

Simple Worship

Journey to Emmaus (and back)

Sunday 26th April – A shared meal and zoom 1.30pm

Through the week – An outdoor exploration of the story

Sunday 3rd May – feedback on zoom 1.30pm

Sunday 26th

Instructions in italics

Leaders' words in normal type

Light (Thanks)

One person lights a match and lights a candle saying:

'We light this candle to remember that Jesus is the light of the world.'

*In turn each person offers something they would like to thank God for from the day/week
(if you have tea lights each person may like to light one from the central candle as they share)*

End this round by giving thanks for the meal.

Water (Lament/Confession)

Each person receives a glass of water poured from a jug:

Jesus said 'Whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst' (John 4:13)

In turn each person shares something of the brokenness and thirst they have seen or experienced that day/week, in the world or in themselves.

Jesus said "Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life"

You may like to hold a short time of silence in which you are invited to remember Jesus' gift of life and forgiveness for the whole world. When you are ready drink some water.

Bread (God's word)

Place some bread on a plate in the centre of the table

This is not the church of England's usual way of celebrating communion. We hope it may be a physical way of reflecting on the passage for today and remembering how Cleopas and his fellow traveller on the road to Emmaus recognised Jesus as he broke bread with them.

You may like to say this prayer just before you break the bread and share it with others in your household.

In the evening meal of their journey to Emmaus, Jesus sat down at the table with them. As he took the bread, blessed it and broke it, the eyes of His friends were opened, and they recognised Him. May our eyes be opened as we trust in You Jesus, and share this broken bread.

As the food is served read:

'Jesus said 'People don't live by bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God' (Matt 4: 4)

Food is now served and we eat!

When you are ready, read the passage from Luke 13-31 and use the following questions to discuss the story/passage together:

- *What does the story tell me about God?*
- *What does the story mean for us and for me?*
- *How am I going to respond to what I've discovered?*

Zoom *link at 1.30pm to connect with others.*

In this time we will:

Share *from each household the following:*

- *Something you have discovered from the story*
- *Something for prayer*

Prayer

Blessing

Bless to us, O God, the road that is before us
Bless to us, O God, the friends who are around us
Bless to us, O God, your love which is within us,
Bless to us, O God, the light that leads us home.