



# Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

July 7, 2024

*“The Road to Emmaus: What Do We Find on Our Paths?”*

*“Now on that same day two of them  
were going to a village called Emmaus ...” (Luke 24:13, NRSV)*

**As we begin the Chapel’s summer season**, our Sunday Blasts will provide possible sermon themes and topics relating to our Gospel reading: this week Luke 24:13-25, the story known as “The Road to Emmaus.” This Sunday the preacher is faced with many worthy topics: Independence Day Weekend, the First Sunday of the Chapel season, and being the first Sunday of the month, a communion Sunday, an obvious topic is Communion or Eucharist. I have always thought of “The Road to Emmaus” when I think of communion. So, our Gospel reading this Sunday from Luke will inspire our sermon. (spoiler alert: see vs. 35)

**Imagine a One Act Play:** “The Third Day, After the Resurrection”

- Scene 1 (vs. 13-27) Jesus joins the two travelers who do not recognize him. They discuss recent events in Jerusalem. The unrecognized-Jesus expounds on scripture which anticipates the Messiah.
- Scene 2 (vs. 28-29) The three arrive at the village of Emmaus and the two invite Jesus to stay.
- Scene 3 (vs. 30-32) Jesus breaks bread with them and they recognize him as Jesus, recalling the scriptures that he had explained to them. But Jesus disappears.
- Scene 4 (vs. 33-35) The two immediately travel back to Jerusalem to tell the eleven apostles what had happened.



### **Scriptures Prompt us to Ask Questions:**

This passage shows us how the transformative power of recognizing and accepting Jesus affected two people on their way after observing Passover in Jerusalem. Scholars list this in a collection of what we call “empty tomb” stories. But isn’t it more than that?

What if we read this story as an allegory or a parable? What if this story really portrays the transformative faith in the risen Christ for all people in all times?

How can this story be meaningful to us today? How do we benefit from reading scripture? How do we recognize Jesus in our everyday lives? How does our faith encourage us to show

hospitality? To invite others to share our faith? How do we authentically live into our own spiritual journeys, believing that Jesus is leading us to find God: the ultimate Truth?

This Sunday we examine how this story affects us. Does this story change our view of God and how God works? What do we find on our paths to Emmaus?

**Prayer Box:** We ask God to take into His care: Barbara, Danielle, Linda, Elizabeth, Joyce, Debbie, John C, Joe, Holland, Steve, Gail, John H, Mia, Patti, Florence, and John P; pray for those affected by the wildfires in New Mexico and California; pray for those souls affected by flooding in Oklahoma and the Gulf Coast; pray for family and friends in hurricane Beryl’s path; pray for first responders; pray for an end to the divisiveness our country; pray for peace in the Middle East.

*Lord, hear our prayers!*