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## National unity requires repentance

Aug 8, 2023

God seems to need a people, a fellowship of virtuous human beings. And human virtue requires humility, tenacity, maturity, fallibility and openness, a fervent desire for truth. There will never be national unity without repentance, when we shall have re-engaged with our past and owned up to our historic sins in an unflinching look at our genocidal atrocities, our unnecessary wars, our proliferation of deadly narratives that promote belief over truth, all the ways we have betrayed our ideals and caused this ruinous fragmentation.

We should be sickened by all the ignorance, phoniness and lies, the cynical use of spectacle as a substitute for genuine quality and continuity. We should cleanse the temple of thieves and charlatans and fashion a public policy that has human skin and flesh on it, work from a moral imagination toward keeping our balance in this world that is shifting beneath our feet. We must cleave to our neighborhoods and communities because it is here that people are held accountable and where order is emergent rather than imposed from above.

So who shall our heroes be and who are the great servants of American life? Who has paid the true cost of discipleship? Who has accepted suffering without retaliation? What matters, in the end, are the countless small deeds of unknown people who lay the basis for the significant measures that enter history. Measures like FaithWorks, St. Athanasius Episcopal, Humane Society of South Coastal Georgia, No Kill Glynn, Glynn Environmental Coalition and One Hundred Miles.



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