father, we pray for Vice President Kamala Harris and the members of the Senate of the United States. Vice President Harris and the Senate are facing enormous questions and must find the essential answers to move America in the righteous direction. We recognize that this Senate is as divided by partisanship as perhaps never before in our history. And yet Father, we believe that by the power of your Holy Spirit, there will emerge leaders who will place America above animosity, cooperation above contempt, and patriotism above politics, and show true statesmanship whereby the well-being of the nation is placed above all else. We pray for the health and safety of Vice President Harris, Senator Leahy and every member of the Senate and their families and their staff members. We pray You would give them divine wisdom and the grace to use it. We pray Your special mercies on Dr. Barry Black, the Senate Chaplain, as he places his feet firmly on both side of the aisle to be able to minister to all. Lord bless the Senate of these United States.

Open Prayer Time for the Senate of the United States





PRAYERS FOR THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Prayers for the House of Representatives

- Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi
- Majority Leader, Steny Hoyer
- Minority Leader, Kevin McCarthy
- Majority Whip, Jim Clyburn
- Minority Whip, Steve Scalise
- Chaplain, Rev. Margaret Kibben

Father, we pray for the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi and the members of House of Representatives. Like the Senate, this body of Representatives is narrowly and deeply divided. Lord we pray that our Representatives may likewise move forward “with malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as You Father give us to see the right,” let this body of Representatives strive on to finish the work we are in, in order to bring Healing where there has been hatred, to bring protection to the weak and defenseless, and Hope to a weary land. We pray good health and safety for Rep. Pelosi and every member of this august body, as well as to their families and staff. Lord bless the US House of Representatives.

Open Prayer Time for the House of Representatives of the United States





PRAYERS FOR THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Prayers for the Supreme Court Justices

- Chief Justice John Roberts Jr.
- Justice Clarence Thomas
- Justice Amy Coney Barrett
- Justice Stephen Breyer
- Justice Samuel Anthony Alito, Jr.
- Justice Sonia Sotomayor
- Justice Elena Kagan
- Justice Neil Gorsuch
- Justice Brett Kavanaugh



Father, we pray for the Justices of the United States Supreme Court. It is You, Father, who sits on the eternal throne wisely judging who and what is righteous. We ask Father that through Your Holy Spirit you invest the justices of our Supreme Court with that same divine wisdom, just as you did Your servant Solomon. May they judge with eyes that see people, not cases; with hearts that seek righteousness; and with minds full of divine wisdom to rightly address the eternal question of Justice. Be with Chief Justice John Roberts and all of the justices so that they may enjoy good health and be kept safe. Be likewise with their families and staff. May the justices of our Supreme Court impartially administer the law, conscious of the Truth that one day they will stand before You Lord as their judge.

Open Prayer Time for the Supreme Court of the United States



PRAYERS FOR THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Father we pray for the many departments of the government of the United States and the many of thousands of people they employ. We pray for them Father because their work so often directly effects the lives of us all. From the Defense Department that protects our borders to the Internal Revenue Service who collects the taxes needed to fund the government, help them to all remember that we the people are not merely numbers nor simply taxpayers, but are people, THE PEOPLE, who do constitute these United States. So Father, help our government departments and their employees to serve honorably and well the citizenry of the United States.

Open Prayer for the Government Departments of the United States of America





PRAYERS FOR THE STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Father we pray for the state and local governments of our country. We pray for the governors and the mayors, for the legislators, and those who sit on city councils and county commissions. Because their decisions directly touch the lives of so many, we pray Your special grace on these local leaders. Help them to be good stewards of the money and trust their neighbors place in them.

Open Prayer for our State and Local Government





PRAYERS FOR THE WE THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We here gathered are “We the People” and on behalf of all the people of this country we pray for Your forgiveness. This is a country of believers and non-believers, but we are all aware of how we have dis-invited You to participate in the American conversation. We have asked you to leave our public schools, our court houses, the market places, and the law-making process in our civic arenas. You have been intentionally excluded from the American conversation. Some have celebrated this. Others who wear the badge “Christian” have too often protested in the wrong way, or perhaps worse, remained conspicuously and sinfully quiet. We who are followers of Jesus Christ, come today Father in an act of repentance: repentance for times when we have spoken and acted no different than the secular world, repentance for times when we have been quiet when we should have spoken Your Word into the American conversation. Your Word does not meekly seek to endorse the platforms of one political party or another but offers the nation and the world an entirely new option and a fresh direction. Father, the result of decades of our failure to look to you is we now are a country so divided, so angry, so partisan, and so selfishly short sighted that we have lost Hope, are desperate for Healing, and we who are believers anxiously yearn for a new and great Harvest of souls, a Third Great Awakening that will dramatically alter our country and its direction. No longer will we as Your people speak like secular political agents, but we pledge to boldly act and speak as Ambassadors for Christ, rightly representing Your Kingdom as a needed blessing for America. Give us Hope. Give us Healing. Give us Harvest. And may you O God always bless America.

Open Time for Prayers for America

Amen





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