Asbury Home Church Worship Service

“... Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”

(Luke 24:32)

Opening Hymn UMH # 318 “Christ is Alive”

Prayer

Eyes-opening,
tomb-opening,
scripture-opening,
heart-opening God:

We think we know.

We think we know what is happening. We watch the news, fake and real. We think we know what has happened in the past enough to live fully and courageously in the present. We learn about earlier pandemics. We think we know so much. We make decisions and criticize those made by others.

And then, when we least expect it, on the worst days and in the worst situations, when we think we know everything and cannot bear it, ...

You open the sacred story to us all over again.
You open and empty the tomb all over again.
You come and sit in the empty seat at our table in our home with bread in your hands and open our eyes all over again.

And the only words we can muster to describe this stunning recognition of our own unknowing are Hearts Strangely Warmed.

This is our prayer — for hearts strangely warmed — because this is your gift not at the end of the day, but at the beginning of all
things —
for the opening up of everything you are, everything we are, and everything that comes next.

Eyes-opening,
tomb-opening,
scripture-opening,
heart-opening God:
Let it be so. Amen.

By Rev. Jill Colley Robinson, Vermont District Superintendent


13 Now on that same day two of them 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.
Discussion questions

1. How is it with your soul? How do you handle your fear and anxiety in this time of uncertainty?

2. When everything seems uncertain and you don’t know where to go, what do you do to do? How can we be still in the uncertain times and see God who guides us?

3. Jesus came to the disciples who did not recognize him. But the disciples invited a stranger, Jesus, whom they met on the road, into their life and Jesus opened their eyes. Jesus can speak to us through the voice of a stranger. To listen to his voice better, what you can practice at your life context?

**Prayer for family and friends:** Share your prayer concerns with your family and pray for people who need your prayer.

**Closing Hymn** UMH # 309 “On the Day of Resurrection”

**The Lord’s Prayer**

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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,
FOR EVER AND EVER
AMEN
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“‘The Lord has risen indeed!’”

(Luke 24:34)

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If you are depressed or worried over coronavirus, you are not alone. If you need pastoral care or simply want to talk with someone, contact pastor Yohan Go Email: koyohan3@hotmail.com Cell: 617-678-9901 or call the church office 401-467-5122.