

now at this place of convocation for all the world, on the shore of the western sea, fronting the Golden Gate, the Liberty Bell is again set up. Around it press, day after day, unnumbered citizens not of this nation alone but of all nations. They stand with uncovered heads as in the presence of this nation's history. They read its date, 1776, and hear again the Declaration of Independence.

The Liberty Bell is in very truth the Ark of the Covenant: the symbol and the seal of America's covenant with the God of Nations: the pledge, America's graven pledge to all the world, that this Republic, from sea to sea, for all time, and over all the world, shall stand for liberty, not for itself alone, but for the liberty of every people, the defender of the innocent weak against the arrogant strong, the advocate and guardian of Liberty and Justice and Honour for all humanity. So long as the people of this Republic keep inviolate the pledge of Liberty, so long will the Liberty Bell represent without rebuke the Ark of the Covenant for this American nation.

And not for Americans alone. The Liberty Bell means too much, its history runs too far back, its message rings too wide, for its meaning to be closed in by any national boundaries or under any national flag. I stand here, in this