



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH** FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Third Sunday of Easter  
April 26, 2020



"Their eyes were opened"

april 26 @ fpc

art image: makoto fujimura

**SERVING THIS MORNING:**

Music Director: Dr. Greg Turner

Worship Leader: Christian Seals

Vocalist: Linda Jackson

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## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

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

**Alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia!**

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

**Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

### PRAYER FOR THE DAY:

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.**

### \*OPENING HYMN:

*"Hallelujah! What a Savior!"*

#301

1. *"Man of Sorrows," what a name for the Son of God, who came ruined sinners to reclaim! Hallelujah! what a Savior!*
2. *Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood; sealed my pardon with his blood; Hallelujah! what a Savior!*
3. *Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was he; full atonement, can it be? Hallelujah! what a Savior!*
4. *Lifted up was he to die, "It is finished," was his cry; now in heaven exalted high: Hallelujah! what a Savior!*
5. *When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring, then anew this song we'll sing: Hallelujah! what a Savior!*

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION:

God judges all people impartially according to their deeds.  
Trusting in God's love in Jesus Christ,  
let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Almighty God,  
our world is filled with corruption:  
power disguises itself as truth;  
convenience masquerades as goodness;  
selfish pleasure imitates love.  
We confess to you, O God,  
that we have been caught in the web of the world's sin.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
save us from these deceptions and free us for glad obedience,  
that we may see the joy of Jesus' resurrection  
and receive the promise of everlasting life. Amen.**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**#377**

**O Lord, have mercy, O Lord have mercy,  
O Lord have mercy, have mercy on us.  
O Christ have mercy, O Christ have mercy,  
O Christ have mercy, have mercy on us.**

**\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

Followers of Jesus:  
God has promised salvation to us, to our children,  
and to all who are near and far.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Let us offer and receive the peace of Christ as a sign of  
God's grace and assurance of forgiveness.

**Leader:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

(Take a moment to share Christ's peace by greeting those around you.)

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

Let us unite our hearts in prayer, saying,  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the church throughout the world,  
that as we celebrate the great fifty days of Easter  
we may renew our faith and strengthen our witness in Jesus' name.  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For pastors, teachers, and ministers,  
that they recognize the risen Christ in Word and Sacrament  
and lead your church with wisdom, humility, and courage;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the governments of the world and its leaders,  
that they may resist the corruption of sin and serve the common good;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For our planet Earth,  
that all people may be good stewards of its resources  
and share in its abundance;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor and the stranger,  
that they may receive a place of refuge and hope,  
and that the church may offer the hospitality  
the first disciple offered to Jesus on the road to Emmaus;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and those in distress,  
that they may find healing for their pain  
and be restored to fullness of life;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For our neighbors,  
that we may live together in peace and share in our resources;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

For our enemies,

that they may receive good things,  
and that we, your servants, not return evil for evil;  
God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those near to us who need your strength and healing...(prayer cards)

Almighty God,  
receive these prayers we offer,  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit  
make us witnesses to the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
through whom we pray.

**Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, Amen.**

#### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:**

Lord, you opened the meaning of the Scriptures  
to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and set their hearts ablaze.  
By the power of your Spirit kindle our hearts as we hear your word proclaimed,  
that we may receive you with joy. **Amen.**

## GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:13-35

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." <sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. <sup>28</sup> As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup> and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." <sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

**SERMON:**

*"Their Eyes Were Opened"*

Rev. Dr Jared Witt

**\*A Brief Statement of Faith (1983):**

**In life and in death we belong to God.**

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one true God, the holy One of Israel,  
Whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by the word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal...**

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**THE RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**DOXOLOGY:**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God,  
by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor  
and the offering of our lives.  
Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
in union with our risen Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you forever.  
**Amen.**

### \*CLOSING HYMN:

*"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

#391

1. *Will you let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I might  
have the grace to let you be my servant too.*
  
2. *We are pilgrims on a journey,  
here together on the road; we are here to  
help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*
  
3. *I will hold the Christ light for you,  
in the nighttime of your fear; I will hold my  
hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*
  
4. *I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you; I will share your  
joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.*
  
5. *When we sing to God and heaven,  
we shall find such harmony, born of all we've  
known together of Christ's love and agony.*

### \*BLESSING

### POSTLUDE



## HOUSEHOLD PRAYERS

### MORNING

Lord Jesus,  
your rising from tomb heralds the dawning of life eternal  
as the dawning of this day holds the possibilities of life anew.  
Open my eyes to the signs of your resurrection  
and confirm in my heart the power of your amazing love,  
that I may with confidence sing "Alleluia." Amen.

### EVENING

Loving God,  
you have upheld me with your love  
even when I have not been aware of your presence.  
As I rest from my labors  
let me sleep without fear of darkness or death  
and rise refreshed to begin a new day in humble service,  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.