“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” – Phillipians 4:6-7

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October 28th, 2020

PRAYER FOR: OUR PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.” - 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Opening Prayer:

King of Kings and Lord of Lords, we bring to Donald Trump and Joe Biden, Mike Pence and Kamala Harris. We acknowledge them as your image-bearers and acknowledge our solidarity with them as ones who are both broken by sin and loved in and through Jesus. We now pray:

- For protection spiritually and physically for them and their families in the intense strain of this season;
- That we as Christians could consider all four candidates with Christian love and respect;
- That the pair of candidates who do not win the election would humbly seek the well-being of the nation and find alternate ways to use their gifts for the good of others;
- That the candidates who do win would walk in integrity and truth (both personally and as a nation), impartially administer justice (particularly for the widow, the orphan, the stranger, and the poor), restrain evil, promote goodness, and protect freedom of religion;
- That the new administration would have wisdom and integrity in their appointments of leaders who will serve in important roles, that these new leaders would be well-equipped and well-suited to serve for the flourishing of all

Closing Prayer: TO BE USED EVERY DAY

Almighty God,

We come to this day with each of our unique excitements, troubles, and dreams.

Some of us arrive fragile,

some full of joy,

some angry,

some content,

some fearful.
We lift ourselves and each other up,
as members of the family of Christ,
into your loving and complete care.

With Your strength in our bodies and in our minds,
we seek to glorify Your name in every sphere of our lives,
and ask You to reveal the paths You have prepared for us today.
Guide us to those who are exhausted by their labors,
Guide us to those who feel ill-equipped,
Guide us to those who struggle to grasp hope,
And guide us to those who feel abandoned on the road.
Give us Your eyes of love.

Guide us and our nation in this tumultuous time.
Lead our nation and our leaders in your ways of justice and righteousness.
God care for the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the stranger in our midst;
Show us how we might join you in that care.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit, shepherd of our souls,
We ask you to expand Your dwelling place in each of our hearts,
We ask you to come in the power and love of Jesus to the places of pain and injustice,
Reconcile all which appears beyond reconciliation,
including families, institutions, political parties, and people who are set at odds.

May it be that under Your holy authority and by the Spirit of Jesus that
We may flourish with a flourishing that overflows to the flourishing of all, publish Your peace, and care
for Your world.

Amen.
**October 29th, 2020**

**PRAYER FOR: OUR LOCAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Opening Prayer:**
We pray Lord for our elected officials to be just and upright in their thinking and honest in all their actions and ever be guided by a true conscience in the legislation they propose or vote upon. We thank you for our civil liberties and freedom, for our opportunities and our privileges. Help prepare our elected officials to truly seek you more than ever before.

Lord we pray for our elected officials that:

- You will give them wisdom in decision making;
- You will give them understanding to the laws of the land;
- You will give them the ability to work with others, even others with whom they disagree, including civilly disagreeing;
- You will give them courage to do what is right and humility to listen;
- You will help them seek the flourishing of ALL in our country

**Closing Prayer (See Above)**
October 30th, 2020

PRAYING FOR: THE INTEGRITY OF OUR DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

“God is not a God of disorder, but a God of peace.” - 1 Corinthians 14:33

Opening Prayer:
God, who makes order out of our chaos, we pray over this particular democratic process of voting in the United States in 2020. Lord, the potential for chaos looms, and so we pray that you would guide every hand and eye involved that this process would be orderly, secure and one of the utmost integrity. Would there be peace in this process, we pray.

● We pray for fair access for all people to vote;
● We pray over the election process, that it would be smooth, orderly, and peaceful;
● We pray the results are authentic and genuinely reflect our nation’s desires;
● We pray that the results are handled with grace and respect

Closing Prayer (See Above)
October 31st, 2020

PRAYING FOR: THE VOTERS

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult…”

“The nations are in an uproar, he kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge...

Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.” - Psalm 46:1-3,6,10-11

Opening Prayer:

God, you are Lord. You are King over all things and we exalt you today. We thank you that you are a present and active God. You have been among your people throughout history though the highs and lows of human and societal life. You are at work in our world now as well. Let us seek you as we feel the shifting of our nation in this election season. We sense the fragility of our country’s unity, we carry tension over conflicting ideas of what is best for our collective future, and we witness deepening divisions among neighbors. In the uncertainty and the chaos of this election season, paired with this pandemic and civil unrest and so much that tempts to consume us, be our Rock, our Refuge, and our Strength.

Lord, be with the voters in this election. For those who have taken the steps to get involved in the political process of our country in this way, we pray:

- For sound mind and wisdom for all those who cast their votes;
- For protection against COVID for those who go to in-person polls, and for safe delivery of all ballots submitted from remote locations and homes;
- That votes would be surrounded by prayer and humble admission that you are King over all the earth, as you were since the beginning of time and will be forever more;
- That kindness and love for neighbor would extend even to our political enemy;
- Wisdom to sort carefully through all the voices and perspectives that feed our thinking; that your word and character would be our guide;
- For relief from any fear or obstacles that would suppress the voters’ voices;
● That voters would have access to helpful and accurate information about candidates, initiatives and policies in order to make informed choices and exercise their rights responsibly;

● Freedom from expectation of any candidate or policy to save us or do what only you, Lord, can do

Closing Prayer (See Above)
November 1st, 2020

PRAYING FOR: WITNESS OF THE CHURCH

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." - John 13:34-35

Opening Prayer:

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy
O Divine Master, grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand
To be loved, as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to Eternal Life

Amen

We now pray:

- For supernatural empathy and active love for our neighbors, like and unlike ourselves;
- For protection against the temptation to despair; likewise, protection against apathy;
- For the grace and wisdom to emanate the love of Christ, welcoming all as Christ himself;
- For words of healing, and eyes of love;
- For countercultural unity throughout the universal church

Closing Prayer (See Above)
November 2nd, 2020

PRAYING FOR: THE WHITWORTH COMMUNITY

“Keep on loving each other as brothers and sisters.” - Hebrews 13:1

Opening Prayer:
Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us.

We now pray:

- For ____ (*insert a person, department, or building in our Whitworth community that you are praying for today), that you heal and protect them, allowing them to see and know your love, particularly in this election season;
- For the physical health of our campus, that you heal and protect us, allowing us to remain together and love one another in this time;
- For the mental health of our campus, that you heal and protect us, allowing us to flourish together, even as some rejoice in election outcomes and others lament;
- For the spiritual health of our campus, that you heal and protect us, allowing us to be solely fixed on you God, even as we seek to learn how to live out our obedience to you in society;
- And finally, for our whole Whitworth community, that you heal and protect us, allowing us to see and love each other as nothing less than brothers and sisters in Christ

Closing Prayer (See Above)
November 3rd, 2020

PRAYING FOR: ELECTION DAY

“How great are his signs,
how mighty his wonders!
His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and his sovereignty is from generation to generation.” - Daniel 4:3

Opening Prayer:
King of Kings and Lord of Lords, we bring you our nation today. We trust you as Sovereign King and Lord. We trust in you alone. Lead us in the ways of your Kingdom.

Today we pray for:

- Peace and protection for all who are fearful today;
- Just and safe voting processes;
- For all those who are counting ballots (or overseeing counting), for precision and care, wisdom and strength;
- For truth in reporting and truth in news media today;
- For love for fellow human beings that transcends political boundaries

Closing Prayer (See Above)
November 4th, 2020

PRAYING FOR: THE OUTCOME

“John’s disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’”

At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.” - Luke 7:18-27

John the Baptist was in prison and disappointed. He expected Jesus to be different than he was so he sent his team to find out what was really going on. He expected Jesus to have a different political agenda than what he was seeing. Rather than a policy that cared for the outcast and sinners, he wanted a candidate that would push change, and put forth an agenda of military power to take control of the empire. John wondered with disappointment “Maybe another candidate would have been better?”

Opening Prayer:

Our gracious and almighty Father,

We praise you for your powerful presence in our lives and in our world. We praise you for your faithfulness through all of time. We praise you for your relentless pursuit of us as your children and your blessing upon all who follow you. You know the stars in the sky and the hairs on our heads. You are intimately in tune with your creation. We thank you for the amazing privilege of living in a free and democratic nation, blessed with incredible resources and talent. Yesterday, we as a nation exercised our freedom to elect the leadership team for our nation. Because of our great diversity, some of us woke up happy today while others are disappointed.

We now Pray …

- That you would be with those who campaigned hard but did not win. Many men and women took great risks to present themselves, their views, and their opinions to gain our support;
- That you would to unite us as the Body of Christ, even in our disappointment;
● That you would help us to show love and respect to those with whom we may not have agreed;
● That we would embrace a spirit of kindness and empathy for those who worked so hard and did not win…may there be no retaliation in words or in action;
● That we would uphold our leaders in prayer - to love, honor, and respect them, and to engage respectfully with them when we support their decisions and when we need to voice our opposition;
● That we would think of others more highly than ourselves, even in our disappointment;
● That you will grant the newly elected the ability to serve with wisdom, courage, and integrity as they represent us and govern our nation

Thank you, Father, for our new leaders. We commit them to you.

Closing Prayer (See Above)