

INAUGURATION DAY PRAYER

By Maxie Dunnam

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Eternal God, before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the sea, even from everlasting to everlasting you are God. We want to keep that affirmation vividly in mind as we celebrate this inauguration day.

You have given us a beautiful country, and blessed us with abundance in all of the resources of Your creation.



Our forefathers designed a democratic system of government that is an inspiration to people all over the world.

That system is being tested in all sorts of ways, and we acknowledge our need for Your wisdom and strength. Don't allow us to slink back from affirming the vision of our founders: One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all.

It has been a tough year: the virus, the long year of political warring, the demonstrations which expressed so much anger and division, the dissention in Congress. All of this has torn us apart, ruptured relationships, given birth to cynicism and hopelessness. Forgive us.

On this inauguration day we recommit ourselves to that claim, One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all. Lord, we need renewal of simple, foundational values--values of common decency, civil discourse, commitment to the common good, a fresh appreciation for this still being tested experiment in democracy.

At the very heart of our praying, we lift up our President elect Joe Biden. None of us can imagine all that is swirling in his mind and heart. Deliver him, Lord, from even wondering if he is capable for the task. No one is! Knowing his limitations can save him from being hidebound in political loyalties and relationships, and keep him humbly dependent upon you. We claim and pray for him the wisdom and strength that comes from You.

Bless him Lord through his family, Trusted friends, and the support leaders he has selected. In a mysterious way we don't understand, make the monumental yoke of leadership easy, and the burden of the presidency light. As he is inaugurated we confirm him as our leader, and we commit him and our nation to You our Sovereign Lord. Amen.