

2nd Sunday in Lent
February 25, 2018
Theme: Covenanted and Journeying with Accountability

GATHERING BEFORE OUR GOD WITH JOY

*Gathering Songs: **“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**

“Take, O Take Me As I Am”

*Call to Worship:

We gather today to worship God; whose words and ways challenge us.
God invites us to find what is real and true.
God calls us to be faithful in a world that needs good news.
God urges us to discover life’s fullness.
God desires that we embody a sacred hope so that we might know true freedom.
We root ourselves in Christ, seeking to find nourishment for our spirits in this Lenten season of growth.

*Welcome & God’s Greeting:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*We Pass the Peace of Christ to Our Neighbour

RENEWING OUR COVENANT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

*Song of Adoration: **“Only a Holy God”** (verses 1-3)

Prayer of Adoration (Led by Voices from the Pews):

Voice A: We praise you, O God!
We glorify you!
We come to you with wonder and awe,
knowing you will hear our prayers.

we pray for your holy Church;
for this congregation gathered here . . .
for sisters and brothers in our community . . .
for your Church around the world . . .
for all whose lives proclaim your praise.

Voice B: God who does not turn away from the afflicted,
who always hears our cries,
You care for those who are in special need this day:
Your grace is sufficient for those who are in prison or alone,
You give the hope for healing to those who are ill or infirm,
and you comfort those who mourn . . .
We praise you for the promise of your grace and mercy
guaranteed by your covenant with us . . .

Song: **"Only a Holy God"** (verse 4)

Voice C: Psalm 22: 22-30 (Responsive Reading)

A Moment of Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon: **"When I Survey/The Wonderful Cross"**

BoP #231

Sharing with the Youth

Theme: "The Game of Life"

Scripture: *For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet lose his soul? Mark 8:35-36 (NIV)*

Youth Song: **"We Will Follow"**

OPENING OUR HEARTS TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

The Reading of Scripture:

Genesis 17: 1-7
Mark 8:31-38

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon: *"Blessings of the Covenant"*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Response: **"O God Our Help in Ages Past"** BoP # 330

Prayers of God's People, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

WE BRING OUR GIFTS

Work and Witness of our Church

A Time of Giving

Sung Response: **"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"** BoP#79

GOING FORTH TO LIVE AS GOD'S PEOPLE

The Benediction

*Recessional Hymn: **"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"** BoP#665

