

**HAGERSVILLE UNITED CHURCH &
SPRINGVALE UNITED CHURCH
SUNDAY, APRIL 19th, 2026**

Ministry of Caring: The Whole People of God
Ministry of Pastoral Care & Worship: Rev. Peggy Bartlett
Cell: 905-317-5275 Email: info@hsupc.ca
Website: www.hsupc.ca
Church: Hagersville- 905-768-5863 Springvale- 905-768-1501

.....

“Jesus is always walking with us” This morning we remember:
Even when we don’t recognize Him, Jesus is walking with us.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, you walk with us and bless us in countless unseen ways.
Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude, and use them to bring light,
hope, and companionship to those who need it most. Amen.

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come with stories to tell ...

People: Stories of joy, and stories of confusion.

Leader: We come with questions ...

People: Wondering where God is in it all.

Leader: And still, Christ meets us on the road ...

People: Walking beside us, even when we do not see.

Leader: Come, let us walk together ...

People: And worship the risen Christ.

OPENING HYMN: #371 Open My Eyes that I May See

1 Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready my God, Thy will to see,
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for Thee,
ready my God, Thy will to see,
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

3 Open my mouth, and let me bear,
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
Ready my God, Thy will to see,
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

OPENING PRAYER

Risen Christ, you meet us in ordinary places, on roads we travel every
day, in conversations we didn’t expect, in moments we almost miss.
Walk with us today. Open our eyes, warm our hearts, and help us
recognize your presence in the breaking of bread, in the sharing of
stories, and in one another. Amen.

ANTHEM

CHILDREN’S TIME

CHILDREN’S VIDEO

LITANY: “Are You Even Listening?”

Leader: Sometimes we talk...

People: and talk and talk...

Leader: And someone is right beside us,

People: And we don’t even notice!

Leader: Sometimes, God is speaking to us ...

**People: And we’re busy thinking about lunch or not paying attention,
like ...**

Leader: thinking about what’s next, like what’s for supper

**People: or thinking about what just happened yesterday, or what’s
the weather going to like tomorrow, or that vacation we jut can’t
wait for...**

Leader: And yet, Jesus is patient

People: Walking with us even when we don't even notice ...

Leader: helping us to see that Jesus is right there beside us...

People: Even when we're not fully paying attention.

Leader: Opening our hearts ...

People: Even when we're a little distracted.

Leader: So today, we say ...

People: "Jesus, help us notice you!"

CHORUS: #215 "OPEN OUR EYES"

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. (2 X)

SCRIPTURE READING: Gospel Luke 24:13-35 "The Road to Emmaus"

¹³Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then 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?" ¹⁹He 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, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But 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. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and 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. ²⁴Some 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." ²⁵Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets

have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

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

MESSAGE: "The Slowest Recognition in History"

"Have you ever had one of those moments... where you're talking to someone... and you don't realize who it is right away? Maybe they changed their hair... maybe you weren't expecting to see them...

...or maybe, let's be honest, you just weren't paying attention."

Have you ever been in that situation when you've ran into someone maybe the grocery store, the bank or on the street and they say hello, they call you by name And you smile, you talk, you have fully

committed to the conversation And they walk away, And you realize you had absolutely no idea who they were. Sometimes an hour later Or in the middle of the night it comes to you who you were talking to And sometimes it doesn't. This brings us to our Scripture lesson today.

Two disciples... walking along the road to Emmaus... And Jesus shows up. Not a stranger. Not a random passerby. Jesus. And they don't recognize Him."

(Pause)

"Not after a few minutes... not after a quick conversation... ...after seven miles."

So think about this “Seven miles is a long walk. In perspective when you think about it, That’s a full conversation Actually a very long conversation. Probably in reality today you need a snack for a 7 mile walk or a nice cool drink. Or you would do some complaining about how tired you were or that your feet were aching or at least one of those ... what do you think? Moments

“And the whole time... Jesus is right there. Explaining everything. Walking with them. Listening to them. And they’re thinking, ‘Wow, this guy really knows his scripture!’”

“But before we laugh too much... we might want to pause... Because we’ve done the same thing.”

I ask all of you this question... “How many times has God been at work in our lives... and we didn’t see it at the time?

- When someone showed up just when we needed them
- When things somehow worked out
- When we made it through something we didn’t think we could

And only later we say: ‘Oh... God was there.’” I’m going to call the next part of Scripture reading the Emmaus moment. Because “They didn’t recognize Him on the road... They recognized Him at the table. In the breaking of the bread.”

(Pause)

“And then, just like that ... everything made sense.”

“And honestly... isn’t that just like us? We miss it... we miss it... we miss it...

...and then suddenly Oh! There you are, Jesus!”

Remember “Faith isn’t always about seeing clearly in the moment... sometimes it’s about looking back and realizing that Jesus was walking with us the whole time.”

“So maybe this week...when you’re walking through your day... running errands...having conversations...worrying about things...

You might just pause and wonder: ‘Who’s walking with me right now?’

“And don’t be surprised... if Jesus has been there all along.”

HYMN: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus (Hymns for the Family of God)

1. O soul, are you weary and troubled?

No light in the darkness you see?

There's light for a look at the Savior,

And life more abundant and free!

Refrain:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

2. Thro' death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion—
For more than conq'rors we are! **[Refrain]**

3. His word shall not fail you— He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well:
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell! **[Refrain]**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Risen Christ, we bring before you the roads we are walking...

For those walking through grief...

For those walking through uncertainty...

For those walking through change...

Walk beside them.

For those who feel alone...

For those who feel unseen...

For those who are searching for hope...

Open their eyes to your presence.

For our community... our church... our world...

Help us to be companions on the road—listening, caring, and walking with one another. In your name we pray, Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: #670 Precious Lord Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand,

Lead me on, let me stand,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;

Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light:

Take my hand, precious Lord,

Lead me home.

When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall: **R**

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river, I stand,
Guide my feet, hold my hand: **R**

SENDING FORTH

Go now...back onto the roads of your everyday lives.
And remember: You do not walk alone. Christ walks beside you,
in your conversations, in your questions, in your quiet moments.

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE



© Randy Glasbergen
glasbergen.com

"News, sports, weather, comics, advice,
politics, opinion — it's the Internet in a
biodegradable, easily recycled format.
The latest thing in green technology!"

Announcements

Sunday, April 19th: The Lynn Valley Voices present The Musical Eras Tour: From Chapel to Concert Hall. Beginning at 3pm at Waterford United Church. Admission by donation. For more information please call 416-505-1658.

Thursday, April 23rd: Ham & Turkey Supper at Springvale from 4pm-6pm. Takeout only event. Adults-\$25, Children-\$10. For tickets call 905-516-3910 or 905-537-4188

Sunday, April 26th: The Lynn Valley Voices present The Musical Eras Tour: From Chapel to Concert Hall. Beginning at 3pm at First Baptist Church, Simcoe. Admission by donation. For more information please call 416-505-1658.

Sunday, April 26th: Jarvis Community Church presents Elvis in Concert! Beginning at 2pm. Garry Wesley as Elvis tribute & Donna Brooks performing the hits of Tammy Wynette & Patsy Cline in this gospel extravaganza. Tickets are \$25 or \$30 at the door. For tickets please call 519-420-0392. All proceeds will go to the Jarvis Caring Cupboard.

Tuesday, April 28th: Coffee Tuesday at Springvale beginning at 9:30am. All are welcome!

***Please bring paper products for the
Hagersville Food Bank***