



## The Pre-Protest Faith Gathering Toolkit

Why attend a protest with a friend when you can go with your whole community?

Whether your gathering is large or small, formal or informal, pre-protest faithful preludes are an opportunity to root your participation in spiritual intention. From porches to parks, living rooms to sanctuaries, these moments of reflection and solidarity give us courage, remind us that we are not alone and that our values transcend any one voice or institution.

### Planning Your Gathering

A pre-rally gathering can be as simple as lighting a candle and reading a short reflection, or sharing a prayer and walking together.

- **When and Where**  
Plan to gather on the morning of October 18 in any meaningful space—your front steps, a garden, a nearby bench, or a place of worship.
- **Who to Invite**  
A few friends, fellow congregants, neighbors, or local partners—whoever may be moved to show up.
- **How to Frame It**  
Keep it heartfelt, simple, and invitational. Let people know this is a short time to pause, reflect, and commit before the public action begins.

### Sample Gathering Flow

1. **Welcome**  
One person opens the gathering and briefly shares its purpose.
2. **Shared Reflection or Silence**  
A short reading, prayer, or moment of quiet.
3. **Brief Testimony or Statement**  
One voice offers a few words connecting faith to action.



4. **Lean Into Tradition**

Light a candle, join in song, link arms, or read a shared line aloud.

5. **Transition to Rally**

Close with intention, then walk or travel together to your local event.

## **Logistics and Tools**

- **Messaging Help**

For sample language, talking points, and signage ideas, see our Messaging Guide for Faith and Democracy.

- **Coordinate with Your Local Rally**

Let local organizers know your gathering is happening—and invite them to join.

- **Make It Visible**

Share photos or quotes and tag @intrfthalliance to help lift up your witness and inspire others.