



Prayer Points between Now and Thanksgiving

Pray without ceasing. ~ 1 Thess. 5:17

And call upon me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me. ~ Psalm 50:15

1. Rejoice that God rules human history. Daniel 4:17 says, "...that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom He will and sets over it the lowliest of men." Give thanks to Him. God knows what God is doing.
2. Pray that we, and all believers, would eagerly await Christ and claim our deepest civic identity – His Kingdom alone: "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body..." Phil. 3:20-21
3. Pray for believers to exhibit grace and charity toward others believers with whom they disagree politically. And all the more towards those outside the faith. As Phil 1:27 says, "*Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...*"
4. Pray that in the midst of chaos and uncertainty, that the gospel would grow and bear fruit in our lives, in our church, in our community, and in our world. Col. 1:6.
5. Prayer for believers to take seriously our calling to "seek the welfare of the city" (Jer. 29:7), and to work actively in our open political system for the things that best reflect God's ways, human flourishing, and common grace. We are not called to withdraw from the world, but to be part of Christ transforming it.
6. Pray for the Big Four: President Trump, Fmr VP Biden, VP Pence, and Sen. Harris: for a greater measure of goodwill to take root in their lives and character; for the fear of God to grip them, that they might seek Him; for God to thwart evil & scheming counsel around them; for integrity and truthfulness.

7. Confess on behalf of our country:

- For prizing power, wealth, status, and comfort more than justice, integrity, or kindness. *Lord, forgive us.*
- For shutting our eyes to the cry of the poor & sojourner in our midst. *Lord, forgive us.*
- For a nativism that says outsiders are bad, for a racism that says “race is all that matters”. *Lord, forgive us.*
- For the “arts & entertainment” that our culture produces that is abhorrent to God. *Lord, forgive us.*
- For signs of racism that has wounded so many in our past, and poisoned some relations up to today. For violent extremists who burn, loot, and attack people made in the image of God. *Lord, forgive us.*
- For when we have failed to live into the ideals of this country: that all “are created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights”. *Lord, forgive us.*

8. Pray for Election Day: ask for a miracle of grace, that the Lord would protect this country from those who would cause trouble. Pray for peaceableness. For lack of riots or intimidation. For restraint. For God to take the wind out of the sails of any chatter of trouble. Pray for the process of voting: ask God for safety and integrity.

9. Pray for a clear, decisive, and timely outcome. May we not have a long, drawn-out recount that sows rancor, dissension, and physical trouble. Pray for peace and integrity.

10. Pray that the church would prepare herself for trials in the coming years. Our Way of Life, our Standard of Living are not guaranteed. Our witness may be even more effective in a crashing economy, in a troubled age, in civil strife as we cling to Christ. So, while we pray for peace, we pray even more for strength and submission to whatever God has for us. May we use the upheavals of 2020 to put us – his church – on a better “war-time” footing in this spiritual battle called life.

Lord, grant us to fix our eyes on you, clinging to you above all. Grant that we would keep in step with your Holy Spirit in us. May we not yearn for “the good old days”, but may we yearn for the Kingdom!