

## GATHERING

Bring together elements of bread and juice, water or wine for communion. Light a candle or turn on a lamp to acknowledge Christ's presence in your worship space. Offer your attendance by posting a greeting or prayer request in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

## CENTERING WORDS

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. "The Lord has risen indeed!" (Luke 24:30-31,34)

## OPENING PRAYER

Christ, our living hope, breathe your Spirit upon us. Fill us with your faith and love, that we may recognize you even in our doubts. Help us so to believe where we have not seen, that others will see in us the living Christ, arisen and changing the world even today. In faith and hope, we pray. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE READING

### Luke 24:13-35 (CEB)

<sup>13</sup> On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. <sup>16</sup> They were prevented from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He said to them, "What are you talking about as you walk along?" They stopped, their faces downcast.

<sup>18</sup> 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?"

<sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. <sup>21</sup> We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. <sup>22</sup> But there's more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn't see him."

<sup>25</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. <sup>26</sup> Wasn't it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets.

<sup>28</sup> When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. <sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> 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?"

<sup>33</sup> They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying to each other, "The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.

**SONG FOR ILLUMINATION**

**“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”**

UMH 349

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
look full in his wonderful face,  
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
in the light of his glory and grace.

**SERMON**

***“Meeting Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread”***

Pastor Melody Webb

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 for ever and ever. Amen.

**OFFERING**

Make your offering [online](#) or mail checks to 1421 W. Broadway St., Polk City, IA 50226 (Attn: Finance Secretary)

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The peace and presence of the Lord be with us. So we lift up our hearts. And the family says, *“We lift them up to God.”*

**People: “We lift them up to God!”**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God, because it is the right thing to do, not only now, but always - day after day after day. And the family says, *“Day after day after day.”*

**People: “Day after day after day.”**

We thank you, creator God, that you made us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, our love failing, and our bodies diseased, you reached out to us again and again, providing healing, wholeness, and new life.

When the flood came, You provided an ark.  
When the plagues came You provided safety.  
When evening came, You provided a pillar of fire.  
When exile came, You provided a new song.  
Day after day after day, Your love remained steadfast.  
And the family says: *“Day after day after day.”*

**People: Day after day after day.**

And the family says, *“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of power and might!”*

**People: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of power and might!**

And the family says, *"Heaven and Earth are full of your glory."*

**People: Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.**

And the family says, *"Hosanna in the Highest!"*

**People: Hosanna in the Highest!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Blessed is your Son who came to preach the good news to the poor, release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, who freed the oppressed, and announced that the time had come when you would save your people. And the family says, *"He healed the sick."*

**People: He healed the sick.**

And the family says, *"He is healing the sick now."*

**People: He is healing the sick now.**

He will heal the sick, day after day after day. And the family says, *"Day after day after day."*

**People: Day after day after day.**

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood 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."

Let us be a community of healers and hope-givers, as together we proclaim the mystery of faith: The family says: *"Christ has died."*

**People: Christ has died.**

The family says: *"Christ is risen."*

**People: Christ is risen.**

The family says: *"Christ will come again."*

**People: Christ will come again.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Let them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, made whole by his witness, passion and life. In this season of social distancing, may you remind us that we are never spiritually distant from You.

The family says: *"We belong to your body."*

**People: We belong to your body.**

May the Spirit use us to heal and reconcile in Jesus' name. The family says: *"We will heal and reconcile in Jesus' name."*

**People: We will heal and reconcile in Jesus' name.**

And now Holy Spirit make us one in Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.

The family says: *"Amen!"*

**People: Amen!**

***\*The Breaking of the Bread***

This bread reminds us that any life, no matter how broken, or sick, or distorted it may become, can be made whole again.

***\*The Pouring of the Cup***

The cup reminds us that any life, no matter how empty, or lonely, or isolated it may become, can be filled again. These are the gifts of God, for the family of God. And the family says, *"Thanks be to God."*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

***Invitation***

I invite you to prayerfully partake in Holy Communion by whatever means you have.

*(all tear off a piece of bread and hold it up)*

The Body of Christ given for you

*(all eat)*

*(all hold the cup in front of the camera)*

The cup of blessing poured out for you and for all

*(all drink)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Day after day after day you give yourself to us: in two or three gathered in your name, in connection across the miles, and in bread and wine. As we go from this gathering around your table, may we feel restored to your body, companioned by your people, and sustained by the power of your Spirit as we witness to your healing and reconciling work. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**WORDS OF BLESSING**

Rejoice in hope and celebrate the gift of new life, for the risen Christ has met us here and goes with us on the journey of faith.

**SONG OF SENDING**

**"Be Thou My Vision"**

UMH 451

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Great God of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys,  
O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Though and thou only, first in my heart,  
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

*Today's liturgy is provided by Rev. Mary J. Scifres, Rev. B.J. Beu, Rev. Lane Cotton Winn and Rev. Juan Huertas  
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