

**3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER — Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023**  
**COLLECT, READINGS AND POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his  
risen life and serve you continually in  
righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive  
and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**1<sup>st</sup> READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice  
and addressed them: <sup>36</sup>Therefore let the entire  
house of Israel know with certainty that God has  
made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom  
you crucified.'

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this, they were cut to the  
heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles,  
'Brothers, what should we do?' <sup>38</sup>Peter said to them,  
'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the  
name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be  
forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy  
Spirit. <sup>39</sup>For the promise is for you, for your children,  
and for all who are far away, everyone whom the  
Lord our God calls to him.' <sup>40</sup>And he testified with  
many other arguments and exhorted them, saying,  
'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' <sup>41</sup>So  
those who welcomed his message were baptized,  
and that day about three thousand persons were  
added.

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

<sup>17</sup>If you invoke as Father the one who judges all  
people impartially according to their deeds, live in  
reverent fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup>You  
know that you were ransomed from the futile ways  
inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable  
things like silver or gold, <sup>19</sup>but with the precious  
blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or  
blemish. <sup>20</sup>He was destined before the foundation  
of the world, but was revealed at the end of the  
ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup>Through him you have come to  
trust in God, who raised him from the dead and  
gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set  
on God.

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified your souls by your  
obedience to the truth so that you have genuine  
mutual love, love one another deeply from the

heart. <sup>23</sup>You have been born anew, not of perishable  
but of imperishable seed, through the living and  
enduring word of God.

**THE GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

<sup>13</sup>Now on that same day two of them were  
going to a village called Emmaus, about seven  
miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup>and talking with each  
other about all these things that had  
happened. <sup>15</sup>While they were talking and  
discussing, Jesus himself came near and went  
with them, <sup>16</sup>but their eyes were kept from  
recognizing him. <sup>17</sup>And he said to them, 'What  
are you discussing with each other while you  
walk along?' They stood still, looking sad.  
<sup>18</sup>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?' <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>and how our  
chief priests and leaders handed him over to  
be condemned to death and crucified him.  
<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>Moreover, some women of our group  
astounded us. They were at the tomb early  
this morning, <sup>23</sup>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. <sup>24</sup>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.' <sup>25</sup>Then he said to them, 'Oh, how  
foolish you are, and how slow of heart to  
believe all that the prophets have declared!  
<sup>26</sup>Was it not necessary that the Messiah  
should suffer these things and then enter into  
his glory?' <sup>27</sup>Then beginning with Moses and  
all the prophets, he interpreted to them the  
things about himself in all the scriptures.

*...continued over* →

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> 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?'

---

<sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

#### **THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:  
open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.