

# Contemporary Worship

April 19, 2026

*Third Sunday of Easter*

*Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.*

## GATHERING MUSIC

*Draw Me into Your Presence – Teresa Muller*

*Draw me into Your presence.*

*I want to know You.*

*For there's life in Your presence.*

*Yes, there's life in Your presence.*

*There is life in Your presence. I want to know You.*

*Where else can I go? Where else can I hide?*

*Only in Your presence, Lord, can I find peace of mind.*

## WELCOME

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

SONG \*

Now the Feast and Celebration

A \* in the order of service indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

God; to make all things new.

## HOLY GOSPEL\*

Luke 24:13-35

*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.

<sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them,

whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

<sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him."

<sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.**

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

### SONG \*

*Day of Arising*



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us ev - er a - wait - ing  
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic melody

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## **PRAYERS \***

*The assembly responds to each petition ending in “Merciful God,”*

**Assembly: receive our prayer.**

*The assembly responds to the final petition ending with “Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.”*

**Assembly: Amen.**

## **PEACE \***

**Leader:** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**Assembly: And also with you!**

*The assembly greets each other with “peace be with you...and also with you.”*

*You’re invited to share God’s peace with those around you.*

*If you’re worshipping on Facebook, you may also greet one another in the comments.*

## **OFFERING**

*To Commune with You – Patsy Hilton Kline*

*As we respond to hearing God’s Word and prepare to feast at God’s table we contemplate the many ways we serve the Kingdom of God through our time, talents, and gifts.*

*Offering plates are available at each entrance to the sanctuary and the QR code below can be used to give our tithes and offering.*



*To commune with You is what my heart desires.  
To commune with You is when my spirit breathes.  
When I'm in the presence of Your Holiness,  
To commune with You is all I need.*

*Fill me with Your love, cleanse me with Your fire,  
Change me through Your presence, and restore me.  
For there's no greater love that fulfills my soul.  
There's no greater need I have than to commune with You.*

## **CONFESSION \***

Leader: We come before God and each other in a time of confession  
as Jesus meets us on the Road of Life and calls us to Holy Communion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Leader: God, we don't always recognize you with us.

**Assembly: We get distracted and go our own way.  
We miss your voice and lose sight of your hope.  
Forgive us.  
Open our eyes to your presence,  
and lead us in your way.  
Amen.**

## **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS \***

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION \***

## **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 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*All those who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome to the table.*

*We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements from the servers.*

*You will be handed a wafer from the server and are invited to select a cup of wine from the tray.*

*Pre-packaged elements of grape juice and gluten free wafers are available  
in the baskets at the communion rail and at each entrance to the sanctuary.*

*You may partake of the elements at the communion rail and dispose of the cups and packaging in the baskets  
at the end of each communion rail or take the elements back to your pew to partake of them and dispose of  
the cups and packaging after the service.*

*"Bread from the Lord's Table" and/or a pastoral blessing are available for children who do not yet commune.*

Pastor: Come to the table of new life.  
Receive the risen Lord.

*As you are served communion:*

Communion Server: The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you  
Communion Receiver: Amen.

### **Here Is Bread**

Verse 1: Here is bread, here is wine,  
Christ is with us, He is with us.  
Break the bread, taste the wine,  
Christ is with us here.

Chorus: In this bread there is healing,  
In this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit,  
Christ is with us here.

Verse 2: Here is grace, here is peace,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Know his grace, feel his peace,  
Feast on Jesus here...*chorus*

Verse 3: Here we are, joined as one,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
We'll proclaim till he comes  
Jesus crucified...*chorus*

*Words & Music by Graham Kendrick*

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### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

Leader: The body and blood of the risen Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace,  
now and forever.

**Assembly: Amen.**

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION & SERVICE**

## **BLESSING \***

Leader: May the God of all mercy,  
who raised Jesus Christ from the dead,  
open your eyes to recognize the risen Lord.  
May Christ, who walked with the disciples on the road,  
be your companion in every journey.  
May the Holy Spirit,  
who kindled faith in the hearts of the faithful,  
fill you with joy and peace in believing.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Assembly: Amen.**

## **SONG \***

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Halle, halle, hallelujah.  
Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

*Music: Traditional Caribbean*

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## **DISMISSAL \***

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Alleluia!

**Assembly: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:**

Bishop Suzanne Darcy Dillahunt, Bishop Southern Ohio Synod

Pastor Leslie Fox Lott, Transition Pastor

Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor

Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family

Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music - Praise Team

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**FLOWER DEDICATION:**

*The altar flowers are given by Jane McFadden in memory of her husband, John,  
whose birthday was April 18.*

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