

**SAINT PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**Fleetwood, Pennsylvania**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**February 25, 2018**  
**GATHERING**

*As you enter this sanctuary of God, use the time to clear your heart and mind through quiet time and prayer. As you listen to the music of the prelude, prepare yourself to receive the message God has for you.*

**INTROIT**

**OPENING HYMN**      *"Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face"*      No. 336

**PASSING THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**CENTERING**

**PRELUDE (8:55)**      *"People Need the Lord"*      G. Nelson  
**(10:25)**      *"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"*. William Doane Bell

Choir

**(Congregation Standing)**

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People :( singing) Amen!**

Pastor: Welcome to the time of covenant renewal.  
The God of our salvation greets us here.

**People: We are reminded of God's promises to us;  
We remember the promises we have made.**

Pastor: Sense the Spirit descending on us now.  
Hear God's welcoming voice.

**People: Surely God is with us.  
We can hear God calling our names.**

Pastor: See the rainbow in the sky.  
Wonder at God's steadfast love.

**People: All creation proclaims the wonders of God.  
We come together to learn what God wants to teach us**

**PENITENCE**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just,  
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**All: Have mercy on your church, O God, for we forget the covenant into which  
you call us. We muddle along in our self-serving schemes rather than waiting  
on your word. We follow the path of least resistance without seeking your  
higher way. We forget our baptism into a faith community built on trust and  
forgiveness. We turn from the vision of heaven to the treacherous hell of  
competing egos. O God, we turn to you to lead us to a new day. According to  
your steadfast love, forgive us, we pray. Amen.**

*(Silence)*

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People: (Singing) Lord have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Christ have mercy upon us.

**People: (Singing) Christ have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People: (Singing) Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Pastor: Be assured that the grace of our Lord overflows for us  
with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,  
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

**All: To the Sovereign of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God,  
be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. –I Timothy 1: 14-15, 17, adapt.**

Pastor: Let us say again what it is that we believe.

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and  
earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by  
the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He**

descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

### WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**OLD TESTAMENT** Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 OTP 13

**EPISTLE** Romans 4:13-25 NTP 155

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross". William Doane

Bell Choir

**CHORAL ANTHEM** "Look at the Lamb". Bruce Ballinger

Look, look, look at the lamb.  
Look, look, look at the lamb;  
Sinless, without blame, still He was slain:  
Look, look, look at the lamb.

See, see, see Him there-  
Broken, beaten, bruised and bare;  
Taking my place was a work, a work of grace:  
See, see, see Him there, see Him there.

Love, love, flowed with the blood-  
Love flowed with the blood;  
My sin and yours: that's what He bore,  
And love flowed with the blood, love flowed with the blood.

Look, look, look at the lamb;  
Look, look, look at the lamb;  
Sinless without blame, still He was slain:  
Look, look, look at the lamb.  
Look, look at the lamb, the precious lamb, the spotless lamb.

SERMON TEXT

Mark 8:31-31

NTP 44

#### Choral Response:

WORDS and MUSIC: Beaker (20th c.)

#### SERMON

**"Finding My BFF"**

*(Congregation Standing)*

#### RESPONSIVE HYMN

*"Take Up Your Cross,"*

No. 204

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

**LORD’S PRAYER**

*(Congregation May Be Seated)*

**GIVING**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**THE OFFERTORY**

*Meditation on "Faith of Our Fathers"*

C. Callahan

**THE DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Praise, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

*(Congregation Standing)*

**SENDING**

**THE RECESSIONAL HYMN**

*"O God, How We Have Wandered"*

No. 202

**THE BENEDICTION**

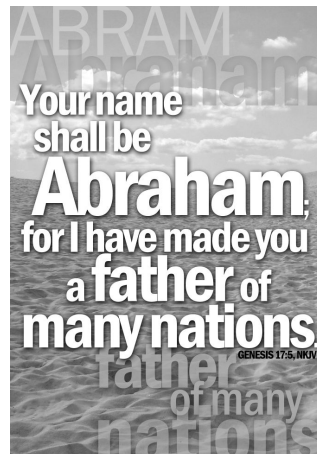
**CHORAL SENDING**

**CHIMES HYMN**

**THE POSTLUDE**

*"Bouree" ...*

J. S. Bach



**MISSION STATEMENT**

As Followers of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves to:

- Enthusiastically proclaim and teach God’s love through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Share God’s love with neighbors near and far.
- Live as a Christian community of hope, acceptance, and encouragement in a rapidly changing world.

**WELCOME TO ST. PAUL’S**

- If you are visiting and would like to know more about St. Paul’s please fill out the visitor’s card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. One of our pastors will contact you.
- There are assisted listening devices for the hearing impaired available at the sound board in the rear of the church.
- **Adult Sunday school is held at 9 a.m. - Generations Class in the Lounge off the Narthex. Also, Adult Bible Study is held Wednesday mornings. See Announcement sheets in the bulletin for details.**
- Children are always welcome in our worship space (as are the joyful noises that they sometimes add). For those moments when it might be needed, we do have a nursery room in the rear of the church that anyone with younger children is welcome to use. The room is equipped with a speaker that will allow you to continue enjoying the service. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.
- Activity bags for children can be found on a rack in the Narthex.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(For the week of February 18, 2018)**

The **Altar Flowers** are sponsored by Walter and Carolyn Christ in memory of Walter’s father Walter J. Christ

The **Bulletins** are sponsored by William and Carol Strause.

The **Upper Room Publication** for this month is sponsored by Michael and Gail Noll to celebrate their daughter Beth's birthday.

**Coffee Time Sponsor:** Bell Choir

**Readers:** 8:55 a.m. – Melissa Ruemmler

10:25 a.m. – Dave Balmer

**Acolytes:** 8:45 a.m. – Nicholas Hill and Chase Reifsnyder

10:25 a.m. – Megan Eberly and Maegan Milesosky

**Ushers:** 8:55 a.m. – TBD

10:25 a.m. - TBD

<b>Attendance:</b>	February 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	71	
	February 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	8:55 a.m. – 67	10:25 a.m. – 46
<b>January</b>	Income	Expense	Difference
General Acct	\$ 28,849.87	\$ 50,367.03	-\$ 21,517.16
Other Accts	\$ 5,253.00	\$ 3,740.14	\$ 1,512.86
<b>Year to date</b>			
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