

Bringing forward the communion elements this morning are  
*Ada Gaffney and Faith Whitacre.*

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Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship.  
 Children's worship folders are available in the Narthex.  
 Should you find that your child grows restless, there is childcare  
 available in the nursery for ages 3 and under.

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(Hymns and streaming used by permission One License A-715880)

**Welcome!**

Whether you are a long-time member, occasional worshiper,  
 or new visitor with us, we hope that in this service you will  
 encounter the living Christ and be strengthened  
 by God's promises for you.  
 Please visit our website at [covenantpresstaunton.org](http://covenantpresstaunton.org) to learn  
 more about our ministries and Covenant life together. We are  
 happy to have you as part of our church family today!

The flowers this morning are given to remind us: "In the midst of  
 winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer."  
 — Camus (and Susan)

**COVENANT CHURCH DIRECTORY**

- PASTOR.....John C. Peterson (he/him)
- ASSOCIATE PASTOR.....Rae Watson (he/ey)
- MINISTER OF MUSIC.....Jeffrey Ryman (he/him)
- ORGANIST.....Christopher Wszalek (he/him)
- HANDBELL DIRECTOR.....Alan Cameron (he/him)
- DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR.....Mitzi White (she/her)
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.....Martha Pierce (she/her)
- FINANCIAL SECRETARY.....Debby Bibens (she/her)
- TREASURER.....Paul Sorrell (he/him)
- COVENANT NURSE.....Kathy Henderson (she/her)
- CUSTODIAN.....Cleo Holly (he/him)

**SESSION MEMBERS**

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Tom Bellamy	Sally Griffith	Katie Campbell
Tom Brooks	Clay Robinson	Frances Craig
Melissa Druff	Bob Stripling	Christy Davis
Jacki Dull	Janet Surratt	Kent Diduch
Donna Hamric	Linda Tenney	Troy Kurtz
Sam Hostetter	Dori Walk	Linda Owen
Kristen Lambert	Jane Wimmer	John Sayers



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**STRIVING TO BE FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF CHRIST  
 WORSHIPING WITH JOY, GROWING IN FAITH, SERVING IN LOVE**

MARCH 1, 2026  
 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

10:30 AM

*As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship,  
 please silence any mobile devices.  
 This service is live streamed on YouTube.*

**STRIVING TO BE FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF CHRIST**

- PRELUDE.....Held  
*Prelude on Llangloffan*
- JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION
- INTROIT.....BICENTENNIAL  
*You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

**WORSHIPING WITH JOY**

- CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 121)  
 Leader: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.  
**People: The Lord is our guardian and guide.**  
 Leader: The Lord protects us and saves us from all evil.  
**People: The Lord watches over us all our days.**

\*HYMN No. 51.....LLANFYLLIN  
*I Will Be Your God*

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we struggle with faith and with faithfulness. We say, "I believe", but we do not trust you wholeheartedly. We doubt and disobey you, and put our trust in lesser things, in unholy things. Our faith wavers, and our faithfulness ebbs and flows like the tide. Often we knowingly do the wrong, instead of doing what is right. Forgive us. Stir in us faith and faithfulness, that we may trust you with our very lives and follow wherever you lead us. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . .

\*KYRIE – Hymn No. 2275

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.  
Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison.  
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.**

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn No. 442, stanza 3

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,  
O lamb of God, I come; I come!**

**GROWING IN FAITH**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING.....Pg. 12 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible*  
Genesis 12:1-20

SECOND READING.....Pg. 187 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible*  
Romans 4:1-5

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON.....JOHN PETERSON  
“RIGHTEOUS, BUT NOT ALWAYS RIGHT”**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *Question 21 of the Heidelberg Catechism*

Q. What is true faith?

**A. True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a whole-hearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace granted solely by Christ’s merit. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen**

\*HYMN No. 177.....Haas  
*I Will Come to You*

**SERVING IN LOVE**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY.....Ritter  
*With Wine From the Vineyard*

PRAYER

HYMN No. 500.....ST. FLAVIAN  
*Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*

**Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;  
Savior, abide with us, and spread your table in our heart.**

**Here share with us, in love divine, your body and your blood,  
that living bread, that heavenly wine be our immortal food.**

**THE LORD’S SUPPER**

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (The Sanctus is Hymn No. 559)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*(We will partake of the Communion elements together after all are served.)*

PRAYER

\*HYMN No. 39.....FAITHFULNESS  
*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE.....African American Spiritual  
*Were You There?*

POSTLUDE.....Vaughan Williams  
*Rhosymedre*

*(Please be seated for the Postlude or exit the sanctuary quietly  
while the Postlude is being played.)*

\*Those who are able, please stand.

HYMN No. 51  
I Will Be Your God

**To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear:  
“Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair.  
You need not fear the journey,  
for I have pledged my word  
that you shall be my people and I will be your God.”**

**From Abraham and Sarah arose a pilgrim race,  
dependent for their journey on God’s abundant grace;  
and in their heart was written by God this saving word,  
“That you shall be my people and I will be your God.”**

**We of this generation on whom God’s hand is laid  
can journey to the future secure and unafraid,  
rejoicing in God’s goodness and trusting in this word,  
“That you shall be my people and I will be your God.”**

HYMN No. 177  
I Will Come to You

**“I will come to you in the silence;  
I will lift you from all your fear.  
You will hear my voice;  
I claim you as my choice.  
Be still and know I am here.**

**Refrain:  
“Do not be afraid, I am with you.  
I have called you each by name.  
Come and follow me,  
I will bring you home;  
I love you and you are mine.”**

**“I am hope for all who are hopeless;  
I am eyes for all who long to see.  
In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light.  
Come and rest in me.  
(Refrain)**

**“I am strength for all the despairing,  
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
All the blind will see;  
the lame will all run free,  
and all will know my name.  
(Refrain)**

**“I am the Word that leads all to freedom;  
I am the peace the world cannot give.  
I will call your name,  
embracing all your pain.  
Stand up, now walk and live!  
(Refrain)**

HYMN No. 39  
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**Refrain:  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.  
(Refrain)**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  
(Refrain)**