



continuing the journey of transforming grace:

transforming practice

September 15, 2024

Opening Song

Abide | Carrie Newcomer and Parker Palmer

Opening Prayer

Lord God, as the election approaches,
we seek to better understand the issues and concerns
that confront our city/state/country,
and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful
citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness
so that we might see each other as brothers and
sisters,

one and equal in dignity,
especially those who are victims of abuse and
violence, deceit and poverty.

We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children
unborn and those abandoned,
Men and women oppressed because of race or creed,
religion or gender.

We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing
the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your
Kingdom.

We pray for discernment
so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word,
live your love,
and keep in the ways of your truth
as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles
and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

Source: [USCCB.org](https://usccb.org)

Scripture

James 2: 18

“Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I
will demonstrate my faith to you from my works”

Learning and Thinking

New study pinpoints key factor fueling American polarization

To learn more about the tool mentioned in the video
visit americapoliticalpulse.com



Contemplate and Connect

Spend 5-10 minutes of quiet to consider these
questions:

- How are you feeling about the upcoming election? (*Not what do you think, but how are you feeling about it?*) Take the time to write down what rises up within you.
- Recognizing the power of shared experience, find a trusted thought partner or community and share your reflection. Be sure to listen deeply to the experience of another. Allow the power of presence together to be a source of courage and solidarity.

Closing Prayer

O Good Shepherd, you who gather us as lambs in
your arms, carrying us close to your heart, we long
for peace on earth as it is in heaven. In this election
season, we ask that you carry our nation close to your
heart. Protect us and guide us into the ways of peace.
We pray specifically against violence at political rallies,
polling places, debates, and other spaces where many
are gathered. May we become a nation that turns our
weapons into plowshares, taking on your posture of
nonviolence. By the power of your Spirit, we ask for
safety to prevail and that you would lead us into the
ways of your peaceful kingdom.

Christianity Today, 10 Prayers for a Volatile Election Season

Closing Song

I Have Faith | Karen Drucker