



A PRAYER OF SAINT PATRICK

Christ be with us, Christ before us, Christ behind us,
Christ in us, Christ beneath us, Christ above us,
Christ on our right, Christ on our left,

Christ where we lie, Christ where we sit, Christ where we arise,
Christ in the heart of every one who thinks of us,
Christ in every eye that sees us,
Christ in every ear that hears us.

Salvation is of the Lord,
Salvation is of the Christ,
May your salvation, O Lord, be ever with us.

SAINT PATRICK, IRELAND, 5TH CENT., ALT.

PRAYER FOR A NEW HEART

Thou who art over us,
Thou who art one of us,
Thou who art:

Give me a pure heart, that I may see thee;
a humble heart that I may hear thee;
a heart of love, that I may serve thee;
a heart of faith, that I may abide in thee. Amen.

DAG HAMMERSKJÖLD, SWEDEN, 20TH CENT.



A PRAYER OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

Give us, O Lord,

steadfast hearts, which no unworthy thought can drag downward,
unconquered hearts, which no tribulation can wear out,
upright hearts, which no unworthy purpose may tempt aside.

Bestow upon us also, O Lord our God,
understanding to know you,
diligence to seek you,
wisdom to find you, and a
faithfulness that may finally embrace you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT., ALT.

GENERAL BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY OF THE UMC INAUGURATION DAY PRAYER (ADAPTED) *With All Our Heart and With All Our Mind* Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe on January 20, 2017

With all our heart and with all our mind, we pray:
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God,
For the peace of the world, for the welfare of all people of faith, and for
the unity of all peoples,
For President Trump and his family, for the leaders of the nations, and for
all in authority,
For all leaders and devoted public servants,
For every city, town and village and all who live therein,
For the good of earth and all of creation which God has given us, and for
the wisdom and will to conserve it,
For the aged and infirm, for the widow and orphans, the sick and suffering,
For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed, and the destitute,
for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them,
For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation,
For those who faithfully advocate for justice and peace, that we may live
our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach,
Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us.
We commend ourselves, and all our life, to the life of Love and Compassion.
We commend ourselves To our Lord and God. Amen!

<https://umc-gbcs.org/faith-in-action/inauguration-day-prayer>

Other prayers, including those of some of the Saints of the church, are found in The UM Hymnal:

- 401 Prayer of Howard Thurman
- 403 Prayer of Teresa of Avila
- 412 Prayer of John Chrysostom
- 429 For Our Country
- 446 Prayer of Mother Teresa
- 456 For Courage to Do Justice
- 459 The Serenity Prayer
- 481 Prayer of St. Francis
- 493 Three Things We Pray
- 556 Prayer of Pope John Paul II
- 570 Prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola
- 607 Wesleyan Covenant Prayer

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FOR YOUR GREAT NAME'S SAKE!

HEAR US... FORGIVE US... HEAL US!



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
TASK FORCE

PRAYER GUIDE

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PLANO

PRAYER FOR THE NATION

Teach us, God of every nation, to see every question of national policy in the light of our faith, that we may check in ourselves and in others every passion that makes for war, all ungenerous judgment, all promptings of self-assurance, all presumptuous claims. Grant us insight to recognize the needs and aspirations of other nations, and remove our suspicions and misunderstandings, that we may honor all people in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ENGLAND, 20TH CENT., ALT.

FOR THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE



Righteous God, you rule the nations. Guard brave men and women in military service. Give them compassion for those who confront them as enemies. Keep our children from hate that hardens, or from scorekeeping with human lives. Though for a season they must be people of war, let them live for peace, as eager for agreement as for victory. Encourage them as they encourage one another, and never let hard duty separate them from loyalty to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIPBOOK, U.S.A., 20TH CENT., ALT.

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

O eternal God, in whose appointment our life stands, and who committed our work to us, we commit love our cares to you. We thank you that we are your children, and that you have assured us that, while we are intent upon your will, you will heed our wants. Fill us with that compassion for others' troubles which comes from forgetfulness of our own; with the charity of those who know their own unworthiness; and with the glad hope of the children of eternity. And to you, the Beginning and the End, Lord of the living, Refuge of the dying, be thanks and praise for ever. Amen.

JAMES MARTINEAU, ENGLAND, 19TH CENT., ALT.



2017 PRAYER FOR THE NATIONS

Rev. Ed Volfe, Associate Pastor, FUMC Plano

Oh, Great God,
Creator and giver of life,
You know us when we're still in the womb
You know the number of hairs of our head
There is nothing hidden to you.

Teach the people in the World
Particularly us all in the United States
People of all religions, ethnicities, and social strata,
To respond to each other's uniqueness
Out of love and compassion
To keep in mind where we came from,
To fight for Justice and Peace today
So that when one of us does good towards his neighbor
We won't be surprised.

And finally, oh God,
Speak to our hearts and minds as we pray as a nation.
Stir in us the urgency to promote life as we
Learn from our mistakes and misconceptions.
And help us to be practical in proclaiming
Release to the captives and
Freedom to the oppressed.

Today is the day for all this to happen.
In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open wide the window of our spirits, O Lord, and fill us full of light; open wide the door of our hearts, that we may receive and entertain thee with all our powers of adoration and love.
CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, ENGLAND, 19TH CENT.

PRAYER FOR DISCERNMENT

Almighty God, in a world of change you placed eternity in our hearts and gave us power to discern good from evil. Grant us sincerity, that we may persistently seek the things that endure, refusing those which perish, and that, amid things vanishing and deceptive, we may see the truth steadily, follow the light faithfully, and grow ever richer in that which is the life of all people; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

HUGH CAMERON, SCOTLAND, 20TH CENT.

FOR LEADERS

O God, as you anointed leaders and called prophets of old, lead us to recognize our true representatives and authentic leaders: men and women who love your people and can walk with them, who feel their pain and share their joys, who dream their dreams and strive to accompany them to their common goal. In your fire, with your Spirit, embolden and commission us to transform our political system, to serve your people, and to bring real glory to your name. Amen.

PHILIPPINES, 20TH CENT.

PRAYER FOR WISDOM

O Wisdom on High, by you the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly. Grant us, in all doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do, that we may be saved from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, U.S.A., 20TH CENT., ALT.