3rd Sunday of Eastertide



Post Resurrection, Jesus Appeared to Two Disciples On the Emmaus Road

10 A. M. Worship for Sunday, April 23, 2023

First Memorial Presbyterian Church of Dover, New Jersey

***Gathering and Focusing during Prelude***

*(Please be still {stop talking} as we prepare our hearts to worship God.)*

***The Call to Worship:*** **- Rachel Persenaire**

One**:** Followers of Jesus,

 by his cross we are redeemed from the futility of sin.

 All: **Alleluia!**

One: By his rising we are free from the fear of death.

 All: **Alleluia!**

One: By his love

 we are made new in the living and enduring Word of God.

 All: **Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

- The Call to Worship (above) is as found on page 143 of Feasting On the Word, Liturgies for year A, vol.1.

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***\*Hymn of Praise No. 104:* - Rachel Persenaire**

 “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!” – Brian Wren, b. 1936

***Call to Confession***

***Unison Prayer of Confession:***

 All: **Almighty God, our world is filled with corruption:**

 **power disguises itself as truth;**

 **convenience masquerades as goodness;**

 **selfish pleasure imitates love.**

 **We confess to you O God,**

 **that we have been caught in the web of the world’s sin.**

 **By the power of the Holy Spirit,**

 **save us from these deceptions and free us for glad obedience,**

 **that we may see the joy of Jesus’ resurrection**

 **and receive the promise of everlasting life. Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon***

One: My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us.

 All: **In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God.**

One: That is a promise of peace and joy;

 share that peace with one another.

- The Call, Prayer and Pardon (above) are as found on pages 143 & 144 of Feasting On the Word, Liturgies for year A, vol.1.

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***\*A Disciple’s Response:*** “Doxology” - Thomas Ken, 1693, 1709

***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.***

- In the public domain

***\*Celebrating the Peace Jesus Came to Bring:***

One: People of God, you have heard the ‘Good News’

 of Christ’s substitutionary atonement.

 All: **Yes we have! Jesus was obedient unto death**

 **that we might have life in abundance and life for eternity.**

One: Children of God, BELIEVE this ‘Good News’

 of what God has done for us in Christ.

 All: **Let us not keep this to ourselves,**

 **but proclaim it to others with words and deeds.**

One: Without moving from where you now stand,

 please take the next few moments to share a warm greeting

 and a sincere sign of God’s peace with those around you.

- Written by Alan R. Schaefer, 2009.

***Children’s Message* - Megan Berg**

***Sung Prayer for Illumination:***  - Harry D. Clarke, 1887

“More About Jesus Would I Know”

**More about Jesus would I know, more of His grace to others show; More of His saving fullness see, more of His love who died for me.**

**More, more about Jesus; more, more about Jesus;**

**More of His saving fullness see, more of His love who died for me.**

- In the public domain.

***Gospel Lesson: According to Luke 24: 13 thru 35***

13 Now on that same day

 two of them 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 in 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.

*This is the Word of the Lord…*

 All: **Thanks be to God!**

***Adult Message: “What Were You Expecting?”***

*Text: Luke 24: 25 – Then (Jesus) said to them, “Oh how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!...”*

***Call for the Offering and Prayer of Dedication***

***Choir Anthem:* - Rachel Persenaire**

*“He Lives (I Serve a Risen Savior)*” - Ackley

***Joys and Concerns***

***Prayers of and for the People and Lord’s Prayer:***

 All: **…Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name…**

***\*Hymn of Parting No. 119:***  - Latin, c. 1695

 “The Strife Is O’er”

***Charge and Benediction:***

**(Dear Saints,) Go in the joy of resurrection: purify your souls;**

 **be obedient to the truth; be genuine in life,**

 **through the living and enduring Word of God. And…**

**May the grace of Jesus Christ our risen Lord,**

 **the love of God who raised him from the dead,**

 **and the power of the Holy Spirit who fills the world with new life,**

 **bless and keep you. (Amen.)**

- The Charge and Benedicyion (above) are as found on page 146 of Feasting On the Word, Liturgies for year A, vol.1.

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Unless otherwise noted, most of the bulletin / liturgy is written by the Pastor, the Rev. Mr. Alan R. Schaefer, H. R.



**OUR NEXT LORD’S DAY CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE ON MAY 7, 2023 *IN THE SANCTUARY***