



While they were talking and discussing,  
Jesus himself came near and went with  
them, but their eyes were kept from  
recognizing him. LUKE 24:15-16

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
May 3, 2020

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

*arr. by Martin*

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: We wait for you, O God, in the assurance that you hear and answer us even when our sighs are too deep for words.

**ALL:** *We come into your presence O God, knowing that we can unburden our hearts before you.*

One: We praise you, O God, as we recognize your redeeming and transforming power.

**ALL:** *We hear your joy in the voices of little children; we know your compassion in the remembered embrace of old friends.*

One: Holy God, it is by your abundant love and steadfast mercy that we are empowered to live as your children.

**ALL:** *Lead us in your righteousness and transform us by your love, that we may walk in your way all the days of our lives.*

MUSIC

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us*  
Natalie Coffman

*Townend*

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: Merciful God, we look around us at the world, at our nation, at our local communities and our families, and we acknowledge the presence of conflict, pain and suffering.

**ALL:** *These all affect our lives at one time or another. We know that we can lessen the pain when we reach out to those who are hurting. Teach us to reach.*

One: We know that we can lessen the pain when we look for ways to bring restoration and healing where there is brokenness. Teach us to look.

**ALL:** *We confess that there are times when we fail to recognize the suffering and needs of others and forget, or refuse, to share your love revealed so clearly in Jesus.*

One: Forgive us when we happily accept the blessings of life, while neglecting to serve as Jesus served – with unconditional love, humility and compassion.

**ALL:** *Forgive us when we are weak and when we fail in our attempts to imitate Christ. Empower us with your Spirit to be strong, gentle, bearers of your love and compassion through our words, our actions and our lives. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.*

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and death!" (Romans 8:1-2)

**ALL:** *Hear the Good News: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen!*

### A VIRTUAL PASSING OF THE PEACE

## THE WORD

### A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*Libby Smith*

### MINUTE FOR MISSION

*Practicing Our Faith*

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

### MUSIC

*Trio on "Trust and Obey"  
Dr. Terry McRoberts*

*Nelson*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Selected verses from Job 38*

*Rev. John White*

### NEW TESTAMENT

*Luke 24:13-16*

*Rev. John White*

### SERMON

*"The Missing Messiah"*

*Rev. John White*

## RESPONSE

### MUSIC

*Your Grace Still Amazes Me  
Natalie Coffman*

*Craig and Harrington*

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Creed from Colossians 1:15-23*

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: Who is Jesus Christ?

**ALL:** *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that*

*in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once we were alienated from God, but now God has reconciled us by Christ's physical body through death to present us holy in his sight. Thanks be to God!*

**\OFFERING**

*Rev. John White*

**OFFERTORY**

*Prelude on OPEN MY EYES*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Thompson*

\*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

\*Dedicatory Prayer

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

**SENDING**

**CHARGE**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Toccata-Chorale on SLANE*  
Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Diemer*

