



## On the Journey

### Resurrection

Without a doubt, one of the greatest features of the Christian faith is Jesus' Resurrection from the dead and the promise that Jesus gives to His followers of their own resurrection! Jesus shocked the world when, on that first Easter morning, Jesus came out of the tomb alive. Death is not the end! Death is not the last chapter. Death will not have the last word! Jesus left His followers with this hope that they too shall rise from the dead, just as He did.

The Jews believed in resurrection, but their understanding of resurrection was rather vague. They thought resurrection would come at the end of time when God would raise the dead for a final judgment, and that is about all they could say about it. With Jesus' resurrection, He introduced the world to something that nobody had ever imagined. When Jesus was raised, He did not simply come back with his earthly life restored. He came out of the tomb with a new kind of body and with a new form of life that death has no power over. Resurrection is a new reality and is more than anyone imagined it to be. Jesus' resurrection is the first glimpse we have of something of a New Creation. And when the first followers of Jesus realized this, it emboldened them, and suddenly persecution and death were robbed of the power they once held over them. The early Christians are now convinced that if they are killed, they too would be raised to life again with a new body and a new life.

Most of us have grown up celebrating Easter. We were carried to church on Easter Sunday morning for Sunrise Services and Easter breakfasts before we could walk. And thank God for that! All our lives we knew

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#### SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

Worship Leader - Tom & Sonya Miller  
Music - Worship Team

You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings, but the livestream may not be fully available until 11 AM.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Dave (Patty) Yoder	4/10
Jim Wyse	4/12
Bill Johnson	4/14
Dorothy Miller	4/15
Marge Miller	4/15
Shari Graber	4/16
Lavera Hooley	4/17
Bryce Rheinheimer	4/24
Enos Miller	4/30
Jim Schrock	5/3
Patty (Dave) Yoder	5/4
Leah Schwartz	5/7
Carol Johnson	5/9
Liz Mast	5/9

**First Mennonite Church**  
**PO Box 508**  
**Middlebury IN 46540**  
**574-825-5135**

*Our mission is to extend grace,  
build peace, and share love  
within & beyond our faith  
community*

*Worship Service*  
*Sunday 9:00 am*  
*Sunday School 10:15 am*

*Office Hours*

*Pastor Phil*  
*Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p*  
*Thursday 1:00p—6:00p*

*Pastor Tim*  
*Wednesday 2:00p—6:00p*

*Business Office*  
*Monday and Tuesday*  
*8:00a—5:00p*



April 14th  
Maundy Thursday Service with meal and communion service, begins at 6:30p.

April 15th  
Community Good Friday Service here at First Mennonite, April 15 at Noon

April 17  
9a Carry In Easter Breakfast  
10a Worship  
No Sunday School

New (but temporary) Address  
Mary Frye, Room 315  
1332 Waterford Circle  
Goshen IN 46526  
Visiting hours are 8-5

Thank you for the prayer shawl, cards, visits & prayers during our time of loss. We feel blessed to be part of such a caring congregation. Thank you to the Maranatha Sunday School class for the beautiful keepsake blanket. Love David & Shari for the whole Graber family

## Administration

### Stewardship Report for April 3, 2022:

Money Given to Budget  
\$ 5,820.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget  
\$ 5,047.52

Year-to-Date Money Given to Budget  
\$ 150,384.44

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget \$ 156,473.42

## Outreach

### FMW Sewing March Project is for CAM Mutual Aid

- 1 bar soap ~ 1 tube toothpaste
- 1 toothbrush ~ 2 washcloths
- 1 bath towel (dark color)
- 1 bottle shampoo
- 1 bottle deodorant (roll-on or stick)
- 1 comb ~ 1 nail clipper with file
- 1 large handkerchief

Please note expiration dates—they must not expire for 18 months

Please put your donation items in the collection box by April 21st.

### Publishing deadlines!!

All **newsletter** submissions need to be in to the church office by **12 noon on Monday**, **Bulletin** submissions are due by **10 am on Tuesday!**

I'm generally pretty prompt about having everything ready to go Tuesday mornings! Don't miss getting your items published in the newsletter or bulletin.



## Worship Preview

Jesus never asked people to like him. Jesus never asked people to accept Him. Jesus never asked people if they agreed with Him. What Jesus did say to people was, "Follow me!" And by that Jesus meant, learn from me, stay close enough to me that you can observe me and learn what is in my heart. And if you follow in my footsteps, you will learn how to live in the world, and you will learn to know God. Much of Jesus' teaching was done on the road, walking with His disciples, teaching as they walked. That is where disciples are made, that is where faith is formed and lived out. Jesus was constantly on the road with his disciples, and the good news is that Jesus journeys with us through life also. Traveling with Jesus on the road is a central part of the Gospel Narrative.

It should not surprise us then, that in the Passion Narrative of Jesus, we find two roads that Jesus traveled that last week. The one road led across the Mount of Olives and into the city of Jerusalem, which Jesus traveled on Palm Sunday. Crowds lined this road, cheering on the one they thought would be their new king. And the other road was the "via Delarosa," the road that led from Pilate's Palace out to Golgotha, a road that led Jesus out of the city of Jerusalem to a hill where criminals were frequently crucified. On this road, nobody followed Jesus. Oh, there were many who came out as spectators, they wanted to see what would happen to Jesus. Would the one who had great miraculous powers to heal diseases and cast out demons, use those powers to save himself and their nation? But nobody

had even the slightest interest in following Jesus to become like Him or to share in His fate, not on this road. It was too scary!

On Palm Sunday, hordes of people flocked to Jesus, shouting, "Hosanna, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Blessed is the King of Israel," as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. It felt good to follow Jesus on this road. Jesus was popular. People wanted to be close to Jesus, wanted to be associated with Jesus. Excitement filled the air. The crowd had the feeling that good things were about to happen. But less than a week later, nobody was following Jesus, and the chant of the crowd had changed to, "Crucify him, crucify him!" If Jesus

doesn't give us what we want, we have no use for him. And besides, why would anybody follow someone on the road to a cross?

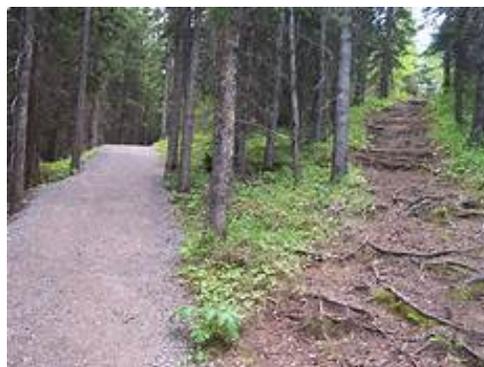
Well, I will tell you why. Nobody could see this on Good Friday, and few see it even today, but this is the road that leads to Resurrection and to the New Creation!

Related Scriptures: Matthew 4:18-19, Luke 9:23-26, John 12:23-26, 21:19

Sermon Title: **On Which Road Will You Follow Jesus?**

Sermon Text:

**John 12:12-15, 19:16-17**





## Journey (Continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

there is resurrection, that there is life after death. But most of us have never experienced the dramatic shock of discovering that death has been defeated, or of trying to comprehend this unimaginable hope of resurrection like Jesus' first followers did. The danger is that we may now take it for granted and never allow the impact of this great miracle to capture our minds and hearts.

When I look around, I find too many Christians who are still buried in the gloom and tragedy of this faithless world. They are still weighed down from carrying the burdens that should have been strapped to the cross on Good Friday. They haven't seemed to yet discover the boundless joy that swept over the believers on that first Easter when they saw their risen Lord.

Jesus has risen! And in His resurrection, we have an early glimpse of the new creation in which the reign of death has been overthrown and the powers of darkness have been unmasked and their doom revealed. We find an early glimpse of what will become of us one day.

The glorious message of Easter does not insulate Believers from, nor turn them away from the tragic realities of this broken world, rather it equips them with a vision of the New Creation, with the promise of a world where all is healed, and arms them with a fearless and living hope of a new world, a world without death. The glorious message of Easter is that death itself has died!

Written by Philip Yoder

## The Holy City

Fred E. Weatherly

Last night I lay a-sleeping  
There came a dream so fair  
I stood in old Jerusalem  
Beside the temple there  
I heard the children singing  
And ever as they sang  
Methought the voice of angels  
From heaven in answer rang  
Methought the voice of angels  
From heaven in answer rang

Jerusalem! Jerusalem!  
Lift up your gates and sing  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna to your King!

And then methought my dream was  
changed  
The streets no longer rang  
Hushed were the glad Hosannas  
The little children sang  
The sun grew dark with mystery  
The morn was cold and chill  
As the shadow of a cross arose  
Upon a lonely hill  
As the shadow of a cross arose  
Upon a lonely hill

Jerusalem! Jerusalem!  
Hark! How the angels sing  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna to your King!

And once again the scene was changed  
New earth there seemed to be  
I saw the Holy City  
Beside the tideless sea  
The light of God was on its streets  
The gates were open wide  
And all who would might enter  
And no one was denied  
No need of moon or stars by night  
Or sun to shine by day  
It was the new Jerusalem  
That would not pass away  
It was the new Jerusalem  
That would not pass away

Jerusalem! Jerusalem!  
Sing for the night is o'er!  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna forevermore!