

On the Eve of Election:

Hear this benediction and prayer of protection for your spirit – for you to hold above all things your identity as a disciple of Jesus Christ:

**When others hate, may you love.**

**When others curse, may you bless.**

**When others hurt, may you heal.**

**When others divide, may you unite.**

**When others rage, may you calm.**

**When others deny, may you affirm.**

**You are a servant of the light.**

**You need not be afraid of darkness.**

**God strengthen you to carry on with your work and faithfully live who you are in Christ:**

**Love for stranger, love for enemy, love for neighbor  
– Amen**

(Based on a prayer by Steven Charleston,  
Native American Theologian and  
former Episcopal Bishop of Alaska)