

COMMENTATOR:

On behalf of the Charis Community, I welcome you to our Sunday Mass. All are truly welcome, and we are excited that you are joining us whether it's your first time praying with us or if you've been with us for a while. The worship aid for Mass is on our website, and we will put the address in the chat for you should you like to pull it up to support your prayer.

We are a Eucharistic people, so we invite you to have bread and wine, in whatever form you have it, with you where you are. Even though we are in many locations, we affirm that we are one table of believers. We trust that the Holy Spirit has never been and will never be restrained by time or space or distance! So we gather as one people, as one Body, rooted in Christ, and rooted in God's love, together.

Two disciples are heading to Emmaus. They have about two hours for one of the most important human experiences, a long walk with a good friend. They needed a long walk. They had burdens and fears. Here is what they were talking about: Narrow minded and controlling religious fanatics attacked a good and honest man, who was bringing a hopeful future. They whipped up a mob, pressured the justice system to ignore its laws, and rushed the torturous execution of an innocent man.

Now what? Just when the world seemed about to change, where neighbors are encouraged to help neighbors, strangers are welcomed, brokenness healed and guilt relieved, and new world, a Kingdom of God, a beloved community possible. Then comes the counterpunch right to the gut, so you can't even breath. The empire strikes back, evil has its way, and you are not even sure who to trust. What now?

It is time for a walk. You find your Cleopas, the one person in the whole world you trust, and you walk. And you listen, and you see who you meet.

We join our voices in song as we continue this Easter season Sabbath together.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The community of believers were of one heart and mind.
None of them claimed anything as their own;
rather everything was held in common.
With great power the apostles bore witness
to the resurrection of Jesus,
and great favor was accorded them all.

There was no needy person among them,
for those who owned property or houses would sell them,
bring the proceeds of the sale,
and put them at the feet of the apostles,
and they were distributed to each according to need.

The Word of God. R/. Thanks be to God.

A reading from the first letter of John.

My children,
I am writing this to you
So that you may not commit sin.
But if anyone does sin,
we have an advocate with Our Loving Creator,
Jesus Christ the righteous one.
Jesus is an offering for our sins,
and not for our sins only,
but for those of the whole world.

The way we can be sure that we know Christ
is to keep God's commandments.
Those who claim, "I know Christ,"
but do not keep the commandments, are liars,
and the truth is not in them.
But those who keep God's word,
the love of God is truly perfected in them.

The Word of God. R/. Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Good News according to Luke.

The two disciples recounted what had taken place on the road to Emmaus,
and how Jesus was made known to them
in the breaking of the bread.

While they were still speaking about this,
Jesus stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."
But they were startled and terrified
and thought that they were seeing a ghost.
Then he said to them, "Why are you troubled?
And why do questions arise in your hearts?
Look at my hands and my feet, that it is I myself.
Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones
as you can see I have."
As he said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

While they were still incredulous for joy and were amazed,
he asked them, "Have you anything here to eat?"
They gave him a piece of baked fish;
he took it and ate in front of them.
Then he said to them,
"These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you,
that everything written about me in the law of Moses
and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled."
Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

And he said to them,
"Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead on the third day
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,
would be preached in his name
to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things."

The Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ.
R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

COMMENTATOR

Prayer of the Faithful

Lord Jesus Christ, the light of your love shines on, illuminating the places where you are present. As the bewildered disciples pondered the stories of your appearance, you penetrated the darkness of their fear and doubt with your word of peace. You showed them the appalling marks of evil pierced on your hands and feet. You opened their minds to understand why you had to die to defeat such evil and death. Increase our understanding, we pray, and open our minds and hearts to receive you. Our response is **Easter us O God**

We invite you to unmute your mike if there is something you would like to pray for. We would very much like to pray with you.

Give time for prayers, when they are slowing down close with these words:

Bring to us O God, the sense of your living presence as we go into this new week. Renew in us the faith you want us to have, the faith that is not afraid to reach out in your name and to share the treasure you have given us. We ask that you would bless us at Charis with vision for the future and reverence for the past. Guide us each day as we minister to one another and to world for which you gave yourself. Help us each day to bear witness to your name and to do that which you would have us do. We ask it through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION or CLOSING PRAYER

Resurrection God, You are the light and you sent your son to shine your light in the darkness of this world.

Lord you know the places and times in our lives that have darkness in us.

You know the dark places and times in this world.

Lord shine your light into the darkness that we may be able to see our way again.

Resurrection God, We marvel at the Early Church's unity;

How they loved one another as you loved them,

How they saw to each other's needs; And how they cared for each other.

Lord would that we would be like that in our churches.

Empower us with Resurrection Power to be able to be that way.

Breathe your Holy Spirit on us that we too would be of one mind and heart.

Give us the peace you gave the disciples. Let your grace fall upon us all. **Amen**