



continuing the journey of

transforming grace:

transforming practice

September 8, 2024

Opening Song

Wash your Spirit Clean | Walela

Give away the things you don't need
Let it all go and you'll soon see
And you'll wash your spirit clean
Wash your spirit clean
Go and pray upon the mountain
Go and pray beside the ocean
And you'll wash your spirit clean
Wash Your spirit clean
Be grateful for the struggle
Be thankful for the lessons
And you'll wash your spirit clean
And you'll wash your spirit clean

Opening Prayer

"What the people want is simple. They want an America as good as its promise." Barbara C. Jordan

Faithful God,
Give us the courage to be promise-keepers.
Open our ears to hear and our hearts to understand,
so that we might be ready to be Kingdom-builders.
May this day bring us the opportunity to speak with
truth, listen to learn, and respond with hope.
Let us be those who discern in wisdom and act with
justice so that the promises made may be fulfilled in
our midst.
Amen.

Scripture

Mark 7:34

"Ephphatha!" – that is, "Be opened!"

Listen and Learn

Is Social Media to Blame for Political Polarization | Bob Bordone

The More You Hate Negative Campaign Ads, The More They Work | Roger Stone

Art as Political weapon | How graphic design is used in propaganda

Questions for Reflection and Dialogue

Spend a few minutes in personal reflection on the questions suggested below, followed by sharing with a thought partner or small group.

Which sources of information and news do you most trust as being reliable?

How did you come to trust this source of information?

Do you consult sources that might not agree with your position? Describe that experience

In this election season, there are many advertisements intending to communicate negative information that are repeated over time. When you experience one of these, pause for a moment and breathe deeply to give yourself the space for contemplative presence.

Share your insights and reflection.

Closing

Rumi

This being human is a guest house.
Every morning a new arrival.
A joy, a depression, a meanness,
some momentary awareness comes as an unexpected visitor.

Welcome and entertain them all!...

Treat each guest honorably...

The dark thought, the shame the malice,
meet them at the door laughing, and invite them in.

Be grateful for whoever comes,

because each has been sent as a guide from beyond

Closing Song

May I Suggest | Red Molly

