

“Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 3rd 2020

Call to Worship and Approach to God. *You are invited to light a candle.*

The God of heaven has made a home on earth;

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

The highest in all creation lives among the least;

**Christ journeys with the rejected
and welcomes the weary.**

Come now all who hunger

and be fed with the bread of life.

Come now all who wander in the wilderness

and be led by God your liberator.

Come now all who seek

and be filled with good things.

❖ Hymn

1 Oh, sing a new song to the Lord,
for wonders he has done:
with his right hand and holy arm
the vict'ry he has won.

2 The Lord has made this triumph known,
displayed his saving might;
he has revealed his righteousness
in every nation's sight.

3 He mindful of his grace and truth
to Israel's house has been;
the saving power of God our Lord
earth's farther ends have seen.

4 Earth, shout aloud to God the Lord
and make a joyful noise;
break into song and celebrate,
sing praises and rejoice.

5 Sing to the Lord with sound of harp,
let harp and voices ring:
with blare of trumpets, blast of horn,
acclaim the Lord, the King.

6 Let seas, and all within them, roar,
the world, and dwellers there;
let streams clap hands, and mountains sing--
as one their joy declare.

7 Let these all sing before the Lord
who comes earth's judge to be;
he'll judge the world with righteousness,
its folk with equity.

❖ **Prayer of approach** ending with the Lord's Prayer: *(say this in whichever language or version you prefer.)*

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word of God

❖ **Children's address**

❖ **Holy Scripture:** Luke 24:13-35

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ 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?" ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ 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. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah^g should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³² 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?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

❖ **Music in worship:** *Break Thou the Bread of Life* - John Duro

❖ **Sermon:** *followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

❖ **Hymn**

He is Lord, he is Lord!
 He is risen from the dead and he is Lord;
 every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord.

❖ **Prayers of Intercession**

❖ **Prayer of dedication**

❖ **Hymn**

I want Jesus to walk with me;
 I want Jesus to walk with me;
 All along my pilgrim journey,
 Oh, I want Jesus to walk with me.

In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
 When my heart is almost breaking,
 Oh, I want Jesus to walk with me.

When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me
 When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me
 When my head is bowed with sorrow
 Oh, I want Jesus to walk with me.

❖ **The Apostles' Creed:**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 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.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of the saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

❖ **Narrative of the Institution and the Invitation**

❖ **Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

<i>The Lord be with you</i>	and also with you
<i>Lift up your hearts</i>	we lift them up to the Lord
<i>Let us give thanks</i>	It is right to give
<i>to the Lord our God</i>	our thanks and praise

... with earth and sea and sky, and all the heavenly host we join praising you...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

❖ **Prayer of Consecration**

❖ **Eating the bread and drinking the wine**

❖ **Prayer**

❖ **Hymn**

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift and war,
where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.

Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

Blessing: Go in peace to love and to serve God;
and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us and unite us, now and always. Amen.