

On this day after a contentious election...

Bishop Shelley Wickstrom

On this day after a contentious election, we do what we do regardless of political preference for who has been elected, we pray. We have never been asked to elect our Savior. We pray for wisdom, civil conversation and the welfare of all under their leadership. Join me in praying for President-Elect Trump, his cabinet, our members of congress and those who serve in state and local office.

Lutherans understand this ongoing work of living out the baptism through which God has claimed us.

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Our life in Christ has always involved differences of opinion and preferences. This political season has revealed a deep desire for change. Remember, Christians, the Holy Spirit has called us into community and has always been about the work of change. It takes courage and a willingness to sacrifice personal comfort to engage in deep conversation. Isn't that what we've already promised to do when we've publicly welcomed and accepted membership in a congregation? My prayer for all of us includes courage for how the Holy Spirit guides our conversations and work together.

We are rooted in Christ whose Spirit continues to shape us for what God is up to.