

ORDER OF WORSHIP - APRIL 14, 2024
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER

Bishop Al Gwinn

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF JESUS

PRELUDE

Dr. James Humlong

Morning Has Broken
arr. Diane Bish

INTROIT

Chancel Choir

Christ Be With Me
G.F. Handel

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Joan Wooden

Stay with Christ,
and Christ will stay with you.
**Listen for God,
and God will speak.**
Seek the Spirit,
and the Spirit will be revealed.
**For the Spirit is already here,
inviting us to stay.**

***HYMN 163**

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

***PSALTER LESSON**

Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

I love the Lord, who has heard
my voice and my supplications,
and has inclined his ear to me
whenever I called.
**The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.**
Then I called on the name of the Lord:
"O Lord, I beseech you, save my life!"
What shall I return to the Lord
for all my benefits?
**I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,**
I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
**Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his faithful ones.**

O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid.
You have loosed my bonds.
**I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.**
I will pay my vows to the Lord,
in the presence of all his people,
**in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.**
Praise the Lord.

*GLORIA PATRI

UMH 70

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Joan Wooden

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O Jesus Christ, sometimes we are so busy talking with each other
that we fail to find you beside us.
We walk on, so focused on our questions
that we do not create the silent spaces which would allow you
to speak with us and enlighten our journeying.**

-Silent reflection-

Stay with us, Jesus Christ.
**Reach out towards us and invite us to pause and meet with you, we pray.
As we look at our lives and that of the world around us,
we are sometimes too anxious to share our real questions
or our doubts and fears. We keep them within us in troubled silence.**

-Silent reflection-

Stay with us, Jesus Christ.
**Reach out towards us
and invite us to pause and meet with you, we pray.
We call your name, O Christ,
and hope to discover you here
in our community of vulnerable faith. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Whether we believe it, or not, Jesus Christ never leaves us nor forsakes us.
Let us open our hearts to receive the grace
which Christ brings to us in faithfulness.
We are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

HYMN 700

stanza 1

Abide With Me

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Parker Outman

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir

To the Lamb on the Throne

Dan Forrest

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH 95

***PRAYER OF BLESSING**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Dr. Douglas Herman

Luke 24: 13-32

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?"

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Bishop Al Gwinn

"It's Over"

***HYMN 310**

He Lives

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Dr. James Humlong

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello

This morning's liturgy:

Call to Worship - written by Mary Scifres. From *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020*.

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Prayer of Confession - adapted from *Words for Worship*. Posted on the <http://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/> website.