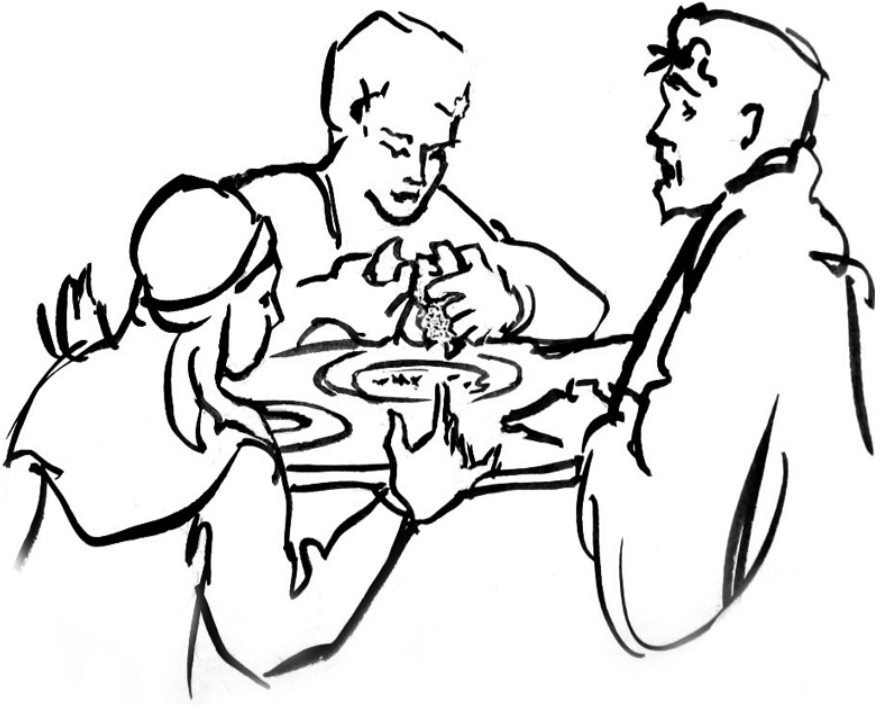


SUNDAY- APRIL 23, 2023 -9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON
BARRY HOERZ

ELC@MHTC.NET - 608-437-5012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 23, 2023 | Third Sunday of Easter | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

(**Note:** Prelude note - In acknowledgement of Earth Day, our closing hymn today will be 739 - Touch the Earth Lightly. Since this song is new to us, it will be demonstrated at the end of this morning's prelude. You are encouraged to follow along in the hymnal.)

WELCOMING WORD *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.*

OPENING HYMN: # 385 - Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

C - Amen.

P - Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God,

C - holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

P - Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

C: Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

P - Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C - Amen

GREETING

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

C: And also, with you.

+ **KYRIE pg. 138**

+ **HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140** *"This is the feast..."*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God,

C: 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.

Congregational Songs – This Good Day

My Life Is in You, Lord

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

¹⁴Peter, 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.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways 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 faith and hope are set on God. ²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, 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.

+ **ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)**

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 24

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

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

+L the Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM - "Bread of the World"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Stephanie Engle

Program Director, Sugar Creek Bible Camp

+HYMN # 480 - *O Bread of Life from Heaven*

+ NICENE CREED pg. 104

THE PRAYERS pg. 143

**(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:
"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: Hear our prayer.)"**

OFFERING - SONG "*Hold Us Together*"

(please pass the pew pads at this time)

OFFERTORY - #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

MEAL

+ Offering Prayer: Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

+ The Lord's Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Communion Hymn: # 879 - *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Prayer after Communion: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+HYMN # 739 - *Touch the Earth Lightly*

(You are encouraged to sing from the hymnal.)

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 23, 2023

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 134, Praise in the Night

Tuesday, Mark 1:1-15, John Baptizes Jesus

Wednesday, Exodus 24:1-11, The Blood of the Covenant

Thursday, Psalm 23, The Good Shepherd

Friday, 1 Peter 2:13-17, Honor Everyone, Fear God

Saturday, Ezekiel 34:1-16, The False Shepherds

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.”

-- Luke 24:35

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.

- When has God revealed something to you that changed your behavior, thinking, or faith? (Luke 24:13-35)
- What would you like to say to other leaders in faith and ministry? (Acts 2:37-41)
- What are you reluctant to trust God to do or be? (1 Pet 1:17-23)

PRAY: Lord 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.

BLESS: The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation. Amen.