



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield  
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER + APRIL 24, 2022**

**Welcome to Our Guests!**

*We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...  
if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!*

**Playing the Chimes and Prelude**

**Greeting and Welcome**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Opening Hymn**

*He Lives*

CH226

**Confessing our Brokenness and Opening Prayer**

Hear these words from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians: Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

When in this past week have we clung to malice and evil?

When have we rejected sincerity and truth?

*Silence*

**O God, the risen Christ revealed himself to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Feed us with the bread of life and break open our hearts, that we may know him not only in the good news of the scriptures, but risen in the midst of your pilgrim people. Amen.**

## Song of Praise

## Gloria

Christopher Grundy



## Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well- aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

## Psalter

Psalms 114

When Israel went out from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion. The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs. Why is it, O sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? O mountains, that you skip like rams? O hills, like lambs? Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the God of Jacob, who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water.

## Gospel

Luke 24:13-49

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. While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were

startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." and when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you--that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

## **Reflection**

## Musical Call to Prayer

*Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

Ken Medema

9 Lord, li-sten to your chi - ldren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spi-rit in this place.

Lord, lis-ten to your chi - ldren pray - ing. Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

## Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

For the Church: that we may be transformed through our encounters with the living Christ and be instruments of healing and forgiveness for those who are hurting

For peace in all the troubled areas of the world, particularly in Ukraine: that Christ's victory over death may bring an end to war, genocide, and inhumane treatment of people and help us to work together to end disease and malnutrition

For a renewed stewardship of God's creation: that as we celebrate Earth Day, God will guide us to effectively care for creation and preserve its beauty and resources for coming generations

For all who are suffering: that God will heal the sick, comfort the grieving, guide refugees to safety, and open resources to those who lack food and medicine

For all who must face death each day: that Christ, who once died but who now lives forever, will strengthen and renew their spirits

*Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.*

*The following are offered as examples...*

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,  
who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 debts/sins/trespasses,  
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/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, forever. Amen.**

## Offering Hymn

*On the Journey to Emmaus*

Marty Haugen

*Offerings may be placed in passed plates, mailed to:*

*First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC.*

*Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250, or given online at [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)*

On the jour - ney to Em - ma - us with our hearts cold as stone the  
And our hearts burned with - in us as he talked on the way, how  
And that eve - ning at ta - ble as he blessed and broke bread, we  
On our jour - ney to Em - ma - us, in our stor - ies and feast, with

5

One who would save us had left us a - lone. Then a stran - ger walks  
all that was pro-mised was ours on that day. So we begged him "Stay  
saw it was Je - sus a - ris'n from the dead; though he van - ised be -  
Je - sus we claim that the great - est is least: and his words burn with -

10

with us and to our sur - prise he  
with us and grant us your word." We  
fore us we knew he was near, the  
in us, "Let none be ig - nored! Who

13

o - pens our stor - ies and he o - pens our eyes.  
wel - comed the stran - ger and we wel - comed the Lord.  
life in our dy - ing and the hope in our fear.  
wel - comes the stran - ger shall wel - come the Lord!"

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be low; Praise

5

God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

## Prayer of Dedication

**Lord Jesus, you break bread and we recognize you; you are the fire that burns within us. Use us and these gifts to light the world. Amen.**

## Hymn

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

CH422

## **Benediction**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ in risen indeed! Alleluia!**

May the peace of Christ be with you always!

**And also with you!**

## **The Week Ahead...**

Sunday, April 24      10:15am Worship and Worship Circle

Monday, April 25      10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center

Wednesday, April 27      1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 29      Lasagna Dinner 5pm and 6:30pm

Saturday, April 30      Spring Work Day

Sunday, May 1      10:15am Worship and Worship Circle