

Woodbury United Methodist Church

April 26, 2020
3rd Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE *Prelude Op. 28, No. 6* Chopin
Boen Beavers, pianist

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

EASTER HYMN *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance every sweet.**

OPENING PRAYER Joann King, Liturgist
Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020*
Based on 1 Peter 1, Luke 24

Eternal God, we are in your presence, yearning to know you more fully. Stay with us as we worship this day. Reveal yourself in the music that is shared, the Scriptures that are read, and the words that are spoken. Help us understand your truth, and embrace your life-giving power, revealed within your enduring word. In Christ's holy name we pray. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME led by the Temple family

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER Joann King

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by: Joann King

Lessons for the 3rd Sunday of Easter
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

1 Peter 1:17-23 (NRSV)

A Call to Holy Living

If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)

The Walk to Emmaus

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.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Blessed Assurance

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

Refrain:

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

Refrain

**Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled his goodness, lost in his love.**

Refrain

SERMON

Easter for Exiles

Rev. Thomason

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

SPECIAL MUSIC

Glory Be to the Father

Tesu Beavers, pianist

BENEDICTION

Rev. Thomason

POSTLUDE

Judgement Stones

David Karraker, composer