

# Riverside United Methodist Church

The Third Sunday of Easter • April 26, 2020 • 9:30 AM

We gather online to worship in the name of the  
+the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit+

## GATHERING

### Gathering Music

### Call to Worship

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**All: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### Processional Hymn

*On the Day of Resurrection*

UMH 309

1 On the day of resurrection  
to Emmaus we return;  
while confused, amazed, and frightened,  
Jesus comes to us, unknown.

2 Then this stranger asks a question,  
“What is this which troubles you?”  
Meets us in our pain and suffering;  
Jesus walks with us, unknown.

3 In our trouble, words come from him;  
burning fire within our hearts  
tells to us the scripture’s meaning.  
Jesus speaks to us, unknown.

4 Then we near our destination.  
Then we ask the stranger in,  
and he yields unto our urging;  
Jesus stays with us, unknown.

5 Day of sorrow is forgotten  
when the guest becomes the host.  
Taking bread and blessing, breaking,  
Jesus is himself made known.

6 Opened eyes, renewed convictions,  
journey back to scenes of pain;  
telling all that Christ is risen.  
Jesus is through us made known.

### Invocation

*from Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

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

### Gathering the Community

## THE WORD

### Epistle Lesson Hebrews 12:22-13:2 (CEB, alt.)

But you have drawn near to Mount Zion, the city of the living God, heavenly Jerusalem, to countless angels in a festival gathering, to the assembly of God's firstborn children who are registered in heaven, to God the judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous who have been made perfect, to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the sprinkled lifeblood that speaks better than Abel's blood, who was unjustly murdered. See to it that you don't resist the one who is speaking. If the people didn't escape when they refused to listen to the one who warned them on earth, how will we escape if we reject the one who is warning from heaven? His voice shook the earth then, but now he has made a promise: *Still once more I will shake not only the earth but heaven also.* The words "still once more" reveal the removal of what is shaken—the things that are part of this creation—so that what isn't shaken will remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that can't be shaken, let's continue to express our gratitude. With this gratitude, let's serve in a way that is pleasing to God with respect and awe, because our God really is a consuming fire. Keep loving each other like family. Don't neglect to open up your homes to guests, because by doing this some have been hosts to angels without knowing it.

### Call to Prayer

*Spirit of Life*

*Singing the Living Tradition* 123

Spirit of Life, come unto me,  
sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind; rise in the sea;  
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close. Wings set me free.  
Spirit of life, come to me, come to me.

### Pastoral Prayer

### Easter Alleluia

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

TFWS 2026

Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

### Gospel Reading Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

**All: Glory to you, O God.**

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 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?" 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, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 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. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 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. 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." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 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. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and

broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 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?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

One: This is the Gospel of New Life.

All: **All praise to Christ!**

## Response

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

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Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

## Sermon

*Our Easter Journey: Pausing for Dinner*

Rev. Keith A. Turner

## THE EUCHARIST

### Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

#### Offertory

#### The Great Thanksgiving for Easter

One: Lift up your heads

All: **We lift them up to God**

One: Lift up your hearts

All: **We lift them up to the Lord**

One: Lift up your hands

All: **We dedicate our heads, our hearts, and our hands to the worship of God.**

We offer our entire being to the God of Creation, who made the sun and the moon to govern by day and by night and hung the stars in the sky. We offer our entire being to the great God who hollowed out the valleys and bulged up the mountains, who spat out the seven seas, and populated the world with glorious creatures. Blessed be the name of the Lord who created us and fashioned us from the dust and breathed into us the breath of life.

And so we praise you and bless you, Creator God, joining our voices in the ancient hymn of all creation:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord Jesus Christ who came to us in spite of our destructive ways. He healed the sick, raised the dead and cast out demons. In the brief time that he was with us, Jesus sided with the oppressed, had compassion for those who suffer, and gave dignity to women and children. He taught us in word and deed about a God we had been unable to understand.

In spite of his glory-revealing presence among us, we turned him into a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. Jesus was persecuted by certain religious leaders and betrayed by one of his own. He was lied about, tortured, and hung on a cross to die.

Yet, even on the day of his crucifixion, Jesus continued to teach those who would listen. When evil people came with his betrayer, Jesus did not respond with violence, choosing instead to remind us that those who live by the sword will die by the sword. When he was

falsely accused and condemned to death, Jesus refused to do harm. And while hanging on the cross, he prayed: "God forgive them, for they know not what they do." But we give you thanks that nothing ever was, or ever will be, able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

On the morning of the third day Jesus laughed at death, shed his grave clothes, and walked among us alive! Forty days later, he ascended into heaven, where he is seated at the right hand of the God of our ancestors. Our eyes are turned toward the skies looking for the day when Jesus shall return to a kingdom without end, where the lion will lie down peaceably with the lamb, where sickness and disease are not known where the wicked will cease from troubling and we will study war no more!

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he shared a meal with his disciples. He took bread from the table, gave thanks to God, and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the meal was over he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples saying: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my lifeblood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Today, Jesus, we remember the bread and the cup. Today, we remember your life and your death. We remember your resurrection; we remember eternal life. As we receive these gifts in praise and thanksgiving we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.  
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Holy God, pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine; make them be for us the body and blood of Christ. Wonder-working God, pour out your Spirit upon us; as we offer ourselves to be God's presence in the world until Jesus returns in glory.

One: Almighty God, We your people cry out to you on behalf of our community:  
Have mercy upon all who suffer from the evils of poverty.

**All: Risen Christ, be known to all in the breaking of the bread.**

One: Have mercy upon all who have lost their way.

**All: Risen Christ, be known to all in the breaking of the bread.**

One: Have mercy upon all who have been offended by the church.

**All: Risen Christ, be known to all in the breaking of the bread.**

One: Have mercy upon all who feel forgotten and neglected.

**All: Risen Christ, be known to all in the breaking of the bread.**

**Amen, amen, amen!**

**Amen, amen, amen!**

Have mercy upon us Triune God,  
and make us worthy to be called your people  
who pray the prayer that Jesus taught to his disciples:

## The Lord's Prayer

setting by Mark Miller

Our God, in heaven, holy is your name.  
Your reign come.  
Your will done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread,  
and help us forgive as we have been forgiven.  
In the time of trial, lead us into life.  
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.  
Our God in heaven, holy is your name.  
Holy is your name.

## Sharing the Bread and Cup

## Hymn during Communion

## *Day of Arising*

*Worship & Song 3086*

1 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.

3 Lo, I am with you, Jesus has spoken.  
This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:  
when the church gathers, when bread is broken,  
there Christ is with us, in bread and wine.

2 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.

4 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

## SENDING

### Closing Hymn

### *The Risen Christ*

*Glory to God 257*

1 The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet  
from garden tomb through darkened city street,  
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,  
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.

3 The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand  
the bread for those who fail to understand,  
reveals himself, despite their lingering tears,  
enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.

2 The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,  
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide  
who faith still wavers, who dare not believe;  
new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.

4 May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand  
with the oppressed in this and every land,  
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,  
restored in Christ to true humanity.

## Benediction

## Sending Music