

The Capital District Board of Rabbis and Cantors condemns the unprecedented assault on the United States Capitol building, the members of Congress, and indeed on democracy itself. Such acts of trespass, vandalism and violence are contrary to the values of our nation. We are particularly disturbed and heart-broken that these actions came as a result of leaders of our country putting their party loyalty ahead of the interests of the common good. Our democracy is only strong when all agree to abide by the laws of our nation. We call for all residents of the United States to unite for the common good; to respect the peaceful transition of power, and to reaffirm our commitment to democracy and civil discourse.

We pray for our country and its future well-being with these words from our Rabbis:

Eternal God.

Bless the leaders of our United States of America.

Grant them the health, safety, strength, wisdom, foresight, and fortitude to lead our nation in a manner that will allow us all to live in a world of blessing, safety, well-being, and peace. (*Rabbi Roy Feldman - Orthodox*)

Teach them the insights of Your Torah, that they may administer all affairs of state fairly, that peace and security, happiness and prosperity, justice and freedom may forever abide in our midst. (*Siddur Sim Shalom - Conservative*)

Grant our leaders wisdom and forbearance.

May they govern with justice and compassion

Help us all to appreciate one another,

And to respect the many ways that we may serve You.

May our homes be safe from affliction and strife,

and our country be sound in body and spirit. (*Mishkan Tefillah – Reform*)

Amen.