



A Place where heaven and earth meet,  
where people encounter God's generosity  
and healing presence.

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Pastor Jim Coyl

The Beach Church Podcast

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 19, 2026**

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**Welcome**

**Call to Worship (John 20:19–31)**

Leader: On the road of uncertainty, when hope feels lost, Jesus draws near.

**People: Though our eyes may be slow to see, our hearts begin to awaken.**

Leader: In the breaking of bread, in the sharing of stories, Christ is revealed.

**People: Our hearts burn within us as He speaks truth and life.**

Leader: Even in our doubt and sorrow, the risen Christ walks beside us.

**People: We turn now to recognize Him in our midst.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who meets us on the journey.

**People: With open hearts, we welcome the risen Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn**

**Scripture Reading** Luke 24:13-35 (Below)

**Sermon** "Heart Burn" Jim Coyl

**Pastoral Payer and the Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn**

**Benediction**

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## **Luke 24:13-35**

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

necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" 24:27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

24:28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 24:29 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. 24:30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 24:31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. 24:32 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?" 24:33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 24:34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" 24:35 Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

### **Resurrection of Hope**

Biblical scholar, Walter Brueggemann writes, "The Emmaus travelers are offered a new reading of their life, and in that reading, despair is displaced by hope." (From *The Prophetic Imagination*, 2nd ed., Fortress Press, 2001)\*

When Brueggemann says they are "offered a new reading of their life," he means that the disciples had been interpreting recent events—Jesus' death—as failure, loss, and the end of hope. Their expectations of redemption had collapsed. But as Jesus walks with them and interprets the Scriptures, he reframes everything: what looked like defeat is actually part of God's redemptive work.

This "new reading" doesn't change the facts (Jesus was crucified), but it transforms their meaning. The cross is no longer the end of the story—it becomes the path through which resurrection and new life emerge.

That's why "despair is displaced by hope." Their circumstances haven't changed in that moment; what changes is their understanding. Hope is born not from new evidence, but from seeing God's presence and purpose where they had assumed absence.

We, too, often live inside interpretations of our lives that are shaped by fear, disappointment, or confusion. The risen Christ meets us there—not to erase our story, but to reinterpret it. Through Scripture, community, and the ordinary moments of grace (like the breaking of bread), we are invited into God's larger narrative—one where hope has the final word.

### **Daily Lectionary Readings**

**Monday, April 20, 2026:** Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25;

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026:** Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3;

**Wednesday, April 22, 2026:** Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14;

**Thursday, April 23, 2026:** Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12;

**Friday, April 24, 2026:** Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; 1 Peter 2:13-17;

**Saturday, April 25, 2026:** Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7;

### **Death and Resurrection**

*"The church doesn't offer a cure... The church offers death and resurrection... the messy, inconvenient... work of healing and reconciliation."*

Rachel Held Evans — Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church (2015), p. 209