

Courage and the Common Good

October 13, 2020

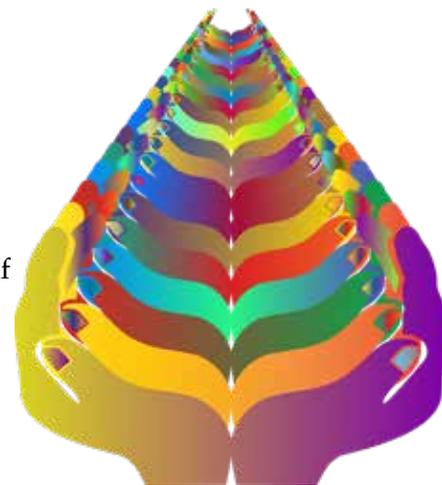
Scripture

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. (Joshua 1: 9)

Reflection

And now -- now we must look to the future. Let us heed the voice of the people and recognize their common sense. If we do not, we not only blaspheme our political heritage, we ignore the common ties that bind all Americans. Many fear the future. Many are distrustful of their leaders, and believe that their voices are never heard. Many seek only to satisfy their private work -- wants; to satisfy their private interests. But this is the great danger America faces -- that we will cease to be one nation and become instead a collection of interest groups: city against suburb, region against region, individual against individual; each seeking to satisfy private wants. If that happens, who then will speak for America? Who then will speak for the common good?

(The Honorable Barbara Jordan, [Democratic National Convention Keynote Address](#), July 12, 1976, NY.)



Questions for Reflection and Dialogue

At a practical level, how might we step out in faith, look fear in the face and meet the challenges of today and the weeks ahead?

What does uncommon courage look like today?

Music

[You'll Never Walk Alone](#) (Rogers and Hammerstein)



Closing Prayer

God of all, in this year of election, in these days of discernment, **IGNITE** us with the fire of your love. **ENFLAME** our hearts with courage to embrace dialogue that transforms and truth that frees. **KINDLE** our love with kindness to heal divisions and reconcile relationships. **LIGHT** our imaginations with insight to envision and create a world where all are one. **STIR** our actions with justice and peace to engage critical concerns and cherish all of life. **FIRE** our lives with audacity and hope to risk all for God's mission.

-- Roxanne Schares, SSND

Contemplative dialogue, deep listening, and mutual respect
are the prophetic actions that we can offer

LCWR