

GreetingAlleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

SentenceLord Jesus, open to us the scriptures; make our hearts burn within us while you speak. *(see Luke 24:32)*

Let us pray:

Risen Christ, companion on the way: break through the disillusionment and despair which cloud our vision, so that we may find our way and journey on as messengers of your good news. Amen. (*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt)*

O God our Creator and Redeemer, it pleases you to invite us into the mission of Jesus, establishing the reign of God on earth. You promised through your Son to send the Spirit upon us, to teach us everything. We pray that you will send a fresh outpouring of your Spirit on this Diocese. Grant us clear vision and wisdom to discern what you are now calling us to do and the courage, love and creativity to perform it to your glory. We ask it in the name of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

 *(The Collect for A Season of Prayer and Discernment by the Rev. Michelle Bull)*

A reading from the Gospel of Luke (24:13-35)

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



**The Reflection**

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray: Holy God, you have called us to follow in the way of your risen Son, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love. Seeking to be true friends of all, we offer our prayers on behalf of the church and the world. **Amen.**

Merciful God, you have not abandoned us to the grave.
**Guide us with your steadfast love.**

In your presence there is fullness of joy.
**Guide us with your steadfast love.**

*Here, the Leader may add particular intercessions*
*or thanksgivings.*

You send us into the world to tell the story of your divine mercy.
**Guide us with your steadfast love.**

Guide us in the path of discipleship, so that, as you have blessed us, we may be a blessing for others, bringing the promise of the kingdom nearby our words and deeds. **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Dismissal:Alleluia! Risen Lord, come be with us,
**and teach our hearts to live in you. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! O God, may the empty tomb

**fill our hearts with faith. Alleluia!**



While they were talking and discussing,

Jesus himself came near and went with them,…