

God Sends Us Forth

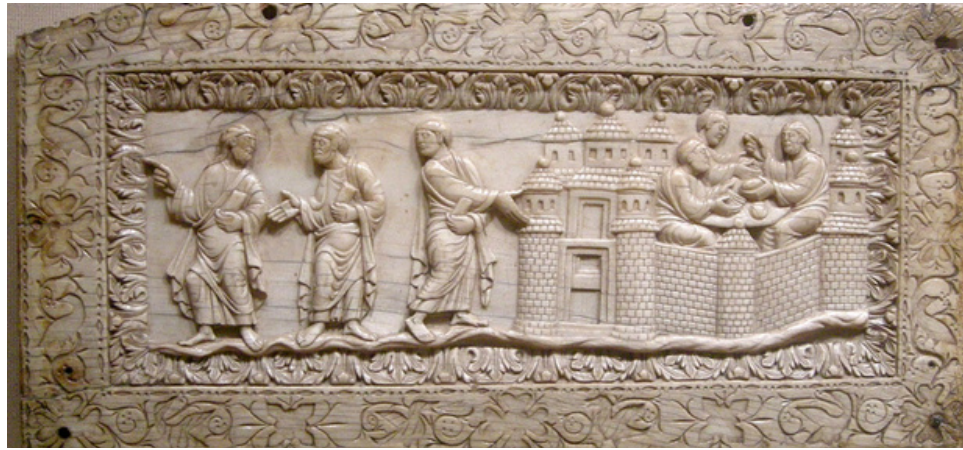
*Hymn #610 *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON

*Charge and Benediction

*Musical Blessing #765 *May the God of Hope Go with Us* ARGENTINA

Postlude

**for portions marked with an asterisk, you are invited to rise*



Road to Emmaus, Cloisters Collection, Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

About this Image:
Ivory carving crafted during the Carolingian period, depicts Christ's appearance to two of his disciples after his Resurrection. Christ, who is distinguished by his halo, meets the disciples along the road to the town of Emmaus, near Jerusalem.

Worship Notes: "Unrecognizable"

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 51:1-6; Luke 24:13-35

How is God speaking to you in worship today? Use the space below to draw or write thoughts, feelings, questions, etc.

Leading Worship

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Ministers | Every Member |
| Liturgist | Karen Dikeman |
| Ushers | Forrest & Autumn Brock |
| Director of Music | Theresa Jean Kibby |
| Piano & Organ | Debby McDonald |
| Pastor | Rev. David Holden |



First Presbyterian Church

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter



Christ and the Disciples Walking to Emmaus, Monasterio de Santo Domingos de Silos, Spain. from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

We Believe... God's Love Sets us Free!

God's Love sets us free from fear judgment, and death.

God's Love sets us free with energy and strength for commitment.

God's love sets us free renewing our faith, hope, and trust.

God's love sets us free to worship, to love, to accept love, and to live.

God's love sets us free as the church with a common heritage, bound together as one family, nourished by the gift of his Son.



People of God, Welcome Home!

May Christ's peace and presence fill your heart as you worship this day, and may you go forth with the light and love of God shining within you. We welcome you to worship and ask that any electronic devices be placed on silent so that all may hear what God has to say.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 200 N VINE ST SOMERSET, KY

fpcsomerset.org

Service of Worship April 19, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Gratitude" arr. Mark Hayes
Introit #252 Day of Arising RAABE

Gathering Around the Word

***Call to Worship** (*Responsive*) from Psalm 116

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,**

in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst,
O Jerusalem.

Praise the Lord!

***Hymn #260** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* HYFRYDOL

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We find ourselves preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. We turn away from systems that challenge our way of thinking, choosing to justify our actions instead of examining our intentions.

Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Transform our hearts so that where they are hardened toward you, neighbor and self, they may once again be filled with love and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (*Responsive*)

In Acts 2:39, Peter says: "For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." Receive the good news, Children of God, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***Passing the Peace** – *We invite you to share the peace of Christ.*
"May the peace of Christ be with you." / "And also with you."

***Response #581 Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, amen.

**for portions marked with an asterisk (*), you are invited to rise*

Listening to the Word

Prayer For Illumination of God's Word

First Reading Isaiah 51:1-6 (see insert)

Anthem *All Because of Mercy* Casting Crowns
soloist: Nicole Ware

Second Reading Luke 24:13-35 (see insert)

Sermon "Unrecognizable" Rev. David Holden

Responding to the Word

***Hymn #463** *How Firm a Foundation* FOUNDATION

***Affirmation of Faith** (*Unison*) from *The Confession of Belhar*

We believe

- that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;
- that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ;
- that through the working of God's Spirit, it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality, which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.
- that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly, that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

Sharing our Prayers (*prayer concern list on back*)

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer ("debts/debtors" - hymnal, p.35)

Giving Back to God's Kingdom

(Give Online: Scan the code on the insert or go to: bit.ly/FPCSomersetGive)

Call to Offering

Offertory *Prelude No. 4* Debussy

***Response #606 Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

**for portions marked with an asterisk (*), you are invited to rise*

Scripture Readings

FIRST READING – ISAIAH 51:1-6

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

SECOND READING – LUKE 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?"

They stood still, looking sad. 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?"

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, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 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. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 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. 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."

Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 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. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 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?"

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.



Announcements

Today at 4:00 p.m. - **Interracial Dialogue Group**
 Guest speaker: April Lee, Executive Director of Help the Homeless Somerset.
 All are welcome, please join us in the Thoughtful Christian Classroom.

Next Sunday April 26, 2026
 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Somerset Community College Earth Day Celebration

FPC booth co-sponsored by our Congregation Care & Earth Care committees
 Please drop by and spend some time at the booth, so the community can get to know us!

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it." Psalm 24:1



**Blessing Box Attendant
 This Week:
 Lynn & Johnny Cain**



Prayers for Comfort, Concern, and Healing

Kurt Schultz; Cindy Fountain; Christie Adams; John Warren; Brian Baker; George Joplin; Wilma Boyd (Mary Beth Waller's mother); Pamela Orwin Mohn; Fran (friend of the Bosh's); Kendra Sutton; Mollie Stacey Ross; Sean Stephens; Angie Butler & Becky; Misty Stapleton; Gloria Maggard; Jackson Baker; Jon Burlew; Suzanne Kidd; Erin Granville; Pat Carpenter; John Joplin; Linda Bonardel; Judy Kamperman; Tim Noel; J.R & Karen Goff (Leslie Phillips' parents); Ashley Kerr (Jeff & Kathy Bishop's daughter); Dale Crocket; Leslie Phillips; Monica Jones

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*
 Philippians 4:6-7 NRSV

**We Believe God's Love Sets Us Free
 with energy and strength for commitment!**

| | Rec'd month of March | Needed Monthly | Received YTD | Needed YTD |
|----------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
| Offering | \$32,338 | \$18,159 | \$65,174 | \$54,477 |



Scan the QR code to access online giving through PayPal

**Got a Question?
 Ask a church leader**

Deacons:

Linda Cook Rebecca Davis Steve Cornelius
 Don Haney Nancy Holland Karen Dikeman Hannah Vaught

Elders:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Class of 2026</u> | <u>Class of 2027</u> | <u>Class of 2028</u> |
| Jo Salmon | Mark Dikeman | Todd Chrisman |
| Laura Wright | Erin Stephens | Beth Foster |

