**Salem United Church of Christ Moorestown**

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**Ministers of the Church – Every Member of Salem UCC**

**April 26, 2020 – Third Sunday of Easter**

**Music**

**Welcome to Virtual Worship**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

One: We need your presence on the long road, Lord. The road between fear and hope,
**All: The road between the place where all is lost and the place of**

 **resurrection.**

One: Like the disciples walking the road to Emmaus, we are in need of your company!

**All: Jesus, stand among us, in your risen power.**

 **Let this time of worship, be a hallowed time.**

**Opening Prayer**
**All: Holy God, thank you for gathering each one of us for worship today. Open our hearts to hear your words, and our spirits to dare to journey with you.** **Fill us with fresh confidence, and the reassurance of your presence, to inspire us to tread the road again and to share the good news of your resurrection life. Amen.**

**Music – Hymn # 294 – “*Alleluia, Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven” (verses 1 and 4)***

**Prayer of Confession**

One: Lord, you are so patient with us. You brought us through Easter when we rejoiced at the news of the resurrection of your Son our Savior. You were with us in the upper room when we remained hidden out of our fears, sharing with Thomas our doubts and anxieties. Now you come to us on the road. You come to us in our everyday lives, moving out of this pristine setting of worship into the world.

**All: But we aren’t always ready for you and don’t always see you or feel your presence. We let so many things crowd in on our lives and these intrusions blot out our awareness of your presence. Forgive our blindness and our stubbornness. Help us keep our hearts open to you, to see and tell the good things you have done in our lives. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**
One: Even though you have not seen Jesus, one to one, you have assurance of his

 presence and his love with you. The promises of God are always true.

**All: God is with us, in the resurrection of Jesus, in our journeys, in our lives.**

 **Praise be to God. Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Children’s Message**

**“On the Way to Emmaus” – based on Luke 24:13—35**

**Today’s Message**

**Solo** *“You Raise Me Up”*  Bruce Roth

**Offering –** All we have to do is look around us to see all the blessing we have received from God. I invite you at this time to consider ways to express your thankfulness by giving of your time and talents in new ways in this time of social distancing. I also ask you to consider how you will offer your tithes and offerings to support the ministry of our church at this time as well – some options are: on-line giving available through our website or your smartphone, mail check in weekly or set aside your offering each week until we can meet again in the building.

**Prayer**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Music – Hymn # 311** *“Now the Green Blade Rises” (all verses)*

**Benediction**

It’s time to go, friends!

Throughout the coming week…

Look for the many ways in which God has blessed your journey.

Go in confidence that Christ walks with you, each step of the way.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Amen.

**Three Fold Amen**

**Postlude**

*\*Portions of this worship were adapted from ”Seasons of the Spirit”. “Re:worship” and “Ministry Matters/Worship Connection”*

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