

Inaugural Prayer for Memphis Mayor AC Wharton
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God of Moses, God of Jesus, God of Mohammed, God of every faith tradition and those with no faith tradition: God of One Memphis. Bless us all as we begin this important new chapter in the life of our city. Remind us Lord, what our new Mayor would have us remember – that it's not about him – it's about us – all of us. One Memphis.

On this day that's whispering new beginnings, inspire us to move from atonement to at-ONE-ment, so that Christian, Jewish, Muslim and all others will join in the sacred task of ending any strife between group and group within our community.

Remind us of your eternal message, that One God means One humanity, that unity does not mean uniformity, and that inclusiveness is the key to community building, while divisiveness will only drive us further apart.

No matter who we voted for, or whether we voted at all, we pray that you will guide every man, woman, and child to help our new mayor heal and strengthen this city.

And Lord, strengthen Memphis Mayor AC Wharton and Ruby and the entire Wharton Family. Bless them and every member of the new administration with health and well-being. May they always feel the embrace, love and support of the citizens around them and the divine within them.

Make our hands your helping hands, Lord; make our feet ones that help Mayor Wharton move us forward not backwards; and make our hearts open to the notion that while we may differ in color and creed, we carry common convictions and our destinies intertwine as One Memphis.

Whether we pray in the Shadow of the Cross, under the Star of David, the Crescent of Islam, or any other holy path, may each of us do the most that we can with the time that we have in this great city where God has placed us.

We offer this prayer, this new era, and our very lives in Your Holy name, in the name of the One God Who Loves us all. And let us say: Amen.