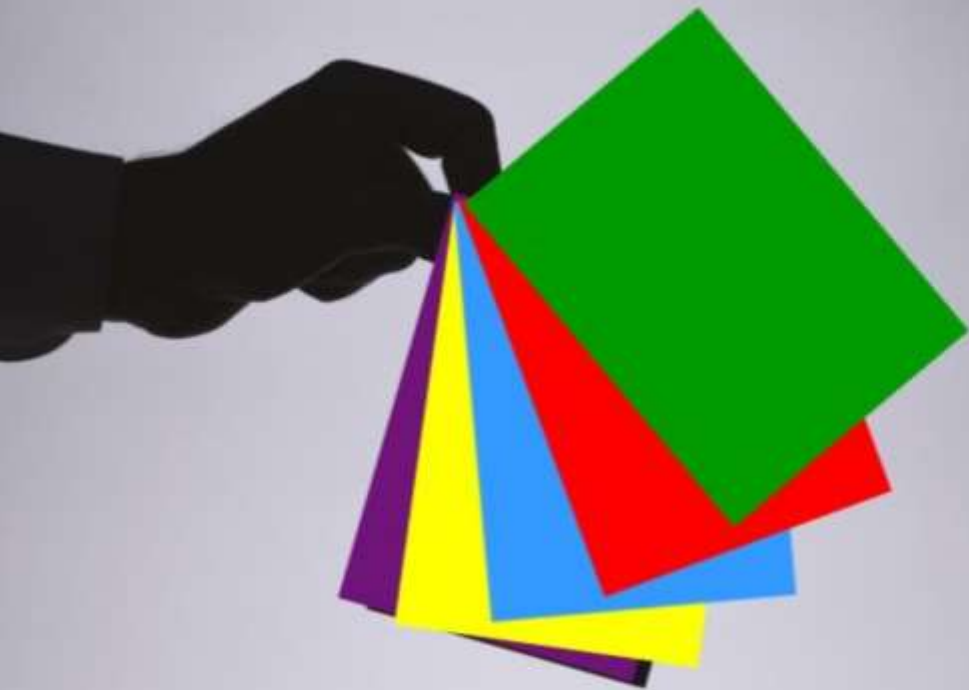




ROOTED





HOW SHOULD I VOTE?



ROOTED



Sunday 30th June, 7pm
Thinking Christianly about
politics and the election
St John's Hartford





HOW SHOULD I VOTE?

Four foundations:

- a) Jesus is Lord (Phil 2:11, Eph 1:21, Rev 1:5, Col 1:16)
- b) He “elects” (Rom 13:1, Dan 5:32, 37)
- c) Your dual citizenship (Phil 3:20, Eph 2:18-19)
- d) Your calling (Matt 28:19, 2 Pet 3:18)



HOW SHOULD I VOTE?

How should we vote?:

1. Vote to bring glory to God
2. Vote to love your neighbour (Mat 22:39)
3. Vote to uphold biblical principles & wisdom
4. Vote to support Christians trying to make a difference
5. Vote to pursue the common good



HOW SHOULD I VOTE?

What do we do practically?:

- Be hopeful
- Accept order and authority (Rom 13:1-7)
- Do your **homework**
(Christian Institute/CARE/Evangelical Alliance)
- Persevere in **prayer**

Praying for the general 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



Praying for our society at election time

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

- Praise God for the opportunity to participate in the democratic process of our nation.
- Give praise for the security and transparency of the democratic process in the UK.
- Thank God for the freedom to vote and engage with politics in an outspoken manner, without fear of reprisals.
- Pray for an increase in political engagement across the UK, that politicians will represent their constituencies well. Ask that our light would shine in dark places.



Praying for those involved 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.

Praying for the church in this season

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, drawing attention to Jesus and the difference He makes to all of life.
- Ask that we might know grace to treasure the ultimate authority of Heaven even while contending for good governance and accountable authority on earth.

Praying for politics after the election

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

- Pray for the Lord to reveal himself to the prime minister and new government. Pray for wisdom for them in the tricky decisions that lie ahead.
- Pray for the strengthening of religious freedom in this nation.
- 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 sustain meaningful connections with local representatives and public initiatives beyond the election cycle.
- Above all, pray that the ultimate hope of the gospel would shine out over promises of the winning party. Pray that the good news of Jesus would prosper like never before in this land.

