

## **Hello everyone! Here is a little written Contemporary Service –**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Dear Lord, you have so much to show us and to tell us—  
things that no human eyes have seen,  
things that no human ears have heard,  
things that you have prepared for those you love.  
Mighty God, your promises are like shelter in a storm—  
to us and to our children,  
to all those far and near,  
to everyone who hears your call.  
O, that we might have the mind of Christ,  
that we may know and understand your truth.  
We wait as empty vessels,  
ready to be filled to overflowing with your living water,  
as you reveal your love for us through Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Prayer of Confession**

We're afraid to take a truthful look at ourselves,  
yet you see us as we really are.  
Even when we won't listen to you,  
you hear us when we call your name.  
We keep the light of your word hidden to ourselves,  
though you gave it to share with the world.  
May we know and serve the One  
who calls us to see, hear, and speak.  
**Open our hearts, Lord.**

A Reading from Luke 24:13-35

### **THE WALK TO EMMAUS**

**13** Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles[a] 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.[b] **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,[c] 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.[d] 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[e] 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[f] 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.

**Offertory Prayer:**

Lord, I ask your blessing on the gifts we offer to you. Please use these gifts to help others as you have healed and helped us, for we ask this in Jesus’ name. AMEN.

**Blessing:**

People of the Road, rejoice, for God is with you. Bring God’s love and peace to all whom you meet. Go in peace now and forever. AMEN.