

**United Church of Christ, First Congregational
Norwich, New York
April 26, 2020**

A TIME OF GATHERING AS WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken*
Meena Conant, organ

Arr. by Douglas E. Wagner and Mark Hayes
Tune: Bunesan
Traditional Gaelic Melody

WELCOME (Pastor John)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Chad Conant)

Almighty God, Jesus, our risen Lord, was made known to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our hearts that we may recognize his presence, and with his disciples cry, "The Lord has risen, indeed!" Through Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN *Jesus, Sovereign, Savior* (Tune: KING'S WESTON)
Mary Williams, voice
Bob Oehme, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP (Meena, Jay, Neil and Kyle Conant)

LEADER: Please join with us in the Call to Worship:

LEADER: Followers of Jesus, by his cross we are redeemed from the futility of sin.

PEOPLE: Alleluia!

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

PEOPLE: Alleluia!

LEADER: By his love we are made new in the living and enduring Word of God.

PEOPLE: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC *I Long For You*
Jay, Neil and Meena Conant

By Christopher Walker

CHILDREN'S TIME (Linda Oehme)
The Lord's Prayer

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING OF PEACE

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE - Luke 24:13-35
(Katie Izzo)

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk

along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ 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?" ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ 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. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³² 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?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

ANTHEM *You Raise Me Up* Words and Music by Brendan Graham and Rolf Lovland
UCC Choir (recorded June 2019) `Arranged by Joseph F. Martin

SERMON

ORGAN INTERLUDE *Sweet Hour of Prayer* (Tune: SWEET HOUR)
Bob Oehme, organ

PASTORAL PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN *We Live by Faith and Not by Sight* (Tune: DUNLAPS' CREEK)
Mary Williams, voice
Bob Oehme, organ

BLESSING (Pastor John)

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.

Alleluia!

POSTLUDE *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*
Leona Tyler (recorded April 2017)