**Prayer Vigil for Our Democracy and Presidential Election**

1. **Centering Chime**

1. **Reading of Scripture 1 Peter 5:2-3                 Read 3 times**

Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, exercising the oversight, not under compulsion but willingly, as God would have you do it—not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock.

1. **Silence**

1. **Prayer for Our Democracy Sister Joan Chittister, OSB[[1]](#footnote-1)**

*Give us, O God, leaders whose hearts are large enough to match the breadth of our own souls and give us souls strong enough to follow leaders of vision and wisdom. In seeking a leader, let us seek more than development for ourselves, though development we hope for more than security for our own land, though security we need more than satisfaction for our wants, though many things we desire.*

*Give us the hearts to choose the leader, who will work with other leaders to bring safety to the whole world. Give us leaders, who lead this nation to virtue without seeking to impose our kind of virtue on the virtue of others. Give us a government that provides for the advancement of this country without taking resources from others to achieve it. Give us insight enough ourselves to choose as leaders those who can tell strength from power, growth from greed, leadership from dominance, and real greatness from the trappings of grandiosity.*

*We trust you, Great God, to open our hearts to learn from those to whom you speak in different tongues and to respect the life and words of those to whom you entrusted the good of other parts of this globe. We beg you, Great God, give us the vision as a people to know where global leadership truly lies, to pursue it diligently, to require it to protect human rights for everyone everywhere. We ask these things, Great God, with minds open to your word and hearts that trust in your eternal care. Amen.*

1. **Offering of Prayers (Spoken and Silent)**

1. **Sending Chime**

1. https://www.joanchittister.org/word-from-joan/prayer-leadership [↑](#footnote-ref-1)