

Our thanks to *Rev. David Schreffler, Pastor* at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lemoyne, Pennsylvania, whose sermon (found at the website below) inspired our Road to Emmaus sermon.

<http://www.trinitylemoyne.org/Sermon%20Christ%20The%20King%20Sunday%20November%202022%202015.pdf>

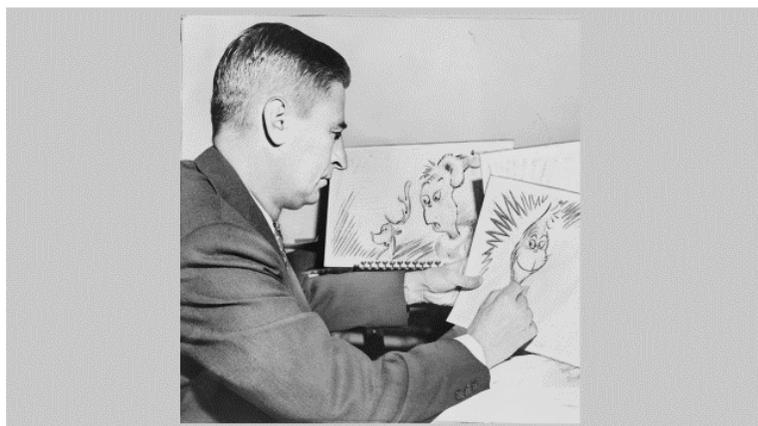
1 EASTER
PASTOR SCOTT FULLER

APRIL 23, 2017
PSALM 100; LUKE 24:13-35
The Road to Emmaus

FIRST, MARSHALL
PASTOR JULIE MCCAIN

Dear friends in Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prepare our hearts, Lord, to receive your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own that in hearing we may believe and in believing we may obey your will revealed to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.



Saturday intro:

*I'm happy to share a great story today
It's like Dr. Seuss, with some fun at word-play.
Dr. Seuss was a poet, a legend, a star
His rhymes were exquisite, he's the best one by far.*

*Yes, I like to write but I'm sure not a poet
And after this sermon you're all gonna know it.
Yet my homily rhymes and I hope it will teach
And no matter the style I think it can preach*

Sunday intro:

Pastor Julie and I have a story today
It's like Dr. Seuss, with some fun at word-play.
Dr. Seuss was a poet, a legend, a star
His rhymes were exquisite, he's the best one by far.

Yes, we like to write but neither's a poet
And after this sermon you're all gonna know it.
Yet our homily rhymes and we hope it will teach
And no matter the style we think it can preach

For we have as our base, the good news of God
Through Jesus our Lord, though the story is odd.
It centers around Jesus' death on the cross,
And touches his followers' grief, fear and loss.

Yet, just when you think that the story has ended,
The Easter surprise means our hearts are all mended.
We'll start our odd story with **Jesus** on trial
This man who is love with no plan to beguile.



The Passover was coming, the crowds were gigantic
The potential for problems made everyone frantic.
The Pharisees wanted to kill Jesus this season,
They just needed Judas to give them a reason.

The ruler from Rome, Pontius Pilate his name
Had squelched many riots in the years of his reign
The Romans were bullies with taxes and more
Their uncaring harshness and insults galore.

They stepped on some toes, they pushed folks around,
Not once did they care if they knocked someone down.
The Jewish folks hated to be told how to live
It became very clear that something must give.

The enemies of Jesus accused him of being
A pretender, a fake, any sort of false thing.
They wanted him gone – now! Not in a while...
They believed he was bad, so they put him on trial.

They sent him to Pilate, said Jesus was trouble
Could tear-down their town, make a big pile of rubble.
Pilate asked Jesus “So, are you a king?”
Jesus replied, “Sir, why ask such a thing?”

“Your people,” said Pilate “threw you under the bus.
What have you done to create such a fuss?”
He so wanted Jesus to stand and confess
And he, Pontius Pilate, wash his hands of this mess

But Jesus just smiled and said “You say that I am...
“This is why I have come, so that no one is damned.”
Death is our common uniter, it’s true
No one escapes the Grim Reaper’s view



No treasure can purchase a life nor a breath
For all keep on marching toward that valley called Death.
The Lord was then nailed to a cross with two others
While the first man was mad, the two others became brothers.

“Remember me, Lord” the one man did say,
“In Heaven,” said Jesus, “I’ll see you today.”
The day became night, the three men all died.
The Lord’s faithful followers just stood there and cried.

They took Jesus down and wrapped him up well
He was placed in a tomb, it was new, you could tell.
It was sealed with a stone, they closed it up tight.
Then everyone went to their homes for the night.

The Passover came, a great celebration
But for those who loved Jesus, a tearful occasion.
Some were scared, some were lost, all were so sad
Their hearts were all broken, they felt very bad.

Too soon it had come, the third morning's day,
The women awoke, had a bite and then prayed.
They went to the tomb, their purpose was clear
Prepare Jesus' body – this man who was dear



They stumbled and stepped through the brightening night,
Determined to do what was good, what was right.
They brought some fresh linens, a beautiful spice,
To clean Jesus' body and make it smell nice.

They scabbled and climbed up the steep rocky path,
Then came to stop...and suddenly gasped.
The stone! It had moved, was away from the door.
“Oh, what could this mean?” they asked even more.

As one of them knelt, looking into the tomb,
She struggled to see in the early dawn gloom.
Then suddenly... they were all flooded with light
Two angels appeared – and gave them a fright!

“Whom are you seeking?” the men asked sincerely.
“It’s Jesus, the One, whom we all hold so dearly.”
“He’s gone,” said one, “he’s raised from the dead!
He’s living again, just like he said!”

The women all turned, ran quickly from there.
“At last!” they all smiled, “We have good news to share!”
“He’s alive, he’s not dead!” the women all said.
“The ending has changed, we have nothing to dread!”

But the men – they just frowned, with heart-indigestion,
It didn’t make sense, ’twas a silly suggestion!
“Their speech is not true,” they said to each brother
“They’re crazy, each one, this, that and the other...!”



Yet two of their friends had been walking around,
On their way to Emmaus, a nice little town.
They'd been talking about what had happened that week,
How their Rabbi had died, the friend of the meek.

They were moping and brooding and feeling so blue,
They knew not what to say, nor what they should do.
They soon met a stranger who seemed kind of slow,
Of all the sad happenings, he did not know.

So they told him about how their dreams had all died
When Jesus, their rabbi, had been crucified.
“Plus some women,” they said, “from our group just this morn,
Had been to his tomb – seen the clothes he had worn.”

“The tomb, it was vacant, his body, not there
The ledge where he'd lain, was empty and bare.
But that's just their story, these women who spoke,
We know that he's dead, it's true, it's no joke.”



They all stopped for dinner, some wine and some bread,
The stranger then smiled, took the loaf and then said,
“Take, eat, it’s my body, so now you will know,
I’m with you forever, wherever you go.”

And suddenly then, when the stranger looked up.
It truly was Jesus who lifted the cup.
He said, “You’re so foolish, why don’t you believe?
You don’t have to mourn, you don’t have to grieve.”

“I’m telling you now,” said the man with bright eyes,
“The women are telling the truth – they’re not lies.
They know what they’ve seen and their word it is true.
Now you’d better believe so that you can see too!”

God’s message of love is truly for all
God wants us to listen and wait for his call
To speak and to serve, helping all far and near
Lending this one a hand or that one an ear.

So that is the story about Jesus, our Savior
Which fills up our hearts with a salvation flavor.
Now put light in your eyes and smiles on your faces
As you share God’s great love in all kinds of places.

Amen

Apostles' Creed:

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
He created us well, and the earth, too, so nicely.*

*I believe in Christ Jesus, God's Son and our Lord
From the Spirit to Mary, he became her loved ward.*

*He suffered, was crucified, died and entombed,
He descended to hell where it's all gloom and doom.*

*But on the third day he arose from the dead
Then he went up to heaven and here's what God said:*

*"Come sit at my side, not the left but the right,
For you have done well, and will now judge with might."*

*I believe in the Spirit, the One we call Holy
And the whole church on earth – that's a lot – holy moly!*

*The communion of saints and the forgiveness of sins,
Will help us in spite of what trouble we're in.*

*That Jesus was raised from the dead – I can't lie
It means life everlasting – oh me, and oh my! Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer:

*Our Father in heaven, we honor your name
May your kingdom come – and your will do the same
On earth as in heaven – that's our prayer, it's our claim.*

*Please give us today our daily bread truly.
Then forgive us our sins, so we're never unruly
And help us forgive those who treat us so cruelly.*

*Save us from moments of temptation and trial,
And save us from evil – keep us free from all guile
Help us live here in peace, help us do it and smile.*

*For yours is the kingdom – it's holy, it's great.
And your power as well – it's not crooked, it's straight!
The glory's yours too, forever – it's fate!*

Amen.

Offering invitation:

*Let's worship our Lord with our dollars and cents
If we live in big houses or in small, tiny tents.
Our gifts, large or little, God always can use
As we serve all God's people and share the good news!*

Benediction:

*May God bless and keep you in health and in peace
May the Spirit of grace cause your love to increase.
May Jesus, from sin give you true sweet release,
And may you always believe that you're God's masterpiece.*