

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING
30 JUNE 2018



In our struggles, God's hope changes everything.

THEME BIBLE READING

Take time to read and reflect on this Bible passage and choose how you will tell the story in your own way.

Scripture **Luke 24:13-25** **Road to Emmaus**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR REFLECTION

“Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 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. 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.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!”

Luke 24:22-25 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Today:

Dear Jesus, we ask that our hearts and minds be opened to believe you are alive and know you are with us in times of joy and times of struggles. Amen.

A Mealtime Prayer for Today:

Dear God, we are thankful for the food we eat. Help us to see your love through the work of our hands and our feet. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a love and hope that changes your heart.



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INTERACTIVE LEARNING

[YouTube Hymns for Today](#) 

[On the Road to Emmaus](#)

by The Steeles

[Buen Padre](#)

by Kairos



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss today and later in your home or small group:

- How do you react when someone does not recognize you?
- Two men walking with Jesus did not recognize him. What needed to happen for them to know Jesus? What needs to happen for you to know Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Reflect on today's reading.

Choose one of four ways to retell the reading in your own words. You may choose to tell it as it is and portray what happened on the road to Emmaus or choose to retell the story in a modern day setting using one of the following venues:

1. **Puppets:** Use puppets to retell the story or relate the story to your life today.
2. **Signing Scripture:** Go to this link to find key words to sign. <http://www.aslpro.com/>
3. **Creative Movement:** Use the YouTube link above and engage in creative dance movements as the song is sung.
4. **Spontaneous Melodrama:** Have one person read Luke 24:13-25 with expression while others are re-enacting what they hear through motions.

SERVICE

[CROP Walks](#) are community-wide events. They are sponsored by Church World Service. Many are organized by Lutheran congregations to help raise funds to end hunger locally and around the world. Have you ever participated in one? If not, take time to learn more about CROP Hunger Walks and volunteer to help organize or walk in one. If there is no CROP Walk in your area, what other organization sponsors a walk or run that supports a worthy cause?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Eating meals together as a family contributes to building and strengthening relationships. There is a wealth of benefits when we “break bread” together. It is a time to talk about your day, share stories, and learn about one another. Studies have shown that taking time to be together is linked to longer lifespans. This week, as you are meeting with old friends and making new ones, gather together for meals, pray a mealtime prayer together, and take time to get to know one another to build long lasting, caring relationships.



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