

# Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church UCC

April 19, 2026 –3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

## “On the Road”



### *Centering Words*

*(Luke 24)*

*In the midst of confusion and doubt, Love walks beside us.*



[www.betheluccontario.org](http://www.betheluccontario.org)

536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 9:55am

Facebook, YouTube, Twitch, Twitter

Also available On Demand on Vimeo, Roku and

Amazon Fire TV

*Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.  
Quienquiera que seas y dondequiera que estés en el camino de la vida, eres bienvenido aquí.*

Bethel Congregational Church, UCC  
Sunday – April 19, 2026

**Prelude**

Music for Gathering

Sandy Gunn

**Call to Worship** (*Psalm 116, 1 Peter 1, Luke 24*)

One: Even if we feel abandoned and alone,

**Many: Christ meets us here**

One: Even when we become lost and disoriented,

**Many: Christ rescues us in our need.**

One: Even when our hearts are touched by the frost,

**Many: Christ warms our spirits.**

One: Even when all light has faded to black,

**Many: Christ illumines our Way.**

One: Here in this house of worship, enter, rejoice, and come home.

**Many: We will serve the Holy One and be companions and comforters for God's people. We will declare the goodness of God with praise and thanksgiving.**

**Unison Opening Prayer**

Living God, you are the fire that burns within us.

You open our hearts to your presence, revealed in word and song,  
in hospitality and friendship, in sacrament and presence.

Open our minds again so that we may recognize you  
when you meet us in unexpected moments.

Let us encounter you in every phase and movement of worship  
that we might know you and love you more than before we gathered.

And, may that love burn brightly like the sun cutting through the gloom  
of the storm to inspire us to go on with renewed hope and spirit. Amen.

Gathering Hymn:

*Open Our Eyes, Lord (sing 2 times)*

*Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,  
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.*

Open Our Eyes

Words and Music by  
Bob Cull

♩=76

D D<sup>sus</sup>/E D/F# G<sup>2</sup>(#4) G G/A A Bm<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C# G/D



O - pen our eyes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ we want to see Je -

7 D A/C# Bm D/A Gmaj<sup>9</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup>



-sus, \_\_\_\_\_ to reach out and touch Him, \_\_\_\_\_ and

13 Bm<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C# G/D D Dmaj<sup>7</sup> D D<sup>sus</sup>/E D/F# G<sup>2</sup>(#4) G



say that we love Him. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen our ears, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_

20 Em<sup>7</sup> A Bm<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C# G/D D A/C# Bm D/A



\_\_\_\_\_ and help us to lis - ten. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen our

26 Gmaj<sup>9</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> G<sup>2</sup>/B A<sup>7</sup>/C# Em/D D



eyes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ we want to see Je - sus. \_\_\_\_\_

# Welcome, Passing the Peace – Announcements

## Bienvenida – Saludo de la Paz – Anuncios

- **Sundays** – Worship! (Bethel 10am Sanctuary/Parlor; FCCO 11:30am)
- **Tuesdays – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays:** Spiritual Studies w/ Rev. Heather Miner (*“The Tears of Things”* by Richard Rohr. Next meeting will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of May (May 12)
- **Wednesdays – 4:30pm** – OYS; 6pm Scouts(basement).
- **Thursdays 10am** - Qi-Gong/Tai Chi
- **Fridays – evenings** SWE Rehearsals (sanctuary/parlor)
- **Saturdays** –SSO Rehearsals
- **Upcoming Concerts**
  - Southland Wind Ensemble – Saturday May 9 at 4pm

*Para información en español, por favor hable con nosotros después del servicio.*

## Children’s Time

## Kids’ Video

### \* Gloria

### Glory to the Creator

The Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be  
World without end, Amen, Amen.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a treble clef staff with a vocal line and a bass clef staff with a guitar accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the treble staff.

**System 1:** Chords: C, G/D, C, G/B, G, C, G/B, Am/C. Lyrics: Glo-ry to the Cre -a -tor, the Christ the Ho- ly Spi- rit

**System 2:** Chords: G/D, D<sup>7</sup>, G, C, G<sup>7</sup>, G<sup>7</sup>. Lyrics: three in one; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er

**System 3:** Chords: C, G, G/F, C/E, C/G, G<sup>7</sup>, C. Lyrics: shall be, world with-out end. A - men. A - men.

L: I will bless the Lord at all times;  
his praise will always be in my mouth.

I praise the Lord—  
let the suffering listen and rejoice.

**P: Magnify the Lord with me!**

**Together let us lift his name up high!**

**I sought the Lord and he answered me.**

**He delivered me from all my fears.**

L: Those who look to God will shine;  
their faces are never ashamed.

**P: This suffering person cried out:**

**the Lord listened and saved him from every trouble.**

L: On every side, the Lord's messenger protects those who honor God;  
and he delivers them.

**P: Taste and see how good the Lord is!**

**The one who takes refuge in him is truly happy!**

L: You who are the Lord's holy ones, honor him,  
because those who honor him don't lack a thing.

**P: Even strong young lions go without and get hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.**

## **Gospel Reading**

**Luke 24:13-35**

**Dr. Mann**

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[e] 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[f] 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.

**Sermon**

**“On the Road”**

Dr. Sylvia Lee Mann

## **Prayer of Yearning** (*Luke 24*)

God of Easter hope, when our gaze is cast within,  
it is easy to miss your presence in our midst.  
When we fail to recognize you on the road,  
touch our minds with your wisdom and truth,  
and set our hearts on fire with your holy love.  
During times of confusion and doubt,  
open our eyes to your life-giving presence,  
and rekindle our Easter faith. Amen.

## **Words of Assurance**

Beloved, the Holy Spirit continues to be our present companion. When we seek them, the Spirit responds with wisdom, hope, and peace. Be encouraged that the Holy One awaits to meet us where we are in order to journey with us to where we could be for the glory of God and the good of the world.

## **Prayers of the People (Joys and Concerns)**

### **The Lord's Prayer** (*Unison*)

**Our Father, 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, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

## Offering & OGHS

### Invitation to Generosity (Pastor)

Please remember to send your offerings in so that we can continue our ministries.

(If you want a portion of your offering to be designated as something specific, just write that in the message area.) If you forget to write a note with the offering – just email us ([info@BethelUCCOntario.org](mailto:info@BethelUCCOntario.org)) or message us through Facebook.

**Giving Options: In person** – *We are not yet “passing the plate”. You may leave your offering in one of the offering plates (front of the sanctuary, or usher’s table in the rear).*

**Give online** at [www.betheluccontario.org](http://www.betheluccontario.org),



To use a credit or debit card, use the yellow “Donate” button (processed by PayPal – no PP account required), or green Tithe.ly button (Processed by

Tithe.ly)



Use **ZELLE** (through your bank website or via the stand alone app) to transfer your offering to us directly from your bank. When you use Zelle, we are “Bethel Congregational Church” Our verified Zelle email is [info@betheluccontario.org](mailto:info@betheluccontario.org)



**MAIL** - Just mail your check to Bethel Congregational Church  
536 N Euclid Ave, Ontario CA 91762.



**QR Code** – Scan the code to send your offering to us through PayPal

### Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving

Astounding God of the road and the table, you walk with us even when we don’t recognize you. You speak, and our hearts burn within us.

You break the bread, and our eyes are opened.

Today, we bring these offerings as signs of our gratitude and hope.

May our giving reflect the joy of being found, the wonder of Resurrection, and the call to share good news.

Use these gifts to kindle faith, feed the hungry, and proclaim your presence in every Emmaus moment. We give because we’ve seen you—alive, loving, and leading us still. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



We are one in the Spirit we are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit we are one in the Lord  
And we pray that all unity  
May one day be restored  
*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!*

We will walk with each other we will walk hand in hand  
We will walk with each other we will walk hand in hand  
And together we will spread the news,  
That God is in our land  
*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!*

We will work with each other we will work side by side  
We will work with each other we will work side by side  
And we'll guard each one's dignity,  
And save each one's pride.  
*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!*

All praise to the Creator from whom all things come  
And all praise to Christ Jesus His only son  
And all praise to the Spirit  
Who makes us one  
*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love!*

# They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Words and Music by  
Peter Scholtes

♩=56

## VERSE

Em D/E Em D/E Em D/E Em D/E



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the  
 2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in  
 3. We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by  
 4. All — praise to the Cre- a - tor, from — whom all things

4 Em Am D<sup>7</sup>/A Em D/E Em



Lord; We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord. And we  
 hand; We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand. And to -  
 side; We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side. And we'll  
 come; And all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's — on - ly — Son. And all

9 Am D<sup>7</sup>/A Em D/E Em



pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored. And they'll  
 - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
 guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save — each one's pride.  
 praise to the Spir - it, who — makes — us — one.

## CHORUS

13 C Em Am



know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love, yes they'll

17 Em Am D<sup>7</sup>/A Em



know — we are Chris - tians by our love. —

## Responsive Benediction (*Luke 24*)

L: As you meet on the road,  
learn to recognize Christ in your mist strangers.

**P: As our hearts burn within us,  
we will recognize his whispers to our souls.**

L: As you experience Christ in the smile of another,  
share the love of God with one another.

**P: As the scales fall from our eyes,  
we will see Easter miracles all around us.**

L: Go with God's blessings.

**ALL: Amen**

## Postlude

## Carillon



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Live Stream Worship Sundays at 10 am on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitch](#)

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*God sends us to serve, but God does not send us alone.  
The Spirit is with us in the world, guiding our steps and protecting our paths.  
Christ yearns for us to be one in ministry and service,  
and one in community and faith—a unity that we discover  
through the Spirit's miraculous power in our lives.  
Sent to serve, we are sent not only with the power of the Spirit,  
but also with the power of unity with one another.  
Embracing this unity with both the Holy Spirit and one another  
opens a path to the "complete joy" that Christ prays we may one day know.*