

# **A Creed and Covenant for the Common Good**

We, people of faith and good will, lift our voices in a shared affirmation of truth, justice, and hope.

## **1. Universal Human Dignity**

We believe every person bears a sacred spark.

We denounce every system that treats any life as expendable

We commit to defending the worth of every human being in public life and daily practice.

## **2. Immigration and Compassion**

We believe that families belong together and that migration is a human story.

We denounce cruelty at the border, fear-based policies and the myth that we lack the capacity, creativity or compassion to welcome immigrants.

We commit to humane, comprehensive reform that welcome those seeking safety and hope.

## **3. Freedom of Religion**

We believe true religious freedom protects all traditions.

We denounce efforts to impose one faith over another or to use religion for domination.

We commit to honoring conscience, dialogue and the sacred diversity of our paths.

## **4. Indigenous Honor and Responsibility**

We believe that First peoples of this land remain a living blessing.

We denounce stolen land, broken treaties, cultural erasure and all ongoing injustice.

We commit to truth, respect, the protection of sacred lands and waters, and restored relationship.

## **5. Cross-Racial Solidarity**

We believe that communities most burdened by injustice have long led the struggle for equity.

We denounce the myths that divide us and the forces that profit from our separation.

We commit to a united movement rooted in truth, shared power, and the leadership of those most impacted.

## **6. Human Potential and Shared Flourishing**

We believe every person carries gifts meant to bless the world.

We denounce all barriers – economic, racial, educational, cultural and environmental – that limit human possibility.

We commit to a society where all can flourish, and where our common home is protected for generations to come.

## 7. The Right to Organize

We believe workers have the right to organize for dignity and fairness.

We denounce the exploitation and the silencing of labor.

We commit to defending worker rights and standing with those whose labor sustains the nation.

## 8. Memory, Truth, and Responsibility

We believe honest memory is the soil of justice.

We denounce denial and the distortion of harm past and present.

We commit to remembering truthfully and acting boldly for repair.

## 9. The Common Good

We believe our lives are bound together.

We denounce ideologies that elevate individual gain over communal care.

We commit to shaping committees and policies that honor our shared responsibility, our collective commitment.

Therefore, in this 250<sup>th</sup> year, we pledge to walk together

to seek truth,

to repair what has been broken,

to welcome the stranger,

to honor indigenous nations,

to stand with workers,

to defend the vulnerable,

to lift up the oppressed,

and to build a nation where justice and compassion are lived realities.

We invite all people of faith and goodwill to add their voices, their labor, and their lives to this shared work.

Let this Creed and Covenant be not only spoken, but fully and faithfully lived.



*A Creed and Covenant for the Common Good* is from Priests for Justice for Immigrants, Archdiocese of Chicago.