



Please join us tomorrow, Friday, November 11 at 7:00pm for our Community L'Dor V'Dor service as we discuss, pray and search for avenues of hope. Not the kind of hope that motivates us to achieve our respective or collective goals when the end is clearly achievable, but rather the kind of hope that is barely visible -- that only leaves a trace when surrounded by precipitation, smoldering heat and frigid cold.

This kind of hope finds shape and form where we least expect it. It breaks down the fortresses that isolate us. This is the hope we so desperately need today.

Our country has been so divided and so angry for way too long. We have forgotten that each of us was created in Gd's image. We have forgotten to learn from those with whom we strongly disagree. We have forgotten to work together for a common goal with people with whom we do not even talk. We have forgotten how to listen to each other. [Click here](#) to view Rabbi Starr's Kol Nidre sermon on listening.)

As individuals, as a congregation, as a community and as a country, we need hope, faith and belief in a greater good.

The traces of hope are there if only we open our eyes, hearts and souls to see them. For as George Jean Nathan wrote: "No man can think clearly when his fists are clenched". Neither can any woman.

As we come together this Friday night to find Shabbat peace, may we also rediscover the good in our congregation and in our country. As Elana Zaiman wrote: "Gd, on days when I am unable to feel grateful because my expectations imprison me, because my responsibilities burden me, or because the pain of living consumes me, remind me to be grateful. Grateful for the gift of life, for my soul, my breath, my being; grateful for my family, my friends, my community, for relationships that heal and nourish; grateful for the opportunity to learn, to grow, to become; and for the miracles that abound all around me and that ask only to be found."

For it is in these sacred bonds, that we will discover the traces of hope that will guide us in the coming years.

Rabbi Sonya Starr