

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## LOOK

What has been the hardest part of the pandemic for you? How do you feel about going out again and gathering for worship?

## BOOK

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

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, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning

from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

- 1) Luke's account of Easter includes resurrection, road to Emmaus, appearing to disciples and ascension all on Easter Day. The disciples had staked their lives and reputations on Jesus. How do you think they were feeling as they gathered in this dark room? (Now what?)
- 2) Name all the adjectives used to describe the reaction of the disciples when Jesus appeared among them. What tone do you imagine Jesus used in convincing them he was real?
- 3) Jesus showed the disciples that he was real by showing them his hands and feet. Why does the resurrected Christ still have his wounds, do you think?
- 4) Jesus calls the disciples to eat together and study scripture. What else does he commission them to do? (witness to forgiveness and repentance)

## TOOK

Is there a situation in your life that makes you feel hopeless, or ask, "Now what?" Jesus is standing in front of you, offering peace and hope. Can you believe that he is right there? How is he offering hope and new promise to you right now?

Jesus did not avoid suffering and death but moved through them and transformed his wounds. How can our wounds be transformed with resurrection meaning, purpose and strength?

How do we witness to the resurrection in our daily lives? What do we do and say to witness?

Share a time when Jesus showed up but you didn't recognize him. What happened to open your eyes? How can we practice recognizing Jesus in our lives as we emerge from the pandemic?

How do we witness to the world by showing our scars as individuals? As a church?