



Voting is an obvious way in which we can engage in the upcoming general election. We are encouraging everyone to register to vote and to carefully consider how best to use their vote. Nevertheless, as followers of Jesus, voting isn't our only or even primary means of engagement. Followers of Jesus are people of prayer. Be it on our knees by our beside or standing in a gathering with our church family, prayer reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to Jesus our king, and that our ultimate hope within and beyond this election is to see His kingdom come "on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10).

Below, you will find passages and prompts to support you as you pray for this general election. They can be used in both private and public times of prayer. As we

pray these prayers, it is our hope that they will be used by the Lord to both shape outcomes in this upcoming election, and also to shape our hearts into His likeness, making us those who together seek the good of our neighbour and the spread of the gospel in this nation.



## For wider society

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and His glory appears over you. (Isaiah 60:1–2)

- Praise God for the opportunity to participate in the democratic process of our nation – for elections that are free and fair, and for results that can be trusted.
- Pray against cynicism and despair keeping people (and especially Christians) from voting. Ask that our light would shine in dark places.

If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry, and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. (Isaiah 58:9b-10)

- Give praise for the security and transparency of the democratic process in the UK, and for all the arms of state machinery that enable us to engage in politics in the way that we do. Pray for the continued protection of this infrastructure, and for the eradication of any corruption at any level of the process.
- Thank God for the freedom to vote and engage with politics in an
  outspoken manner, without fear of reprisals. In a year of many elections
  around the world, pray for those who don't currently experience this. Ask
  that the God of justice would bless them with the justice their hearts so
  desperately cry out for.
- Please pray for an increase in political engagement across the UK, that
  politicians will represent their constituencies well, and that any barriers to
  engagement and participation will be removed.



#### For the church

And seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. (Jeremiah 29:7)

- Praise God for the confident assurance that our working, praying and voting are not in vain when we do them in His name.
- Pray that the church would be motivated by the gospel to engage with the general election. Pray that we would sacrificially seek the welfare of our neighbours and confidently pursue the spread of the good news.
- Ask that the church would be more visible in the local community through its engagement with the election, drawing attention to Jesus and the difference He makes to all of life.
- This nation has been fundamentally shaped by the truths of the scriptures. Pray that Christian witness will be preserved through the laws of this nation and in our future government.
- Ask that we might know grace to treasure the ultimate authority of Heaven even while contending for good governance and accountable authority on earth.
- For despair and hopelessness to be driven back, and for the church to take her rightful place in leading the nation in hope.





## For those in politics

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven. (Matthew 5:14–16)

- Give thanks for those willing to stand for public office and serve the communities of this nation amidst the challenges, complexities and criticisms this will entail.
- Pray for Christians standing for election that they would stand in integrity, wisdom and love. Pray that they would stay close to Jesus through the pressures of this season, relying on His strength and not their own.
- Election season is very demanding for those in politics in general. Pray that, amidst the pressures and uncertainties of this time, the Lord would encounter them with His truth, His person and His peace.
- Praise God for those who engage in intercession for the political sphere
  in and out of election season. Pray that they would be encouraged to
  continue in this, and that their faithfulness would inspire the wider body
  to contend in prayer for the will of God to be done in the world of politics.
- Political leaders wield significant influence and authority. Pray for key
  political leaders across all parties that as they wield earthly power, they
  will meet with Jesus and surrender to His power and reign.

# For the advocacy team of the Evangelical Alliance

Then He added, "Son of man, let all my words sink deep into your own heart first. Listen to them carefully for yourself. Then go to your people in exile and say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says!' Do this whether they listen to you or not." (Ezekiel 3:10–11)

- Please pray that our team would be guided by wisdom and discernment in how we engage and support the mobilisation of the church in this moment. Ask that our efforts would unify rather than divide the church.
- A new government will mean new relationships and connections to build.
   Please pray for clarity and grace in navigating those, for the ability to represent the evangelical constituency well, and to show all the ways the church is working for all to flourish in the UK.
- Please pray for protection over the prophetic voice which we have the
  opportunity to bring in this season, as we engage with those who have
  political power, and that we will not compromise the truth that the Lord
  wants us to speak.



### After the election

Give your love of justice to the king, O God, and righteousness to the king's son. Help him judge your people in the right way; let the poor always be treated fairly.

May the mountains yield prosperity for all, and may the hills be fruitful. Help him to defend the poor, to rescue the children of the needy, and to crush their oppressors. May they fear you as long as the sun shines, as long as the moon remains in the sky. Yes, forever! (Psalm 72:1–5)

- Seek for the Lord to touch the heart of the prime minister. Pray
  for the blessing of good advisers, the grace to recognise and turn from
  evil and to truly value everyone in this nation. Whatever their current
  profession of faith, pray that they would bow the knee to Jesus who
  ultimately carries the government on His shoulders (Isaiah 9:6).
- Ask for wisdom for the new government in the tricky decisions that lie ahead. Pray that they would be able to hold on to what is good and actively pursue and actualise change where this is necessary. Pray that they would be guided by the wisdom from above, which is first of all pure (James 3:17).
- Pray for the light of Christ to shine across UK politics, exposing any false
  motives or exploitation of power, and that justice would reign. Religious
  freedom is a celebrated and contested part of our cultural heritage. Pray
  that it will be strengthened under this new government, and that the
  church would use and not lose this privilege.



- The prime minister is significant, but not exclusively so. Thank
   God for the infrastructure of governance that means we aren't all living
   at the mercy of one person. Pray that this would be protected and
   respected under this new government.
- Elections can be wildly divisive times, not just amidst politicians, but also
  within families and across communities. Pray for the healing of divisions
  and tensions, and for an era of constructive and non-toxic leadership
  from our politicians.
- Ask that the church would build on the momentum of pre-election engagement and sustain meaningful connections with local representatives and public initiatives beyond the election cycle. This is when the real work begins!
- Above all, pray that the ultimate hope of the gospel would shine out over manifestos and the promises of the winning party. Pray that the good news of Jesus would prosper like never before in this land.

The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in Heaven, which said:

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Messiah, and He will reign forever and ever." (Revelation 11:15)





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