

Presbytery of West Virginia Staff-Led Worship
April 11, 2021

CALL TO WORSHIP

Nellie Howard and Maureen Wright

One: As the sun set over the village of Emmaus, Jesus took bread,
blessed and broke it, and gave it to his friends.

Many: Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

One: Today we gather around table, font, and pulpit— hoping, trusting
to behold the risen Lord.

Many: May our eyes be open to recognize Jesus in our midst.

HYMN **“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”** *tune: Hymn to Joy*

Barbara Chalfant

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

2 All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

3 Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Mark Miller

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy Robinson

Living Lord,
by the power of your Spirit,
you are present among us.
Yet, like the first disciples,
we fail to see you in our midst.
We do not realize you are walking beside us,
for we are rushing to meet the demands
of hectic schedules and overcrowded lives.
We do not notice you in everyday encounters,
for we are distracted by daily labors
and consumed by our own concerns.
We do not recognize you on our streets
or at our tables,
for our expectations are too limited
to imagine all the ways you dwell among us.
Open our eyes to perceive you in our midst,
so that—seeing you clearly—
we might follow you faithfully. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Mark Miller

One: We have an advocate with God –
Jesus Christ, the righteous one –
who offered his life in love
to save the world from sin.
This is the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Many: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ed Thompson

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:13-35

Susan Sharp Campbell

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sarah Specht

SERMON

Susan Sharp Campbell

HYMN **"O Christ, Your Friends Were Gathered"** *tune: Aurelia*

Barbara Chalfant

1 O Christ, your friends were gathered together in a room.
They'd heard the women's stories about your empty tomb.
Some talked about Emmaus—they'd seen you breaking bread.
Some claimed that you were risen; some thought you still were dead.

2 You met your friends and showed them your wounded hands and side,
For you were Jesus risen and Jesus crucified.
You showed them God had triumphed and God had suffered pain.
And in that intersection, you made them whole again.

3 You meet us in the places where all seems doomed or lost—
Where people face oppression, where children pay the cost,
Where poor ones cry in hunger, where illness takes its toll:
You meet us, suffering Savior, and make the wounded whole.

4 O Christ, your resurrection gives hope and life anew.
And yet your wounds and anguish give peace and promise, too.
For you've been there before us! Now send us out to be
A church that bears your suffering and claims your victory.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rocky Poole

OFFERING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Maureen Wright
Susan Sharp Campbell
Maureen Wright

HYMN**“The Day of Resurrection”***tune: Lancashire***Barbara Chalfant**

1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

2 Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own “All hail!” and hearing, may raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**Susan Sharp Campbell****Resources used:**

- The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Prayer for Illumination are from *Call to Worship, volume 53*, Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church(U.S.A.)
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