

O Holy One,

We are a divided country, torn in two every four years when we realize the extent of our differences and the passions of our convictions. Electoral College numbers rise perilously in tandem. Fractions of percentages separate the popular vote on election night. And we realize yet again with shock and sadness and pain just how far apart we are.

And so we pray, **Unite us, O God.**

Because we are also a united country, called to transfer power in peaceful ways, Called to trust the voice of the people and respect the leadership that our democracy chooses. We are a United States, called to work together, to rise together, to fall together, to work together, to become together, to listen and learn from each other.

And so, we pray: **Unite us, O God.**

Because we are also a faithful people in this nation. We are united in you and as Christians, as the United Church of Christ, we proclaim that we are united in Christ. We are a people who are part of something

bigger than our differences,  
bigger than our candidates,  
bigger than the knots in our stomachs or the smiles on our faces,  
bigger than our political parties,  
bigger even than our nationality.

We are united in Christ: called to follow Jesus in word, thought, and deed,  
loving and welcoming our neighbor,  
loving our selves,  
and proclaiming love and justice for ALL God's children.

And so we pray, **Unite us O God.**

Unite us God in the work before us, whether today we rejoice or weep at the outcomes from Election day, we call upon you, O Holy One, to

unite us in our healing,  
unite us in our learning and listening,  
unite us in our prayers for Hillary Clinton and Barak Obama and Donald

Trump and all our leaders as they embrace new challenges, new roles, new rules,

unite us in our calling to commit ourselves ever more faithfully to the message of hope we uniquely proclaim in the UCC

and most of all, God,

unite us in our journey as we step beyond the campaign season and step into the Light that you ever call us toward. May we look forward with hope to the day when we can behold with wonder the great things we have co-created with you.

And so we pray, **Unite us, O God.** In Christ's name, Amen.

*A prayer offered by Rev. Tamara Boynton during the Conference wide Prayer Call, November 9, 2016.*