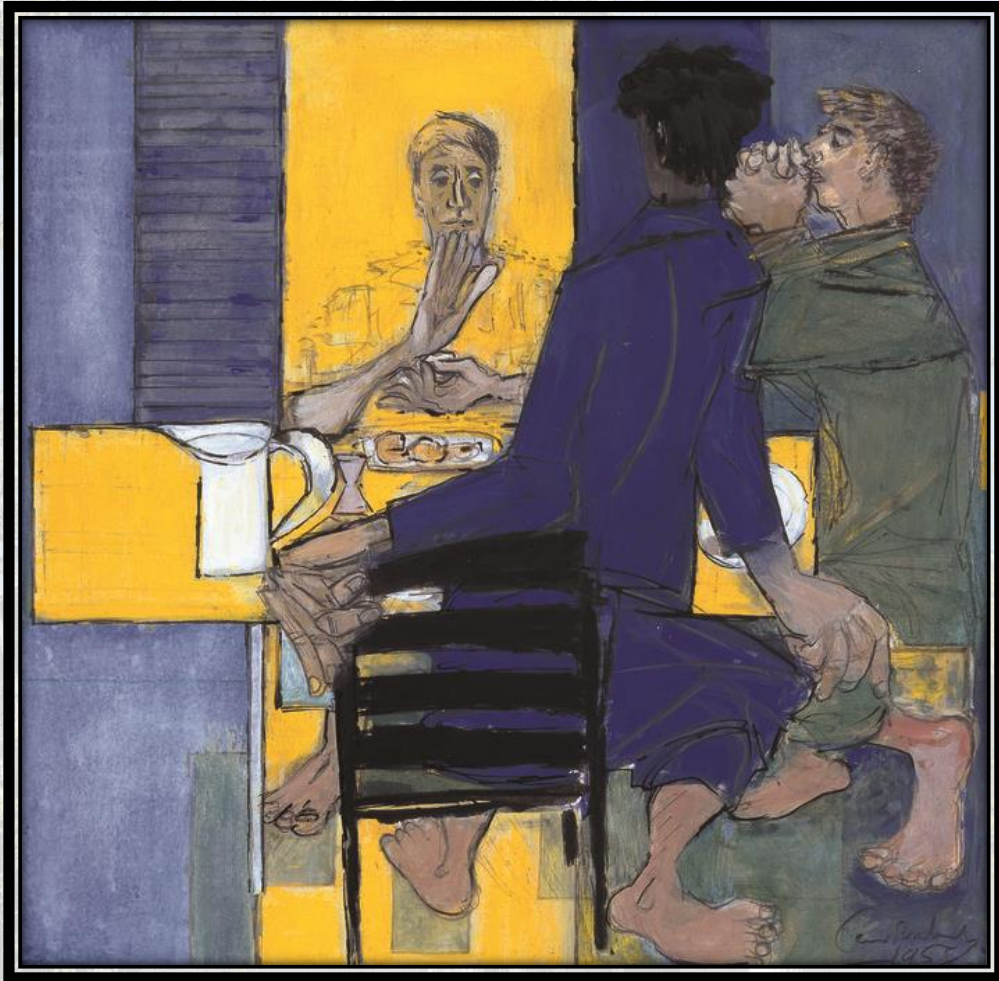


The Mount Carmel Congregational Church

A United Church of Christ



The Supper at Emmaus, Ceri Richards (1958)

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 11th, 2025

Prelude

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

Arr. Sigfrid Karg Elert

Greeting and Announcements

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Call to Worship (*Based on Psalm 23*)

One: God is our shelter, protection, and guide.

All: We want for nothing, and we will practice thanksgiving.

One: God invites us to places of peace and beauty where wildflowers bloom and mountain streams flow.

All: God restore us, calling us to rest in trust and hope.

One: When anxiety and fear threaten to overwhelm us, when depression and despair have us in their hold, and it seems death would be easier than life,

All: Even then, we need not fear. We will trust in God and practice surrender.

One: For you, O God, nourish us even when trouble and enemies are all around.

All: You claim us as your own and call us by name. Our cup overflows with joy!

One: God’s compassion and grace are with us every day,

All: And we will make our home in God’s love, justice and peace.

***Hymn** “Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows” NCH #248

Unison Prayer (*Based on Psalm 23*)

God our Good Shepherd, we too easily take your care for granted. In the midst of your many blessings, we complain of not having enough. In the presence of danger, we fail to trust your abiding love. When you set a table before us, we turn aside distracted by other things. Call us back into your care and help us trust your gracious presence, that our words and actions may proclaim your love and compassion. Amen.

Scripture Reading:

Luke 24: 13-35

Lynn Campo

On that same day, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. They were prevented from recognizing him.

He said to them, “What are you talking about as you walk along?” They stopped, their faces downcast.

The one named Cleopas replied, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?”

He said to them, “What things?”

They said to him, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, he was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. But there’s more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning and didn’t find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them he is alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn’t see him.”

Then Jesus said to them, “You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. Wasn’t it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets.

When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. But they urged him, saying, “Stay with us. It’s nearly evening, and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, “Weren’t our hearts on fire when he spoke to us along the road and when he explained the scriptures for us?”

They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying to each other, “The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!” Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.

Sermon

Hymn “Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” NCH #172
[Please remain seated for this hymn.]

Prayers for Our Church and Our World

Altar flowers for this week’s service are given by Sandee Martin in loving memory of her mother, Irene Martin, and her sister, Marianne Pivarnick.

Please remember the following persons in your prayers: Karl Paulette; Amos Hewitt; Rhonda Pruzinsky; Cari Jansen; Maria Coffin; Carol Fitzsimmons; and Jim Baronowski.

Moments of Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Call to Offering

Offertory “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us” Bell Choir
 Valerie Duffy, Flute
 Arr. Linda R. Lamb

*The Doxology

(In Unison)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that Love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit—One. Amen.*

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, like the disciples who followed you and cast their nets, we come before you today offering what we have. Take these gifts, bless them, and use them to bring abundance where there is need, just as you filled the disciples' nets with fish. May our offerings be multiplied to serve local and global communities in miraculous ways. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” NCH #492

Benediction

Postlude “Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows”
 Arr. C.S. Lang

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*As a community of faith, gathered in Christ's love,
we strive to support one another in hearing the Word,
living the Word, and sharing the Word.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Physical copies of the 2024 Annual Report, Bylaw Revisions, and 2025 Directory are available for pickup in the Church Office. If you would like a digital copy of any of these documents, please fill out this Google Form (<https://mccucc.tiny.us/docrequest>) and we will send you a copy as soon as possible.

On Pentecost Sunday (June 8th), one confirmand will confirm her baptism and affirm her faith, officially becoming a member of our church. She will be joined by another who is also entering into membership. If you are interested in joining the church, please speak to Rev. Milton or contact him at pastor@mccucc.com.

We are always looking for Ushering and Coffee Hour Volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Aren in the office, or use the sign-up sheet now located near the main entrance to the Parish House.

Donations for the Food Bank are continually needed. Please help, if you are able to contribute. Non-perishable items such as canned beef stew, hearty soups, canned fish, peanut butter, mac and cheese packages, and oatmeal are greatly appreciated.

Prayer Shawls are available, if you know someone who needs a tangible reminder that they are held in God's love. They are available in the Parish House on Sundays, or you can contact Aren in the office.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in renting out our parish hall to host a meeting, service, or a small private event, please feel free to visit our website for scheduling, rates, and conditions.

SPRING WORSHIP: A LOOK AHEAD

Please join every Sunday at 10am for service!

May 18th, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 11: 1-18
Psalm 148
Revelations 21: 1-6
John 13: 31-35

May 25th, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 16: 9-15
Psalm 67
Revelations 21:10, 22:1-22:5
John 14: 2-29

June 1st, 2025: Communion

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 16: 16-34
Psalm 97
Revelations 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17: 20-26

June 8th, 2025

Pentecost Sunday

Scripture: Acts 2: 1-21
Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b
Romans 8: 14-17
John 14: 8-17 (25-27)

May 11th, 2025



Mount Carmel Congregational Church

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