

Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026



The

Road Back to
Hope

Luke 24:13-35

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, ELCA

holycrossmtnhome.com

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Mountain Home, AR 72653

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Dan Schmidt, Music Director



We're glad you're here!
Visitors are invited to fill out a visitor card and place it in
the offering plate. Join us for fellowship after worship!
Thank you to Sue & David Hahn for hosting today.

As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

Sharing of the Peace

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

L: Let us offer this gift of God's peace to one another.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!

C: Amen.

L: Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

L: Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

C: You guide us to springs of the water of life.

L: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn

"Lead Me Lord"

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy right-eousness,

5 Make Thy way plain be - fore Thy face.

Optional Ending
9 For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord on - ly, that

13 mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Hymn of Praise



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray the prayer of the day together;

C: O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Word

First Readings

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

³⁶ "Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." ³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19

¹ I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

² **for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

¹² How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹ **in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

L: Word of God, word of life.

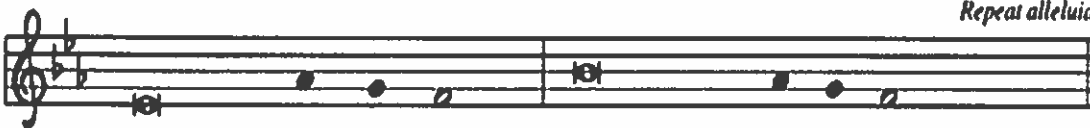
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Our hearts burn with - in us as you open to us the scriptures.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ 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?" ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ 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. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ 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. ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to

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

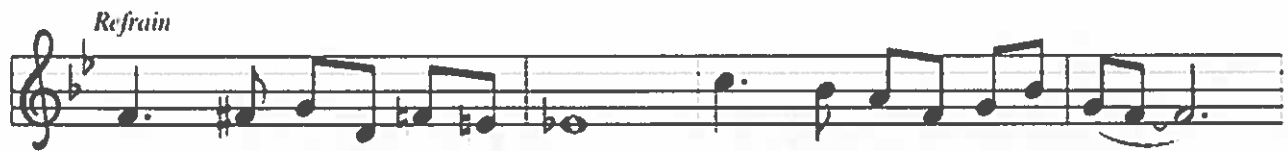
L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Hymn ELW#697

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"



Just a clos-er walk with thee. grant it. Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee. let it be. dear Lord, let it be.



- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee. dear Lord, none but thee.
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

After each petition of the prayers:

L: Merciful God; **C: Receive our prayer.**

Call Committee, Bill Bavers (Sue's Partner), Gloria Fenter (Friend of Judy Hoover), Pam Guth, Wayne Heinz (Close Friend of the Hamilton's), Chris Holm (Cleo Holm's Daughter), Troy Koch (Friend of Dan Jones), Dorothy Meyer, Dan & Donna Schmidt, Dion Stanford (Marita's Husband), Matt Zipperer (Former member), and for all our homebound members and friends. Those serving in uniform, for our enemies and those we find hard to love, and for all who travel.

Offering & Offertory

Change my heart, O God; make it ev-er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Offering Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

L: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

L: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

L: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

L: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

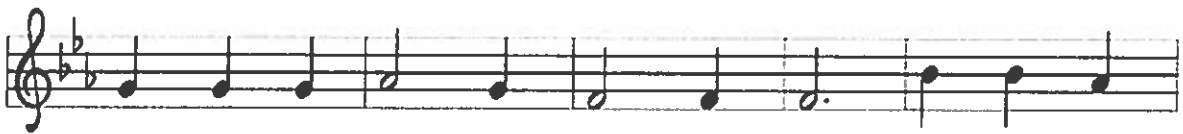
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Holy Communion

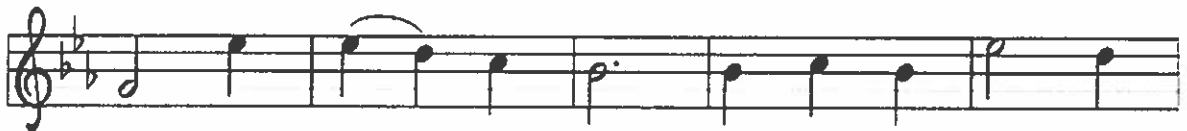
All who are repentant of their sins and believe in the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament are welcome to receive the elements. As usual, the wine is the dark liquid and the grape juice is the light liquid. Please be cautious and only touch the cup you choose to commune with. Those who are not communing may come forward, with arms crossed upon the chest, to receive a blessing.

Communion Hymn ELW#818

"O Master, Let Me Walk With You"



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
fect to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Benediction
Sending Hymn

"Hand in Hand With Jesus"

VERSE

B A/B E B7 Cm B B A/B E Cm F7 B

1. Once from my poor sin-sick soul Christ did ev - ry bur - den roll,
2. In my night of dark de - spair, Je - sus heard and ans - wered prayer,
3. From the strait and nar - row way, Praise the Lord, I can - not stray,
4. When the stars are back - ward rolled, And His home I shall be - hold

5 E A/B E B7 Cm B B A/B E B B7 B

Now I walk re - deemed and whole, Hand in hand with Je - sus.
 Now I'm walk - ing free as air,
 For I'm walk - ing ev - ry day,
 I will walk those streets of gold,

CHORUS

E A/B E E/G B/F E A/B E Cm F7 B B A/B B

Hand in hand we walk each day. hand in hand a - long the way, Walk - ing I

14 Cm B E A/B E B B B7 E

can - not stray, hand in hand with Je - sus.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS TODAY!!



~FAITH & FELLOWSHIP~

WELCA's Monday Morning Workshop: The ladies gather every Monday morning at 9:00am to sew and share in fellowship.

Senior Exercise Class: A gentle exercise class that accommodates senior aches and pains. Join us Tuesdays at 1:00pm for some good stretching, moving and fellowship.

Hope Circle is on the **Fourth** Tuesday of each month at 10:00am. Study lessons from *Gather* magazine, a publication of WELCA.

Bible Study on Wednesdays at 10:00am. We study the Bible readings for the upcoming Sunday along with good fellowship. Join us for some interesting discussions.

***Bible Study Attendance on 4/15: 12 ***



*Altar Flowers are given today
by Barb Kampen in memory of
Steve's Birthday*



**Timeline for 40th Anniversary Celebration
(May 16th, 10am-2pm)**

- 10:00am – Gather
- 10:30am - Tree Dedication w/Bishop Becca;
Quilts given to honor our VETS
- 11:00am -1:00pm - Lunch
- 10:30am-2:00pm - Petting Zoo

In The Garden

Words and Music by
Charles Austin Miles

VERSE

♩ = 134



1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is still on the
2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the birds hush their
3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him tho' the night a - round me be

A♭ E♭7 A♭/C E♭ A♭ B♭7 E♭ E♭7



ros - es; And the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear, the Son of God dis - clos - es. And He
sing - ing; And the mel - o - dy that He gave to me with - in my heart is ring - ing.
fall - ing; But He bids me go, thro' the voice of woe; His voice to me is call - ing.

CHORUS



walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; And the

C7 Fm A♭7/E♭ D♭ A♭/E♭ E♭7 A♭



joy we share as we tar - ry there none oth - er has ev - er known._____

Those Serving This Week:

Worship Leader & ALM: Sue Hahn & Kathy Scott

Music: Dan Schmidt

Ushers: Judy Hoover & Pete Cvengros

Altar Guild: Carol Wheeler

Counters: Judy Hoover & Lenora Walejko

Ministers: All the members of HCLC

Church Attendance 4/12: 36

This Week at Holy Cross

Mon. 4/20	8:30am-12:30pm 9:00am	Church Office Open WELCA Workshop
Tue. 4/21	8:30am-12:30pm 1:00pm	Church Office Open Senior Exercise Class
Wed. 4/22	8:30am-12:30pm 9-11am; 1-3pm 10:00am	Church Office Open Food Pantry Bible Study
Thur. 4/23	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Fri. 4/24	8:30am-12:30pm	Church Office Open
Sat. 4/25		
Sun. 4/26	9:00am 10:00am	Worship Fellowship

Those Serving Next Week:

Worship Leader & ALM: Pastor Mike Clark & Jan Clark

Music: Dan Schmidt

Ushers: Dean & Jane Smith

Altar Guild: Jane Smith

Counters: Pat Jones & Judy Hoover

Ministers: All the members of HCLC