

APRIL 23, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY
OF EASTER



Christ recognized in ordinary life.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 24:13-35	Road to Emmaus
Monday	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	The first converts
Tuesday	1 Peter 1:17-23	A call to holy living
Wednesday	Matthew 6:25-34	Do not worry
Thursday	Psalms 3	Trust in God
Friday	Ephesians 4:25-32	Rules for the new life
Saturday	Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19	Thanksgiving for illness recovery
Sunday	John 10:1-10	Christ the shepherd

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then they [disciples] told what had happened on the road, and how he [Jesus] had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24:35 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of steadfast love and faithfulness, for your goodness that surprises us every day, we give you thanks through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for blessing us with the fruit of the earth that gives us food each day, we give you thanks through Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May your eyes be opened to see the goodness and joy of God in Christ.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Open Your Ears,
O Faithful People*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are some everyday experiences that bring you joy?
- When do you experience God's presence in everyday life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 24:13-35.

This engaging resurrection story is filled with deep sadness, irony, surprise, discovery, and joy. The reading tells us who Jesus is and that he is speaking to the disciples on the road to Emmaus. However, the disciples don't understand this until they reach their home, offer the usual hospitality to a stranger in a simple meal, and are amazed to recognize Jesus as he takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to them. This represents such an ordinary experience yet one filled with deep spiritual connections (Luke 9:10-17 and 22:7-20). During the COVID pandemic, when we could not meet in person, the church learned to support an active faith life in the home. People read Scripture, prayed, and discussed the Christian faith with others. Practicing faith in the home is not a new discovery. In an Emmaus home disciples had a conversation, prayed, and enjoyed a meal that opened their eyes to the presence of Jesus.

Discuss: When have you practiced faith in your home and been aware of Jesus' presence?

Pray: **Dear Jesus, help us to see with the eyes of faith that you are with us when we are home and when we are away from home. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others in everyday life experiences?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too! As you continue to read the Gospel of John during the Easter season, highlight a verse that has special meaning to you and write a note alongside it in your Bible with the date to remember when you read this scripture. When you finish, say: **Alleluia! Christ is risen. Alleluia!**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org