



**“Our Lives, Our Hearts,  
an Open Book”**

***Peace United Church of Christ  
Worship Resources for the First Sunday in Lent  
February 22, 2026***

*Today is Lenten Communion; please have your elements ready before viewing the service.*

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn            “Break Thou the Bread of Life”**

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,  
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

**Prayer of Confession**

***O God, who knows our hearts and, indeed, everything about us,  
we come to you in this season of Lent intending to be an open book.  
The mask we show to the world, and even to those closest to us, slips in your presence.  
May this season be one of honest reflection and sincere surrender,  
and may our lives reflect the nature and being of Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen***

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Meditation**

**Prayers of the People/The Prayer of Our Savior (debts and debtors)**

**Gather at the Table of Welcome: Holy Communion**

**Invitation**

**Communion Prayer**

**Breaking the Bread/Blessing the Cup**

**Sharing the Meal**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Wondrous God,  
tender in your love for us,  
we thank you for the experience of the holy  
that we have received in Christ's body and blood.  
Continue to nourish us by your Spirit,  
that we may fulfill the work of Christ in the world. Amen*

**Closing Hymn            "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

O safe and happy shelter, O refuge tried and sweet,  
O trysting place where Heaven's love and Heaven's justice meet!  
As to the holy patriarch that wondrous dream was giv'n,  
So seems my Savior's cross to me, a ladder up to heav'n.

**Benediction & Sending Forth**