

# Session Two

KNOW AND BE KNOWN

## Opening Worship

### For Reflection

Jesus knows what it is like to not be seen or recognized by people who are supposed to know him well. Still, Jesus reveals who he is to his friends – an act of honesty and sacred insight that helps his friends to understand the reality of resurrection. Jesus was made known to the Emmaus travelers through the breaking of the bread. We are made known in our willingness to be vulnerable as well. Why do you think it took so long for Jesus’s friends to recognize him? Where (or in whom) have you been surprised to "meet Jesus" in your own life?

### Introductory Song

"Open My Heart" by Ana Hernandez

### Opening Sentences

One: In a world of fairytales and falsehoods,

**All: We are known by a God who loves us.**

One: In a time when we are not sure what is a filter and what is a fact,

**All: We are known by a God who loves us.**

One: In a church where we worry that seeming put together is more important than sharing our full selves,

**All: We are known by a God who loves us. Let us worship God.**

### Song

"I Am" by Bebo Norman

### Listening for God’s Word

Luke 24:13-35

### Reflection on God’s Word

Rev. Peggy Jean "PJ" Craig  
*Video available on the PYT Website*

### Prayer

God of history and of my heart, so much has happened to me during these whirlwind days:

I’ve known death and birth;

I’ve been brave and scared;

I’ve hurt, I’ve helped;

I’ve been honest, I’ve lied;

I’ve destroyed, I’ve created;

I’ve been with people; I’ve been lonely;

I’ve been loyal, I’ve betrayed;

I've decided, I've waffled;  
I've laughed and I've cried.

You know my frail heart and my frayed history - and now another day arrives. O God, help me to believe in new beginnings and in my beginning again, no matter how often I've failed before.

Help me to make beginnings:

to begin going out of my weary mind into fresh dreams,  
daring to make my own bold tracks in the land of now;  
to begin forgiving that I may experience mercy;  
to begin questioning the unquestionable that I may know truth;  
to begin discipling that I may create beauty;  
to begin sacrificing that I may accomplish justice;  
to begin risking that I may make peace;  
to begin loving that I may realize joy.

Help me to believe in beginnings, to make a beginning, to be a beginning, So that I may to just grow old, but grow new each day of this wild, amazing life you call me to live with the passion of Jesus Christ. Amen.<sup>2</sup>

### Song

“You are Holy (Prince of Peace)” OR  
“Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child” (African American Traditional Spiritual)

### Closing Blessing

One: For all that God can do within us, for all that God can do without us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

One: For all in whom Christ lived before us, for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

One: For all the Spirit wants to bring us, for where the Spirit wants to send us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

One: Listen, Christ has promised to be with us in the world as in our worship.

**All: Amen. We go now to serve God!**<sup>3</sup>

## Closing Worship

### For Reflection

How do we project false images of who we are and buy into the inauthentic presentation of others? What are the ways in which we need to both know and be known by Jesus in our brokenness and his? Jesus was made known to the Emmaus travelers through the breaking of the bread. We are made known in our willingness to be vulnerable as well.

### Call to Worship

One: In the beginning, God made the world:

**Higher Voices: Made and mothered it.**

**Lower Voices: Shaped and fathered it.**

**Higher Voices: Filled it with seed and with signs of fertility.**

**Lower Voices: Filled it with life and with song and variety.**

One: All that is green, blue, deep, and growing,  
**All: God is the hand that created you.**  
One: All that is tender, firm, fragrant, and curious,  
**All: God is the hand that created you.**  
One: All that crawls, flies, swims, walks, or is motionless,  
**All: God is the hand that created you.**  
One: All that speaks, sings, cries, laughs, or keeps silence,  
**All: God is the hand that created you.**  
One: All that suffers, lacks, limps, or longs for an end,  
**All: God is the hand that created you.**  
One: The world belongs to God,  
**All: The earth and all its people.**

## **Song**

“Come, Let Us Worship God”

## **Prayer of Confession**

O God of life, of all life and each life, we lay our lives before you.  
We give our lives to you, from whom nothing is hidden.  
You are before us, God, you are behind;  
You are around us, God, you are within.  
O God of life, you know the secret thoughts of every heart.  
We bring the faith that is in us, and the doubt;  
We bring the joy that is in us, and the sorrow.  
O God of life, you are in the light, and in the darkness.  
We bring the knowledge that is in us and the ignorance;  
We bring the hope that is in us, and the despair.  
O God of life, O generous Spirit,  
Renew us with your life, today, tomorrow, and always. Amen.

## **Assurance of Pardon**

## **Listening for God’s Word**

Luke 24:13-35

## **Invitation**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! Scripture tells us that people will come from east and west, north and south, and sit at table in the kin-dom of God. Friends, look! (Motioning to the gathering here.) People will come from east and west, north and south, and sit at table together in the kin-dom of God.

According to the gospel of Luke it was when the risen Christ was at table with his disciples that he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, that their eyes were opened and they recognized him. May our eyes be opened, and may we recognize the presence of the risen Christ even as we break bread here and now.

This is the Lord's table, and our Savior invites all those who would trust in this One to partake of the feast which God has prepared. So come, not because you MUST, but because you MAY. Come, not to make a statement, but to seek a presence. Come, not because you are strong, but because you seek God's strength. Come, for all has been prepared. And the risen Christ welcomes you!

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, voices full and joyful... these you deserve. For when we were nothing, you made us something. When we had no name, no faith, and no future, you called us your children. You brought good news to ALL PEOPLE. When we had lost our way or turned away, you did not abandon us. You were our FUN God... forgiving, understanding, and never too busy. When we came back to you, your arms opened wide in welcome.

And look, you prepare a table for us offering not just bread, not just wine, but your very self so that we may be filled, forgiven, healed, blessed, and made new again. You are worth all our pain and all our praise.

So, now in gratitude, we join our voices with those of the Church on earth and in heaven saying: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Lord God, as we come to share the richness of your table, we cannot forget the rawness of the earth. We cannot take bread and forget those who are hungry. Your world is one world, and we are stewards of its nourishment. So, Lord, put our prosperity at the service of the poor.

We cannot take this cup and forget those who are thirsty. The earth and its weary people cry out for justice. So, Lord, put our fullness at the service of the empty.

We cannot hear your words of peace and forget the world at war; a world torn with violence, hatred, and division. Show us, Lord, how to turn weapons into welcome signs, and the lust for power into a desire for peace.

We cannot celebrate the feast of your family and forget our own divisions. We are one in spirit, but not in fact. History and hurt still dismember us. So, Lord, heal your Church in every brokenness.

For us you were born, for us you healed, preached, taught, and showed the way to heaven; for us you were crucified, and for us, after death, you rose again. With you is mercy and the power to change.

So, as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, send down your Holy Spirit upon us and on these gifts of bread and cup that they may become for us your body – healing, forgiving, and making us whole, and that we may become for you, your body – loving and caring in the world until your kin-dom comes. Amen.

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, broke it, and said, "This is my body broken for you."

And later he took the cup of wine and said, “This is the new relationship with God, made possible because of my death. Take this – all of you – to remember me.”

The gifts of God for the people of God.

## Song

“Eat this Bread”

## Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you as we go. Amen.



*Jesus said: "You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing - Luke 24:25"*