transforming practice

July 28, 2024

Opening Song A Change is Gonna Come | Sam Cooke

Opening Prayer

"If we could read the secret history of our enemies we would like to punish, we would find in each life a sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all our hostility." – Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Abundant God,

Give us the grace to look at the world through another's eyes,

so that our hearts might be open to creating the common ground

where it is possible to listen, to inquire, and to speak in a way that invites understanding, living the call we have received. Amen

Scrípture

Ephesians 4:1-6

"Sisters and Brothers: I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

Lísten & Learn

How America lost its mind – and how to get rationality back | John Inazu

For Reflection and Conversation

Dwell in the stillness and silence of presence. Allow these weeks of reflection to wash over you. As you consider the journey behind us and the one ahead, consider a commitment to one or more ways of breaking down the barriers of polarization, right where you are. Share your commitment with another.

In the four weeks ahead, stay alert for ways that you might be an instrument for healing division.

Closing Prayer

from "In our lifetimes alone" | Catholic Relief Services

In our lifetimes alone,

We have seen plagues beaten back

We have seen fruits bloom in the desert

We have seen purses spilled open in times of great need

We have seen strangers reach toward each other across every divide

We have seen your children sacrifice themselves over and over for one another

We have seen rattling sabers drawn, and then blessedly resheathed, in the face of prayer and wisdom.

God of peace,

You sing to us of a time when the wolf shall dwll with the lamb

in our lifetimes alone

We have seen it.

How can we doubt that you reign? Amen

Closing Song Never One Thing | Mary Erlewine

Please Note

Transforming Grace Reflections will pause during the month of August. We hope that you will join the LCWR Prayer Livestreamed from the Assembly in Orlando on Friday, August 16 at 2:00 PM ET and the LCWR 24 hour Virtual Prayer during the US Elections August 19-22 and November 4-6. You will find links to these on the LCWR website.

Transforming Grace weekly reflections will resume on Sunday, September 1 until Sunday, November 14.

