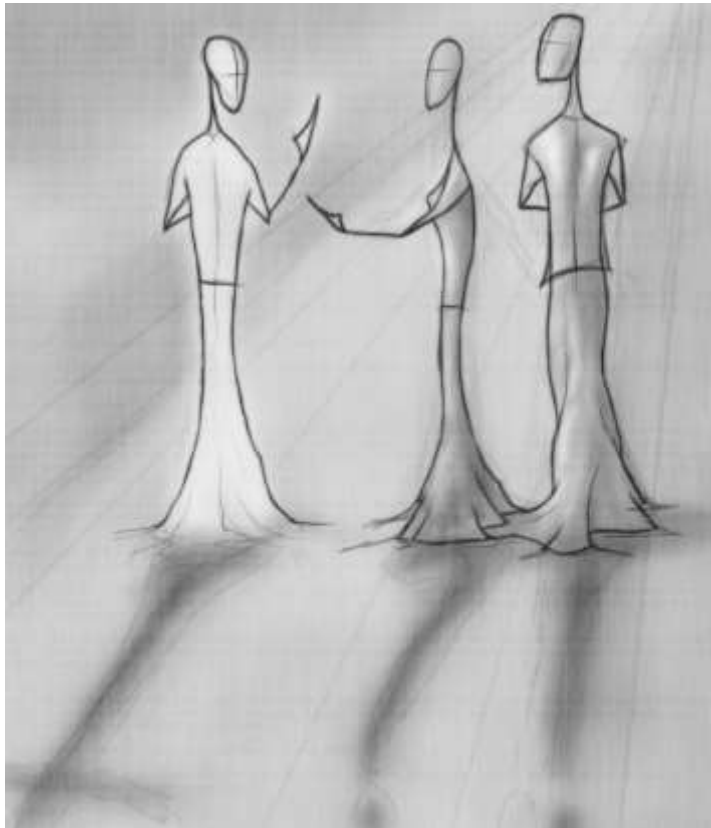


WELCOME TO...
The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David

May 04, 2014



This intriguing image is [Road to Emmaus](#), by American artist, Adam Howie. Notice the different shadows created by each of the figures (a cross, question mark, exclamation mark).

Gathering: *Meet us, Lord, on the road to Emmaus, guide us on the path toward our destination, and renew our strength as we continue to walk and commune with you. Open our eyes, so we see the signs of your presence around us; Open our hearts, so we may receive your peace and love; and empower us to pass on to others the grace you have shared with us so freely. Amen.* written by Rev. Frank Schaefer

Hymn: Jesus stand among us

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Lament: *We had hoped. Lord, we voice our despair. We had hoped you were our victory. We had hoped you were our earthly leader. We had hoped you would remove the pain and the sorrow once and for all.*

But then we saw suffering. Then we saw injustice. We saw blood on the ground. We saw death.

And doubt swelled in our throats and choked off our praise. We had hoped.

Risen Lord, revitalize our hope. Open our eyes to see your victory.

(Nathan Bierma)

Assurance of Pardon: *Answer us in the day of trouble, O God, so that we may lift up the cup of salvation in the presence of your people, giving thanks for all your goodness to us; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.*

Hymn: God forgave my sin

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Scripture: **Luke 24:** 13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 18 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?" 19 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, 20 and how our chief

priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21 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. 22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23 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. 24 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." 25 Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. 28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 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. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32 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?" 33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Hymn: Come to us (vs. 1)

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Invitation:

At table the eyes of disciples were opened when Jesus blessed the bread, and broke it, and gave it to them. At this table we too seek spiritual sight, a place where we too may discern his true Presence in the common gifts of life, celebrate with all who love him, and have compassion for those who as yet love him not.

At this table we come together as the guests of Jesus.

Hymn: Here is bread, here is wine

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Prayer of Thanksgiving:

*The Lord is here. **God's spirit is with us.***

*Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.***

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.*** (Continue in thanksgiving)

O God, giver of all that is good,

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. May they bring to our remembrance of all that Christ has said and done. May our eyes be open and recognition enter in. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other.

Hymn: Many and Great (vs 2)

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Communion

Prayer after Communion *Thanks be to you, O God, for your presence and your purpose, for your loving kindness and your steadfast Spirit. **May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith, increase our generosity and unify our hearts, for we pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One. Amen.***

Final Reflection: We need Christ's presence on the long road -
the road between fear and hope,
the road between the place where all is lost
and the place of resurrection.

Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus,
we are in need of Christ's company!

**Jesus, stand among us, in your risen power,
let this time of worship, be a hallowed hour.**

Hymn: Saviour again to your dear name (vs. 2-3)

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