

People of Justice, Loyalty, and Fidelity

A prayer service to be used with Chapter 7: At the Heart of the Journey: God's Prophets .

Leader: In the Old Testament God made covenants with his people to signal a promise of protection, presence, and blessing. The people would also have a promise they made in response. In Hosea's time the covenant promises of the people included justice and care for each other. Today let us pray with Hosea that we will be people of justice, loyalty, and fidelity.

Reader 1: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Hosea (Hs 2:20-22),

I will make a covenant for them on that day, with the wild animals, with the birds of the air, and with the things that crawl on the ground.

Bow and sword and warfare I will destroy from the land, and I will give them rest in safety. I will betroth you to me forever:

I will betroth you to me with justice and with judgment,
with loyalty and with compassion;

I will betroth you to me with fidelity, and you shall know the Lord.
The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reader 2: Lord, help us to live lives in accord with the justice we owe to one another. Help us to remember that all people deserve your love.

Reader 3: Lord, help us to be people of loyalty to you and one another. Help us to call each other on, and to be more aware of our responsibility to one another.

Reader 4: Lord, help us to be people that value and seek to abide by the covenants we have made with you in baptism and the sacraments. Help us to live in fidelity to the promises we have made to love of God and love of neighbor.

Leader: We turn to you, God, as we seek to be people of greater justice, loyalty, and fidelity as we pray... (pray the Our Father).