



We Seek to Better Understand  
the Teachings of Jesus—  
and Live those Teachings.

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**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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**Fort Branch First**  
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Fort Branch, IN

**Office Hours**

Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 am– 2:00 pm  
Closed Monday and Friday

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**WELCOME**  
Whoever you are,  
and wherever you find yourself  
on the journey of faith, you are  
welcome to this church as you  
are to receive the riches of  
God's grace...

## *The Way...*

The earliest Christians were called *The People of the Way*.

This weekly publication is provided to show  
how our congregations are living *The Way* today.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter** **April 16, 2023**

### **What happened after Easter?**

2,000 years ago, Jesus conquered death forever. The stone was rolled away from the empty tomb, and we were given new life in Christ.

#### **But what happened next?**

Discover five things Jesus did after His resurrection—and what they mean for us today:

##### **1. Jesus showed up.**

Jesus spent 40 days on earth after His resurrection. During this time, He eased His followers' doubts and gave them direction for the future. Jesus didn't *shout* His love from heaven. He *showed* His love on earth. Today He does the same. He is still near, ready to hear our cries and heal our hearts.

##### **2. Jesus modeled community.**

From breaking bread on the road to Emmaus, to having breakfast on the beach with His disciples, we see Jesus make time for relationships.

**Jesus was never too busy to stop and show He cared.** As His followers, we're called to intentionally serve people in our families, workplaces, and cities.

Just like Jesus, you can prioritize your community.

##### **3. Jesus comforted the broken.**

When Jesus came back, He wasn't frustrated that His disciples hadn't understood His plan. He met them in their uncertainty and fear instead. Jesus consoled the woman weeping at the empty tomb. He eased Thomas' doubts. He spoke words of life and peace.

**Today, our Savior still has grace for our questions and confusion.** He still draws near when our hearts are broken.

##### **4. Jesus redeemed mistakes.**

Before the crucifixion, Peter denied knowing Jesus three times. Later, we see Jesus restore Peter by asking Him three times if he loves Him, and instructing Peter to care for His people.

**Even though Peter stumbled in his faith, it didn't cancel his identity in Christ.**

In the same way, we can trust that God's power is made perfect in our weakness.

##### **5. Jesus instructed and empowered.**

Right before Jesus ascended into heaven, He told His followers to "go and make disciples of every nation."

With these instructions, we're called to live every day with intentionality, looking for opportunities to share the Gospel.

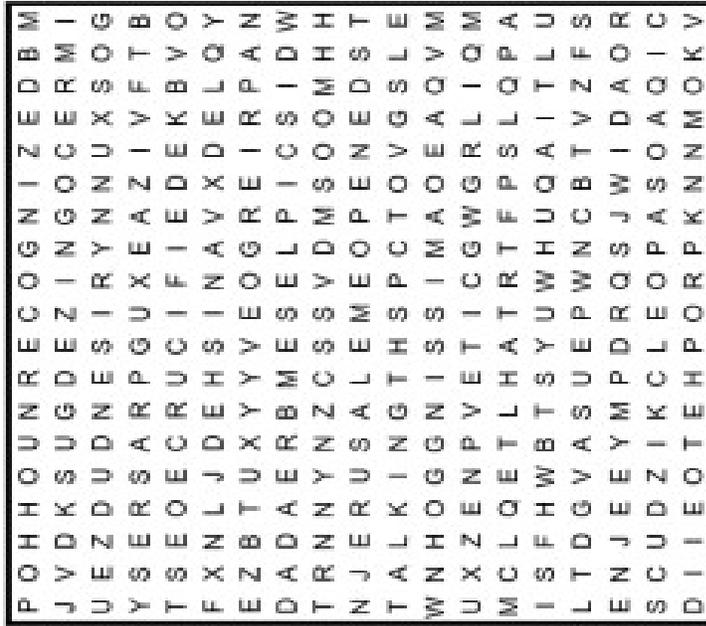
It's our job to show people what it means to know God and to make Him known.

**Share God's Word with the people in your life today.**

Easter might be over, but what it means for us matters all year long.

Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, we're able to access God's grace, presence, and reassurance like never before—forever.

# ON THE ROAD TO EMMANUS WORD SEARCH



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

- |              |            |              |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| ALIVE        | EYES       | STAYED       |
| ANGELS       | JERUSALEM  | TABLE        |
| BLESSED      | JESUS      | TALKING      |
| BREAD        | LORD       | THIRD DAY    |
| CHRIST       | MILES      | TOMB         |
| CLEOPAS      | MISSING    | TWO          |
| CONVERSATION | OPENED     | UNRECOGNIZED |
| CRUCIFIED    | PROPHET    | VANISHED     |
| DEATH        | RECOGNIZED | VILLAGE      |
| DISCIPLES    | RISEN      | WALKING      |
| EMMAUS       | ROAD       |              |

## Easter errors

The Resurrection occurred without a hitch, but church services aren't always as fortunate. Pastors shared Easter goofs with Outreach magazine — and you can share them for Holy Humor Sunday on April 16.

- During a prayer, one pastor said, "Jesus, we love you to death." Though it was fitting, the slip-up led to chuckles.
- Actors in Passion Plays apparently tend to fall off crosses. After one did so and muttered a swear word, the pastor said, "At least he's the unbelieving thief." And when a man playing Jesus had to be reattached to his cross, a pastor said the real Jesus "would have climbed back on out of love."
- Shocked by the early rehearsal time, a guitarist asked, "Whose idea was it for Easter to be in the morning?"
- Before leading a sunrise service, a pastor was informed of a member's death. So he was briefly "thrown ... when she walked up in the early morning shadows." Turns out there'd been a name mixup. "I believe in resurrection power," says the pastor. "But I was more than a little surprised at what I was seeing!"

Inherit the Mirth by Cuyler Black



*Kathlyn McCoy ~ 18th*  
*Caleb Foster ~ 20th*  
*Larry & Margie Beal ~ 22nd*

Fort Branch First UMC  
 P. O. Box 116  
 Fort Branch, IN 47648

Deliver to:

\* -This symbol,  
when found in the Order of Service  
invites you to stand - if able.

CCLI #2446518  
Streaming License # 20701562

### CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Children are welcome in the worship service! We do offer options. Following the Children's Sharing, children may attend Sunday School at Blythe Chapel or Nursery at Fort Branch First.



† Indicates location is Blythe Chapel  
Ω Indicates location is First UMC

### This Sunday

9:00am † Worship  
10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

Monday: ~ Office Closed ~  
6:30pm Ω Bible Study

Tuesday:

Wednesday:  
3:30pm Ω Port Gibson 4-H

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday

### Next Sunday:

9:00am † Worship  
10:30am Ω Worship & Live  
streaming worship

Complete Schedule @  
[www.fbfirst.org](http://www.fbfirst.org)

# Welcome!

*Happy Easter!*  
*Indeed, the season lasts 50 days. Welcome as we  
continue celebrating our risen Lord.*

## Rev. John Baylor, Jr.

### PRELUDE

**\*THE LIGHT OF GOD IS PRESENT WITH US**

**\*HYMN #157**

*Jesus Shall Reign*

### \*GREETING AND PRAYER

*We offer a cordial greeting to all worshipers who have come to praise the Lord.  
Your presence helps lift our spirits, and we welcome you in Christ's name.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please add your name to the attendance register located in your pew and pass to  
the next person until reaches everyone in your row.*

### PRAYERS

### SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

**PRAYER HYMN #174 x2 *His Name is Wonderful***

### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### **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 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.  
Amen.**

### THE OFFERING:

The Gathering of the Gifts

\*Presentation of Gifts with **DOXOLOGY:**

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

Next Sunday's Message:

## "Belief Requires Faith"

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

*Derek Robicheaux ~ We Will Remember*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Luke 24:13-34 NLT*

**MESSAGE**

“Faith and the Emmaus Road”

**\*HYMN #163**

*Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know*

**\*BLESSING**

Pastor

**\*THE LIGHT OF GOD LEADS US INTO THE WORLD**

Acolytes

**\*DEPARTING SONG:**

*At Calvary*

*Mercy there was great,  
and grace was free;  
Pardon there was multiplied to me;  
There my burdened soul  
found liberty, At Calvary.*

**\*PASSING THE PEACE:**

*Let us greet one another with the peace of God.*

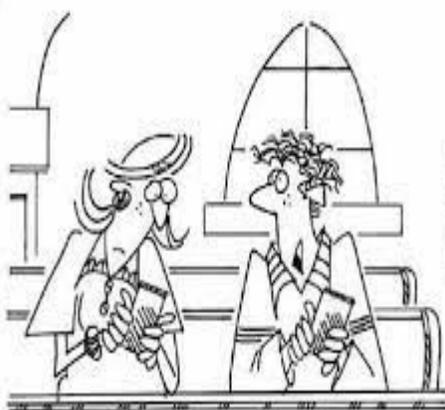
**POSTLUDE**

*Prayer Requests*

*Prayer Requests —last names are printed for individuals requesting prayer for themselves or with explicitly given permission.*

*Jane Marginet, Richard Michel,  
Becca Manolov, Carla Jackson,  
Connie Osborn, Tommy Osborn,  
Alec Taylor, Morgan Whitehead,  
Terri Jarboe, Derek Barton,  
Jo Eckert, Ruby Wilkerson,  
Scotti Pitts, Deanna Wilson, Don  
Colvin, Gretchen Young,  
Effie Dilbeck, Frances Burns,  
June Regenhold,  
Ruth Ann Sokeland, Margie Beal,  
Lesla Prater, Brian Price,  
Roger & Nancy Jones*

LAUGHTER  
with you wherever you go.  
—Hugh Sidey



"The Pastor keeps referring to 'this morning's text' ... but which one?"



## Luke 24:13-34 NLT

### The Walk to Emmaus

<sup>13</sup> That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. <sup>16</sup> But God kept them from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days."

<sup>19</sup> "What things?" Jesus asked.

"The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. <sup>21</sup> We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.

<sup>22</sup> "Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. <sup>23</sup> They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! <sup>24</sup> Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said."

<sup>25</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. <sup>26</sup> Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, <sup>29</sup> but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. <sup>30</sup> As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

<sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" <sup>33</sup> And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, <sup>34</sup> who said, "The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter."

RESPONSE: The Word of God, for the people of God.

*Thanks be to God!*

**Listening Guide**  
**“Faith and the Emmaus Road”**  
**April 16, 2023**

**Scripture:** Luke 24:13-34

**How is faith exposed on the road to Emmaus?**

**Complete** \_\_\_\_\_ **(vs. 13-24)**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **(vs. 25-27)**

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\_\_\_\_\_ **(vs. 28-34)**

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**Personal Application:** We all have a process of faith that brings us to belief. What’s yours? How does this apply to the Resurrection?

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