

Schedule for Eight Days of Prayer

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 Day Four

Inauguration Prayers

For Times of Transition

God of Love,
You are with us in every transition and change.
As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety,
we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love.
We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.
We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment.
We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.
Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another.
We ask this in your Holy Name.

- Joseph P. Shadle

Pope John Paul II's Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, who are called the Prince of Peace,
who are yourself our peace and reconciliation,
who so often said, "Peace to you," grant us peace.

Make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice,
and brotherly love.
Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace.

Enlighten our rulers that they may
guarantee and defend the great gift of peace.
May all peoples on the earth
become as brothers and sisters.
May longed for peace blossom forth
and reign always over us all.

- Pope John Paul II

A Prayer for Our Country on Inauguration Day

Our nation has chosen a new leader
To guide us forward in this challenging time.
Help us, God, to unite our great country
In the wake of a contentious election.
Teach us to listen to one another,
To heal our divisions and to restore hope.
The days that lie before us will not be easy,
But they are ours to shape.
Let them be days of repair,
Days when we will stem the tide of this horrific pandemic,
Days when we will join together
To build a new future.
For some of us the results of this election are a cause for great celebration,
For others the results are a deep disappointment.
Our charge today must be to rise above conflict,
To rise above our differences,
And welcome in a new time of understanding,
A new time of caring and empathy,
A new time of caring and empathy,
Decency and support.
Bless us God, with ears to hear,
Hearts to love,
And hands to reach across party lines,
So that we can ensure liberty and dignity for all.

Land of opportunity and dreams
We vow to protect our blessed democracy
And to safeguard the freedom that is our birthright.
We pledge our allegiance

To every soul in need
And every child praying for a better tomorrow.
Bless America, God,
With peace, prosperity, and with justice for all, Amen.

Rabbi Naomi Levy is the author of Einstein and the Rabbi and spiritual leader of Nashuva: The Jewish Spiritual Outreach Center.