



continuing the journey of

transforming grace:

transforming presence

Reflection for the week of January 22, 2024

Opening Song: Taizé - virtual choir : Veni Sancte Spiritus

Opening Prayer

Spirit of God,
open our ears that we might hear the word of difference
open our minds, that we might learn beyond our comfort
open our hearts, that we might know the call to love in
this moment, this day, this week.

Scripture

“This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” MK 1:14

Poem

Out Beyond Ideas of Wrongdoing and Rightdoing Rumi

Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing,
There is a field. I'll meet you there.
When the soul lies down in that grass,
The world is too full to talk about.
Ideas, language, even the phrase *each other*
Doesn't make any sense.

Practice

Bob Bordone
What are the Effects of Political Polarization:
Lessons from a Negotiation Expert

3 Steps to address polarization in your own circle of
relationship and influence

Questions for Reflection

Dwelling in silence, allow the Spirit to guide you in
contemplative listening

Name a step that you are ready to take towards
addressing polarization, being as concrete as possible.

Choose a group or individual that can be your
“accountability partner” as you practice breaking the
barriers of polarization and division.



Closing Song/Prayer

India Arie: Prayer for Humanity

If we can learn what it means to really love ourselves
Then we can learn to love our neighbors as we love
ourselves
And we can live in harmony, see ourselves as a family
This is my prayer for humanity

That we respect our women, and protect our girls
That they feel safe in every corner of the world
That we can live in harmony, see ourselves as a family
This is my prayer for humanity, oh-oh

That every man will be a father to someone
By loving every boy as if he were his only son
That we can live in harmony, see ourselves as a family
This is my prayer
This is my prayer for humanity, oh

That we know that nobody really wins the war (Really wins
the war)
And every leader knows what power is really for
That we can live in harmony, see ourselves as a family
This is our prayer (This is our prayer)
This is our prayer (This is our prayer) For humanity, yeah,
oh

And every man, woman, boy, and girl
Will hear these words all across the world
And every man, woman, boy, and girl
Will hear these words all across the world
And every man, woman, boy, and girl
Will hear these words all across the world
This is my prayer (This is my prayer)
For humanity