

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
APR 19, 2026



THE ROAD TO
Emmaus

Luke 24: 13-35

american

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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volunteer

Select a Sunday.
Select a Role.

BE OF SERVICE.



OUR MISSION

We are people who worship Jesus Christ, reaching out to teach and share his love for people. We believe through the Holy Spirit, God has empowered us to worship Jesus Christ through music, Word and Sacrament; To Teach the gospel through Sunday School, confirmation, Bible Study and Youth Ministry. To share the gospel and reach out through Fellowship, Evangelism and Ministry to all in need.

JOIN US for Worship, Fellowship & Sunday School each week!

- * Worship begins @ 9 am * Fellowship @ 10 am
- * Sunday School @ 10 am (September - May)

Welcome to Worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

(Congregation, please stand)

***All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!** Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

***Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

(Acolytes come forward to light the candles once the congregation has started to sing our gathering hymn.)

**GATHERING
HYMN**

ELW #522 As We Gather at Your Table

GREETING

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

KYRIE

pg. 184-185 (*Kyrie & Glory to God*)

**PRAYER OF
THE DAY**

O God, **your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(Congregation, please be seated)

FIRST READING

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:
³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

I will call on the name of the Lord. (Psalm 116:13)

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

¹ I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

² **for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”**

¹² How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 1:17-23

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(Congregation, please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] 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 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.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Congregation, please be seated)

CHILDREN'S
SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF
THE DAY

ELW #539 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

(Congregation, please stand)

THE
APOSTLES'
CREED

(text is printed in the back cover of the red hymnal)

PRAYERS OF
INTERCESSION

Petitions end "Merciful God," Congregation responds, "receive our prayer."

SHARING
THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(Congregation, please be seated)

OFFERING

(Congregation, please stand)

OFFERTORY

ELW #381 Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes *(verse 1)*

Peace, to soothe our bitter woes,
God in Christ on us bestows;
Jesus bought our peace with God
with his holy, precious blood;
peace in him for sinners found
is the gospel's joyful sound.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. George T. Rygh, 1860-1943, alt.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table. Receive the risen Lord.
(Congregation, please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

ELW #494 For the Bread Which You Have Broken
ELW #491 Come, Let Us Eat

(Congregation, please stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW #501 Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

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A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,

that we may protect the world and not prey on it,

that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts

of those who look only for gain

at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,

to be filled with awe and contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature

as we journey toward your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle

for justice, love and peace.



04.22.2026

change of heart

The people who hear Peter's testimony and preaching are cut to the heart. The writer of 1 Peter instructs believers to love deeply from the heart. The disciples who encounter the risen Christ notice afterward that their hearts were "burning" within them as Jesus reveals the scriptures and then himself to them in the breaking of the bread. Whether a call to repentance, hope, recognition, or love, people are deeply affected by encounters with the one raised from death to become followers of Jesus' way. They not only turn from their sin and doubt but literally change direction, going back from Emmaus to Jerusalem with renewed courage, faith, and hope. These heart-changing encounters with Jesus fulfill a promise from God for the whole community, from those who have lived a long life to those who are children.

The butterfly reminds us of new life and the Resurrection. After three days, Jesus rose from the dead and brings us the hope of new beginnings. This simple craft helps children celebrate that joyful truth.

What you need:

- Light-colored construction paper
- Card stock
- Glue
- Paint
- Paintbrush
- Paper towel or baby wipe



What you do:

- Cut out a butterfly body from the construction paper.
- Glue the butterfly body onto the card stock.
- Use a paintbrush to coat the palm of one hand with paint.
- Press your painted hand beside the butterfly body to create a wing.
- Repeat with your other hand to make the second wing.
- Clean your hands with a paper towel or baby wipe.
- Optional: Add Luke 24:5-6 (NIV) around the butterfly or on its body:

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!"

* * *

images in the readings

The meal of Emmaus is one of the many Lukan accounts of eating with Jesus, and Luke's accounts follow the biblical theme that God feeds the people. To be true to the biblical image of the life shared with Christ, the bread that we break, the wine that we share, and our methods of distribution ought to make clear that holy communion is a meal. A loaf of bread or a large circular flat bread, home baked or purchased from a local store and broken for all to see, presents a quite different image of salvation than do medieval quarter-sized tasteless hosts bought from an ecclesiastical supply company. Think about the image presented by your eating and drinking.

The preaching of Peter and the teaching of Christ along the road are images of our receiving the "living and enduring" saving word.

The passage from 1 Peter presents an array of images, one rushing along after another. A significant image for the book of 1 Peter is exile: the baptized are living in an alien land. When Christians become too comfortable in what Acts calls "this corrupt generation," we are called to be ransomed out of it and purified by obedience to the truth.

new testament

Lamentations

Ezekiel

Daniel

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.



the gospels

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

CHURCH HISTORY

Acts

Romans

1 Corinthians

2 Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

1 Thessalonians

2 Thessalonians

1 Timothy

2 Timothy

Titus

Philemon

Hebrews

James

1 Peter

2 Peter

1 John

2 John

3 John

Jude



Pauls letters

general letters

GOD IS "Light + Love"

PROPHECY

Revelation

prophets

Pauls letters

