

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Third Sunday after Easter

PRELUDE *Prelude on "Victory"* Palestrina/Parker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS John Ranson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, we gather today as people who spent the week inundated with news reports, social media posts, and reels that inundated us with information, worry, and stress.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we carry the weight of being overwhelmed and anxious, wondering who we can believe.

We gather as people who long for peace, for God to break through and bring us clarity and hope once again.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we don't always recognize when the Risen One comes alongside us, showing us the way where there seems to be no way.

We gather as people hoping to catch a glimmer of Resurrection, ready for our hearts to burn with the truth of the resurrected Christ.

Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we open our hearts to the possibility that God's Resurrection life is closer than we think.

Easter people, God knows the burdens we carry, and God is faithful to meet us where we are with good news.

May the good news of the Resurrection astound us today as we come to worship God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2025.

***OPENING HYMN** *"Leaning On the everlasting Arms"* UMH #133

*OPENING PRAYER

O risen Christ, On the road to Emmaus, you were the disciples' companion. Be at our side on the journey of faith on life's pathways and at every encounter, engender our compassion, so that we may welcome others and listen to their stories.

Kindle anew the desire to proclaim your Word. May it illumine us, and may our hearts burn to bear witness to it. May your Holy Spirit teach us the art of explaining scripture and open our hearts to recognize you.

Grant us the courage to become vulnerable so that our siblings may know you through us and that we may know you through them. Amen.

Adapted from Resources for The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity The Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 51:1-6 Dent Holden III

CHILDREN'S TIME Never Alone by Faith Eury Cho Rachel Holden

SPECIAL MUSIC *Abide with Me* arr Susan Henry
Soloist, Megan Gould

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT "What Mt Vernon UMC Means to Me"
Joyce Fuguay

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 24:13-35

SERMON "The Place You Find Hope" Bob Edwards

RESPONSE TO THE WORD Traditional Affirmation UMH #881

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *Du meine Seele, singe* A.W. Leupold

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #95

***CLOSING HYMN** *"Open My Eyes That I May See"* UMH #454

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE *Break Forth into Joy* J.S. Bach

**Please stand as you are able*

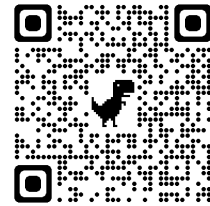
The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Howard Dunn by Mary Lou, Hudson, & Richard Dunn & Linzy Dunn Ebel.

**MOUNT VERNON
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

April 19, 2026

Ways to Give

You can give as the offering plate is passed or by scanning the QR Code here



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Special Accommodations are available by request.

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Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Our Mission:

To live, share, and extend the ministry of Jesus Christ