

# A Prayer for Our Country

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Father, have mercy...

Ours is a sinful nation, given to corruption, those who have forsaken You our Lord; as a nation we have turned our backs on You. (Isaiah 1:4)

But Father, You are the same yesterday, today and forever; You do not change. You have promised in Your Word that if we, Your people who are called by Your name—we Christians, the church—will humble ourselves and pray, and seek Your face and turn from our wicked ways, You will hear and heal our land. (Hebrews 13:8; Malachi 3:6; 2 Chronicles 7:14)

It is we, Your children, who must come in repentance, for those who are lost cannot even understand their sins; such things must be spiritually discerned. Grant *us* repentance. Show *us* where our hearts have turned away from You. (1 Corinthians 2:14; Acts 5:31; Ezekiel 6:9)

You are a refuge for the poor and needy, a shelter from the storm, a shade from the heat. But You are also our God, who deals with Your people as Your vineyard—when we go our own way, bearing bad grapes instead of good, You have said You will take away our hedge and break down our wall. (Isaiah 25:4; 5:1-6)

Have mercy on Your wayward people. We pray in hope because of Your great love, knowing that Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. You do not willingly bring affliction or grief to the children of men. Help us examine and test our ways, and return to You. (Lamentations 3:22-23, 33, 40)

In Jesus' name, amen.