

things just as the women said. They didn't see him."

Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. Wasn't it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets.

When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. But they urged him, saying, "Stay with us. It's nearly evening, and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, "Weren't our hearts on fire when he spoke to us along the road and when he explained the scriptures for us?"

They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying to each other, "The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!" Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.

LESSON "WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?" REV. NED ALDERMAN

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Let us remember Jesus: Who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor and dwelt among us. Who was content to be subject to his parents, the child of a poor couple's home. Who lived for thirty years the common life, earning his living with his own hands and declining no humble tasks. Whom the people heard gladly, for he understood their ways.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: Who was mighty in deed, healing the sick and the disordered, using for others the powers he would not invoke for himself. Who refused to force people's allegiance. Who was Master and Lord to his disciples, yet was among them as their companion and as one who served. Whose desire was to do the will of God who sent him.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: Who loved people, yet retired from them to pray, rose a great while before day, watched through the night, stayed in the wilderness, went up into a mountain, sought a garden. Who, when he would help a tempted disciple, prayed for him. Who prayed for the forgiveness of those who rejected him, and for the perfecting of those who received him. Who observed the traditions, but defied convention that did not serve the purposes of God. Who hated the sins of pride and selfishness, of cruelty and impurity.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: Who believed in people and never despaired of them. Who through all disappointment never lost heart. Who disregarded his own comfort and convenience, and thought first of others' needs, and, though he suffered long, was always kind. Who, when he was reviled, uttered no harsh word in return, and when he suffered, did not threaten retaliation. Who humbled himself and carried obedience to the point of death, even death on the cross, wherefore God has highly exalted him.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.



"God's Body in this Community"

"Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people."

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter



Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A cry room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and directions to these rooms.

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS AND WHERE WE'VE SEEN INSPIRATION AND THE WORK OF GOD THIS WEEK

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 51:1-6 CEB

Listen to me, you who look for righteousness, you who seek the Lord: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry where you were dug. Look to Abraham your ancestor, and to Sarah, who gave you birth. They were alone when I called them, but I blessed them and made them many. The Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her ruins. He will make her desert like Eden and her wilderness like the Lord's garden. Happiness and joy will be found in her – thanks and the sound of singing.

Pay attention to me, my people; listen to me, my nation, for teaching will go out from me, my justice, as a light to the nations. I will quickly bring my victory. My salvation is on its way, and my arm will judge the peoples. The coastlands hope for me; they wait for my judgment. Look up to the heavens, and gaze at the earth beneath. The heavens will disappear like smoke, the earth will wear out like clothing, and its inhabitants will die like gnats. But my salvation will endure forever, and my righteousness will be unbroken.

PRELUDE

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"

DANA MOODY

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

CALL TO WORSHIP [in unison]

Easter people, we gather today as people who spent the week inundated with news reports, social media posts, and reels that inundated us with information, worry, and stress.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we carry the weight of being overwhelmed and anxious, wondering who we can believe.

We gather as people who long for peace, for God to break through and bring us clarity and hope once again.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we don't always recognize when the Risen One comes alongside us, showing us the way where there seems to be no way.

We gather as people hoping to catch a glimmer of Resurrection, ready for our hearts to burn with the truth of the resurrected Christ.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we open our hearts to the possibility that God's Resurrection life is closer than we think.

Easter people, God knows the burdens we carry, and God is faithful to meet us where we are with good news.

May the good news of the Resurrection astound us today as we come to worship God!

Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

OPENING PRAYER

O risen Christ, On the road to Emmaus, you were the disciples' companion. Be at our side on the journey of faith on life's pathways and at every encounter, engender our compassion, so that we may welcome others and listen to their stories.

Kindle anew the desire to proclaim your Word. May it illumine us, and may our hearts burn to bear witness to it. May your Holy Spirit teach us the art of explaining scripture and open our hearts to recognize you. Grant us the courage to become vulnerable so that our siblings may know you through us and that we may know you through them. Amen.

Posted on the World Council of Churches website. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/01/opening-prayer-luke-2413-32.html>.

HYMN

“Christ is Risen”

#307

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.

Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.

Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.

Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.

Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus: Christ is risen! Get you gone!

God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Heavenly Stranger, our Companion on the Way, we yearn for your love and grace. We seek your wisdom and guidance. We relish the joy which burns within our hearts when you are with us.

Yet, sometimes we would cling to you, hoard the blessings of relationship with you, and not share your love with others.

Forgive us, Dear One. Remind us that your love is to be carried throughout the world. Press us to share the hope and joy of your love, so that someone who hungers for spiritual food may be filled by our witness to your grace. Shine the light of your Spirit through us, so that we may show your Way to those who long for peace and help to revive those in whom hope has died. Amen.

Written by Rev. Renee C. Jackson and posted on the Worship Ways (United Church of Christ).website at https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easte_3_26/.

THE 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. Amen.

ANTHEM

“A SYMPHONY OF PRAISE”

CHANCEL CHOIR

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:13-35 CEB

On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. They were prevented from recognizing him.

He said to them, “What are you talking about as you walk along?” They stopped, their faces downcast.

The one named Cleopas replied, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?”

He said to them, “What things?”

They said to him, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, he was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. But there's more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning and didn't find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them he is alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found

Let us unite in prayer that Christ may dwell in our hearts.

O Christ, our only Savior, so come to dwell in us that we may go forth with the light of your hope in our eyes, and with your faith and love in our hearts. Amen.

UMPH Methodist Publication. The United Methodist Book of Worship: Regular Edition Black (pp. 559-560). United Methodist Publishing House. Kindle Edition.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Let's keep our promises to God, as we offer our love to God's world through our gifts today.

Scifres, Mary; Beu, B.J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year (p. 104). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we don't recognize you. You speak, and our hearts burn within us. You break the bread, and our eyes are opened. Today, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope. May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news. Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus moment. We give because we've seen you – alive, loving, and leading us still. In Jesus' name, Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN

“DAY OF ARISING”

TFWS #3086 vv. 1,2,4

Day of arising, Christ on the roadway, unknown companion walks with his own.
When they invite him, as fades the first day, and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

When we are walking, doubtful and dreading, blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
Yet Christ walks with us, ever awaiting our invitation: Stay, do not part.

Christ our companion, hope for the journey, bread of compassion, open our eyes.
Grant us your vision, set all hearts burning that all creation with you may rise.

BENEDICTION

Go now in the courage and blessing of the Risen Christ to live as bearers of the astounding good news to bring hope and peace in a world that so desperately needs Resurrection. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

POSTLUDE

“MODERATO”

DANA MOODY

Today's service is available on Facebook Live at 11 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Linda & Calvin Gallop

Lay Reader: Kelly Castellow

Prayer partner: Brenda Swoope

Audio-Visual Operator: Ericka Litten

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

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