

Easter Monday
St. Luke 24:13-35
April 18th, 2022
Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, UAC
Simpsonville, SC
Pastor Jerald Dulas

A Village Called Emmaus

In Nomine Iesu!

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer in Pulpit before Sermon:

O Lord, send out Thy Light and Thy Truth, let them lead us. O Lord, open Thou my lips, that my mouth may show forth Thy praise. O Lord, graciously preserve me, lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be rejected. Amen.

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior + Jesus Christ. Amen.

My dear friends, we have followed our Lord + Jesus through His suffering, death, and resurrection. We have processed with our Lord to His cross and grave. Our Lord's procession began in the home of Simon the Leper who was holding a feast in honor of Lazarus, whom our Lord had raised from the dead after being dead four days. Mary, the sister of Lazarus, anointed our Lord + Jesus for His burial by pouring oil upon His head and feet; a very costly oil of spikenard, and the fragrance filled the whole house. On the next day our Lord processed into the city of His ancestor King David, into Jerusalem, the city of peace. The crowds, who had heard that He had raised Lazarus from the dead after four days, greeted Him with palm and olives branches and shouts of "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

While the crowds cheered for the One Who they believed to be the Messiah, the Son of God, sent to redeem them from their enemies, our Lord + Jesus wept over Jerusalem. For the city of peace did not recognize the peace which He was bringing. This city would punish Him for their sins, and crucify Him on the tree of the holy cross. This city of peace, Jerusalem, would be razed to the ground on account of its unbelief. Therefore, our Lord wept over the unbelief of this city, as he lowly and humbly entered into Jerusalem to the shouts of the crowds riding on a donkey, and on a colt the foal of a donkey.

Judas Iscariot, being rebuked by the Lord + Jesus over his indignation for what he saw was a waste of very costly spikenard by Mary, Lazarus' sister, processed in his greed and indignation to the chief priests and scribes. Together they counseled with one another a way for Judas to betray the Lord + Jesus. They agreed to give him thirty pieces of silver. This was the price of blood. This was the price value of the Messiah. This was the price of our Lord's betrayal.

Our Lord, and His Apostles processed into the Upper Room, where our Lord ate the Passover feast with them. There in the Upper Room, our Lord washed His Apostles feet, showing them an example of the love that they should have for one another. He also gave them a meal—a meal of His very Body and Blood given in bread and wine—in which they might share their mutual love and fellowship. He gave them a meal where they could celebrate together that they were forgiven of their sins. He has given this meal to us through the Apostles so that we may come and kneel at this altar and share together the forgiveness that our Lord desires to give us as we eat and drink His Body and

Blood given in bread and wine in Christian fellowship.

Judas having left to betray Him, for Satan had put it into his heart to do so, our Lord then process with His Apostles to the Garden of Gethsemane. There our Lord + Jesus prayed earnestly for the cup of the Lord to pass from Him, but also confessed that what the Father wills, He would do. His prayer was so earnest His sweat was like great drops of blood. After He prayed three times, while His Apostles slept, Judas came with a garrison from the chief priests to arrest our Lord + Jesus and haul Him away to Caiaphas the high priest. His Apostles, all forsook Him and fled.

Our Lord's procession went from his trial before Annas, the father-in-law of Caiaphas, to His trial before Caiaphas, in which He was accused of blasphemy and sentenced to death. He was accused of the crime of which only the chief priests and scribes were guilty. On account of their blasphemy toward our Lord, He was condemned as deserving of death; of death on the cross. Therefore, in the morning, they conferred with one another again, and led Him away to Pontius Pilate, the governor in order to seek His death by crucifixion. Pilate questioned Him, and also had Him sent to Herod the King, the ruler of Galilee, who sent Him back to Pilate. Our Lord's procession of His trial before the religious and political rulers brought Him shame, mockery, beating, being spit upon, scourged, slapped. He was then sent to be crucified.

Our Lord + Jesus carried His cross to Golgotha, on the way His cross was given to Simon of Cyrene to carry. He was nailed to the tree between to robbers, one on His left, the other on His right. The sky grew dark while He was on the cross, and when He willingly gave up His Spirit, the earth shook, and the veil in the temple was torn in two, and the graves of the faithful were opened up, so that when He had arisen, they went into the holy city, to proclaim the resurrection. His dead body was placed in a new tomb in which no one else had been laid. He was anointed with myrrh and aloes, and wrapped in strips on linen, and laid in the grave. He rested on the Sabbath.

This is where the procession of our Lord led to His death and grave. Now we find ourselves on the third day after His death. On the road to a village called Emmaus we are told by the Evangelist St. Luke that there were two men on this road to the village called Emmaus who were discussing all these things. All these events which we have heard, and witnessed by our hearing, they were discussing on the road to the village of Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. On their procession from Jerusalem to Emmaus, our Lord + Jesus joins them. He hid His true identity from them at first.

When they had discussed with the Lord, Who asked them what they were talking about, He explained fully the prophecies found in Moses and all the prophets, of how the Christ was supposed to suffer and die, in order to redeem the whole world from their sins. These things that happened were supposed to happen in order that we might cling in faith to His works and merits, for in them we have forgiveness, life and salvation. What a wonderful thing it must have been for these two men, one of who was named Cleopas, to have heard the teaching and preaching of the Lord + Jesus! How wonderful it must have been to have the holy Scriptures explained; to have the work of the Lord + Jesus fully explained. By their own admission, their hearts burned within them as the Lord proclaimed the good news found in holy Scripture.

Our Lord continues to preach to us by His Holy Ghost. He sends out His ministers into all the world, to proclaim the promise of salvation found in the one true and only Savior, our Lord + Jesus. His ministers open to us Moses and the Prophets, who proclaimed that the Christ must suffer and die for the sins of the whole world. The God man + Jesus must suffer and die to buy us back from sin, death, and the power of the devil. All these events which we have bore witness to in the last week were meant to happen. They were meant to happen for our salvation. We have heard these events again, as we do every year, for these events lead us to the place of our redemption. We process every year with our Lord to the place where He won for us forgiveness, life and salvation. He suffered and died to redeem

us from our enemies.

Then on the third day, the day on which Cleopas and Simon are walking to a village called Emmaus and discussing these things, our Lord + Jesus rose again from the dead. The women who went to the tomb early on first day after the Sabbath, found an empty tomb. The stone had been rolled away. An angel of the Lord was sitting on the stone and proclaimed that the Lord + Jesus was not there. He had arisen! Another angel, a young man clothed in a long white robe, was also inside the tomb sitting on the right side. He also proclaimed to the women who came to the tomb—the women who were privileged to be the first to hear of our Lord's resurrection, for it was through a woman by which sin entered into the world—that the Lord + Jesus was not in His tomb. He was risen from the dead.

They did not tell anyone at first because of fear and trembling and amazement, but then they processed to the Apostles and told them all that they had seen and heard—that the Lord + Jesus of Nazareth was risen from the dead—but they did not believe them. They considered them the tales of idle speech. St. Peter and St. John, however, raced each other to the tomb, and they found it just as the women had said. These things the two on the road to the village called Emmaus also discussed. Our Lord + Jesus also showed them from holy Scripture, that not only was the Christ supposed to suffer and die for the redemption of mankind, but He would also rise again on the third day. He would bring life and light to all those who believe on Him.

After our Lord + Jesus revealed Himself in the breaking of the bread, the two men ran back to Jerusalem to tell the Apostles. In the Upper Room where the Apostles were gathered for fear of the Jews, the risen Lord + Jesus appeared to them. We will hear more about that next Sunday. The Lord + Jesus showed them that He had conquered death by revealing Himself to them alive again. Our Lord has conquered death for us once and for all. He has won forgiveness and salvation for us, and has become the firstfruits from the dead, and shown us that just as He has risen from the dead lives and reigns for all eternity, we too will rise to life again, and live with Him for all eternity in Heaven. Our Lord has led our procession through this world of suffering and death to our eternal home in Heaven with Him and all the saints and angels of the Lord. Praise be to Him now and always! In the Name of our Lord + Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer in Pulpit after Sermon:

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy Name give glory! I will extol Thee, O Lord, and I will praise Thy Name forever and ever. Amen.

The Votum:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria!