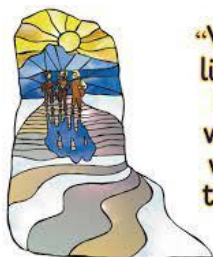


WE GATHER AS THE FAMILY OF CHRIST

“Wasn't it
like a fire
burning
within us
when he
talked to
us”

Prelude**Welcome /Announcements****Opening Meditation**

We too often want to get back to normal, to the same old, same old. But that's the whole point of Easter; there is no same old anymore. Everything is new. We might be living in a Good Friday kind of world, but we are of Easter. When Peter addressed the crowd with the eleven, he implored them to embrace the change - the “newness” - of life in Christ.....

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

*2:14a: But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,
2:36 "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"38 Peter 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.39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him."40 And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."41 So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.*

CALL TO WORSHIP**Call on the Lord Who Bends Low to Hear Us
(Psalm 116)**

Come! Lift your voices to the Lord who always hears us.

Listen, Lord. Hear our voices sing your praises.

Call on the Lord who bends low to hear us.

Listen, Lord. We lift our voices to you in praise.

Call on the name of the Lord, all people.

Listen, Lord. We call on your wonderful name. For you saved us, you raised us and turned our lives around. Let your name be praised in this congregation.

Let us pray:

Merciful God, even as we remember how you have heard us in the past, we come to you again in our need, carrying burdens too large to bear. And yet, even in our need, we praise you. We praise you because we remember all you have done in the past and know that you will continue to love us and our community into flourishing. As

we lay our burdens at your feet, transform the outpouring of our praise into love for all of our neighbors, so that we may grow more like you every day. Amen.

PRAISE HYMN FWS #2248 "Baptized In Water"

Author: Michael Seward

Publication Date: 2001

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Tune Information

Harmonizer: Carlton R. Young

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**1 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ, our
King;**

**heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.**

**2 Baptized in water, sealed by the
Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;**

**one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.**

**3 Baptized in water, sealed by the
Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ, our
King;
born of one Father, we are his children,
joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

Gospel Lesson.....Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)

The Walk to Emmaus

13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles[a] 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.[b] 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,[c] 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.[d] 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[e] 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[f] 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.

Children's sermon

FAITH HYMN UMH# 454 "Open My Eyes"

Author: Clara H. Scott (1895)

**1. Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**2. Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

**3. Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!**

Message

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

(Resurrection Prayer)

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for the victory and power in your Name. Thank you that you hold the keys over death, that by your might, Jesus was raised from the grave, paving the way for us to have new life with you. Thank you that you had plan, that you made a way. We confess our need for you...fresh...new...again. We ask that you renew our hearts, minds, and lives, for the days ahead. We pray for your refreshing over us. Keep your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we

trust that your voice speaks louder and stronger, reminding us we are safe with you and that your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that you will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on your level ground. Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set your way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. Thanks be to you God, for your indescribable gift! To you be glory and honor, on this Resurrection Day, and forever. In Jesus' name we pray, Our Father...

Offertory/Doxology/Prayer (UM Hymnal 95) (Wykoff UMC)

Creator of all we know and all we don't know, as we bring our gifts this day, we ask you to help us trust you more. Forgive us when we entertain the thought that our future lies in bank balances and the accumulation of stuff. Remind us as Peter reminded the early followers that through Jesus, we "have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God" (1:21). May our lives reflect that trust to others. In the powerful name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn #672 "God Be With you till We Meet Again" (verses 1 & 4)

Author: Jeremiah E. Rankin (1880)

Composer: William G. Tomer (1880)

**1. God be with you till we meet again;
by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

Refrain:

**Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.**

**4. God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you,
smite death's threatening wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again.
(Refrain)**

Commission & Benediction

Go now as witnesses of God's eternal presence.
The risen Christ has made himself known to you
so set your faith and hope on God,
fulfilling your vows and living in genuine mutual love.
...In the name of Christ. Amen.

Postlude