

## Ballots for God - Our nation acknowledges that religious liberty is a natural right

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As millions of Americans head to the election polls tomorrow, November 3, incumbent President Donald Trump and Democratic opponent Joe Biden are rallying their supporters around the country. In particular, President Trump, a nondenominational Christian, is galvanizing the nation's faith community to secure a second term in office.

There is no doubt faith has heavily shaped America's political history. And yet, in 2020, bringing God into the nation's highest levels of governance has become fraught with challenges, from domestic affairs like healthcare to foreign policy and the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Both presidential candidates have said their faith informs their values, which in turn molds their politics.

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"Throughout our nation's history, Americans have consistently turned to God for guidance at pivotal moments," said President Trump in a statement on May 2, 2019, the National Day of Prayer.

"Our nation acknowledges that religious liberty is a natural right, given to us by our creator, not a courtesy that the government extends to us," he said. "Our nation's honored tradition of prayer has sustained us and strengthened our trust that God will continue to watch over and accompany us through the best of times and the darkest hours."

Former vice president Joe Biden, a Catholic, launching his own candidacy by referring to his campaign as a "battle for the soul of the nation." This has remained a core tenet of his campaign and, if elected, Biden would become the second Catholic president in U.S. history.

In a speech on September 14, Biden described America under the Trump administration as "a nation in the wilderness" before referencing scripture.

"All of you remind me of how scripture describes a calling born out of the wilderness," said Biden. "A calling to serve, not to be served. A calling toward justice, healing, hope -- not hate. To speak the good news, and followed by some good deeds. It's not just enough to speak the good news, but good deeds."

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Pastor Paula White-Cain, spiritual advisor to President Trump, gave a special address on August 9 at the Universal Peace Federation ([UPF](#)) [Rally of Hope](#) where she spoke of the crucial need to align with God at this time, supporting the international peacebuilding efforts of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, [Mother of Peace](#) and co-founder of UPF and Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU).

"Our current world situation with COVID-19 is a great trial," said Pastor White-Cain. "But if we turn to God we will overcome and prosper."

"May we bear with one another and make allowances out of love, which comes from God," she said. "[And] may we commit, according to the power of God that works in us, to unite in spirit sympathizing with one another, loving each other as brethren, as family, compassionate and courteous, tender-hearted, and humble-minded."

Faith and prayer, deeply interwoven in the fabric of America, have long been the safeguard of this country and its leadership, especially regarding the presidency.

The founding fathers proclaimed religious liberty in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees freedoms concerning religion, expression, assembly, and the right to petition. And, in 1774, the Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for wisdom about forming what would become the United States.

Nearly two centuries later, in 1952, President Harry S. Truman proclaimed the first [National Day of Prayer](#).

America's power has always been in her people and leadership centered on God. With our nation's rich history of faith, let America remember the power of prayer and the greatness of our creator as we cast our ballots for God.

*You can find more information about President Donald Trump's campaign [here](#), and more information about Joe Biden's campaign [here](#).*