

## The Baptismal Covenant

*Leader* Do you believe in God the Father?

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

*Leader* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*All* **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 to the dead.  
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.**

*Leader* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*All* **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.**

*Leader* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Leader* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Leader* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Leader* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*Leader* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*The Leader prays:*

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin: Grant that we, being reborn to new life in him, may live in righteousness and holiness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** (BCP 254)

*or*

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** (BCP 252)

**Session 2:**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**What** does this mean?

**Why** would we do this? Why do we need to do this once we are baptized?

**How** do we do this? (Where do we do this?)

### **Bible Study:** Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

- what idea or image gets your attention?
- what questions do you want to ask about this?
- how does this help you understand resisting evil, repenting and returning to the Lord?

### **Take it home:**

One thing you can do this week to practice resisting evil, repenting and returning to the Lord?

### **With God's help:**

Write a prayer, or a note to help you pray for how God can help you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.

Closing Prayers:

**Prayers of the Baptized**

*Leader* Let us pray.

*All* Deliver us, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*All* Open our hearts to your grace and truth.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*All* Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*All* Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*All* Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*All* Send us into the world in witness to your love.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*All* Bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

*All* **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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**