

First UMC Franklin, NC
Order of Worship-April 18, 2021-The 3rd Sunday of Easter

Prelude “Holy Spirit, Thou Welcome” (Rambo/Huntsinger, #12994)

Welcome and Announcements

Children’s Moments

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory “Holy Spirit” (Torwalt, #6087919)

Scripture Luke 24:36-49 (The Message)

³⁶⁻⁴¹ While they were saying all this, Jesus appeared to them and said, “Peace be with you.” They thought they were seeing a ghost and were scared half to death. He continued with them, “Don’t be upset, and don’t let all these doubting questions take over. Look at my hands; look at my feet—it’s really me. Touch me. Look me over from head to toe. A ghost doesn’t have muscle and bone like this.” As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. They still couldn’t believe what they were seeing. It was too much; it seemed too good to be true.

⁴¹⁻⁴³ He asked, “Do you have any food here?” They gave him a piece of leftover fish they had cooked. He took it and ate it right before their eyes.

⁴⁴ Then he said, “Everything I told you while I was with you comes to this: All the things written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets, and in the Psalms have to be fulfilled.”

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁹ He went on to open their understanding of the Word of God, showing them how to read their Bibles this way. He said, “You can see now how it is written that the Messiah suffers, rises from the dead on the third day, and then a total life-change through the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name to all nations—starting from here, from Jerusalem! You’re the first to hear and see it. You’re the witnesses. What comes next is very important: I am sending what my Father promised to you, so stay here in the city until he arrives, until you’re equipped with power from on high.”

Message

“Flesh and Blood!”

The empty tomb proved nothing except that Jesus’ body was missing. It was the encounter with the risen Jesus that both perplexed and convinced his disciples that he had been raised from the dead. Can you imagine how they must have felt when Jesus appeared and spoke to them?

What proof do you/we have of Jesus’ resurrection?

How has Jesus met you and convinced you of who he is?

How have you responded to Jesus?

What does a “witness” do?

How is Jesus calling you to be a “witness” to who he is and what he has done?

Benediction

Postlude

“Mansion Over the Hilltop”

(Stanphill, #19980)