



APRIL 18, 2021 – 10:00 AM

**OPENING PRAISE SONG**.....*“I Will Praise You”*

**WELCOME**.....*Jim Loeffler*

**INVOCATION**

**PRELUDE**.....*“His Eye Is On the Sparrow”*

**WORSHIP SONGS**.....*“Come As You Are”*  
*“Your Great Name”*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** .....*Adrienne Morton*

**OFFERING A PRAYER OF OUR GIFTS & THANKS TO GOD**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

**HYMN #707**.....*“Hymn of Promise”*

**SERMON**.....*Pastor Keith*

*Hopelessness to Hope*

Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-29

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S LOVE**.....*“Forever Reign”*

**BENEDICTION/BLESSING**

**EXIT SONG** .....*“Only a God Like You”*



# A Mother's Day Special!

We will be putting together a men's chorus for May 9 on Mother's Day. If you are a man who enjoys singing, we'd love to have you jump in! We practice for about a half hour on Thursday nights @ 5:30 p.m. beginning April 15.



If you'd like to be on a rotation to **help lead** the Sunday hymn, please see Linda Morey.



## EASTER EGG HUNT - CANDY EGGS

You can drop off those **empty** Easter eggs from the Easter Egg Drive-Around anytime. You'll find a box in the narthex by the large table to put them in. Or you can hand them off to Sue or Barb in the church office.

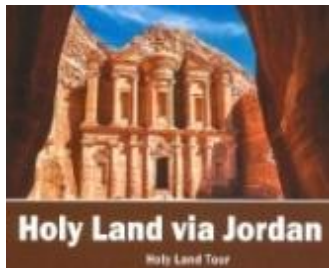


**GRIEF SHARE** gives help & encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member or friend. There will be weekly topics, videos, discussion and journaling and personal study.

**Where:** South Harborcreek U. M. Church  
7929 McGill Rd., Harborcreek, PA

**Contact:** Church Office (814) 899-5962  
Gordy Locke (719) 640-7644  
Amy Beardsley (814) 572-2414

**Fee:** \$15 (for the book)



## HOLY LAND TRIP – 2022

If you are interested in going to the Holy Land next year, please ask Pastor Keith for a brochure or call the church office and Barb will mail one to you. Pastor Keith also has two informative meetings planned (come to either one) where he will show slides, talk more about the trip, and answer any questions you have.



The men & women have resumed breakfast at Perkins on Thursdays at 9:00 am. You are welcome and invited to join in whenever you are able.



**Set your calendars for Sat., April 17 at the Erie Bayfront Convention Center! SPARK one-day youth event!** SHUMY youth and friends (grades 6-12) are welcome to attend. Cost is \$90 per person. Pre-registration is necessary. Let Sue Fuller know if you are interested.



**Please hit the "Like" button** so that we know that you are viewing! It lets us know that you appreciate the Sunday Worship Service and Devotions. It also helps us with our attendance to know who is watching.



With the increasing guidelines from the State of Pennsylvania we must continue to be perseverant and aware of our compliance with these rules. For the safety and well-being of **ALL** of those choosing to worship with us 'in-person' we ask that everyone who attends 'in-person' worship be aware and follow these rules:

- 1) Masks and distancing apply to **ALL** (that includes the parking lot).
- 2) Post-service lingerings and gatherings in the narthex must be avoided.
- 3) Family units with children and that reside under one roof may sit together.

Otherwise, sitting groups must be limited to no more than 4 people.



**Live-streaming of the services can be seen on . . .**

- ❖ [www.facebook.com/southharborcreekumc](http://www.facebook.com/southharborcreekumc)
- ❖ You Tube @ south harborcreek umc

- ❖ Website: [southharborcreekumc.org](http://southharborcreekumc.org)
- ❖ SHUMC app

SERMON TITLE: **HOPELESSNESS TO HOPE** – Jesus reaches out to the Disciples  
(even Thomas)

SERMON TEXT: Luke 24:36-49  
John 20:19-29

Crippling and overwhelming disappointment robs us of hope and challenges our sensibilities of what is real. HOPELESSNESS plagues our world and our lives as it did for the disciples in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, especially after ALL the disciple's HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS WERE SHATTERED with the traumatic realities of the crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday.

And then, before all the trauma had even settled, Jesus appears to the disciples and asks them to join him in a new reality that offers boundless HOPE and POSSIBILITY.

How are they to move from **HOPELESSNESS TO HOPE** and from **DISBELIEF TO BELIEF**?

**Sermon Outline:**

1. Traumatic, life-changing disappointments open our lives to the darkness of HOPELESSNESS & DESPAIR  
– WE ARE OVERWHELMED BY THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE
2. BUT THEN JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF TO US, ENCOURAGES US, AND REMINDS US, “PEACE BE WITH YOU!”
3. OVER A MEAL – THE SACRAMENT --- THE PASCHAL MYSTERY
  - \* OUR MINDS,
  - \* OUR LIVES,
    - \* OUR VERY SOULS Are OPENED TO JESUS
    - + HIS PEACE
    - + HIS PRESENCE
    - + HIS PROMISE
    - + HIS DIRECTION – BE MY WITNESSES
4. AS WE REALIZE THE TRUE PRESENCE OF JESUS OUR HOPELESSNESS MOVES TO HOPE. OUR LIVES ARE: RESET, RENEWED and RESTORED.

EVEN THE LIFE AND SOUL OF THOMAS --- OF ALL DOUBTERS ... THAT ARE WILLING TO MEET JESUS WHEN HE COMES .... THEIR LIVES ARE CHANGED AND RENEWED AND OUR HOPELESSNESS IS CHANGED TO HOPE!!!!

**BOTTOM-LINE:** WHEN JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF ... AND IF WE CHOOSE TO RECOGNIZE AND REALIZE HIM ... HE OPENS THE DOOR TO HIS DIVINE PEACE & PRESENCE

**OPENED HEARTS, MINDS, AND SOULS and POWER OF THE SACRAMENT ---**

**i.e THE VERY PRESENCE OF JESUS**

**ALLOWING GOD TO OPEN OUR SENSES BRINGS US DIVINE PEACE, POWER, PROMISE & PRESENCE THAT TURNS HOPELESSNESS INTO HOPE!!!! AND PREPARES US FOR ALL THAT GOD INTENDS FOR US IN MISSION AND MEANING!!!!**

**WHEN JESUS COMES TO US ... WHEN JESUS REVEALS HIMSELF ... JESUS BLESSES --- “PEACE BE WITH YOU”**  
**JESUS BREATHES HIS HOLY SPIRIT UPON YOU**  
**JESUS BESTOWS UPON YOU “A CHILD OF GOD”**

**WILL YOU RECEIVE JESUS? WILL YOU BE OPEN? WILL YOU BELIEVE?**

## LUKE 24:36-49 & John 20:19-29

### LUKE 24:36-49

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, **“PEACE BE WITH YOU.”**

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, *thinking they saw a ghost.* <sup>38</sup> *He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”*

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he *showed them* his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”<sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and **he took it and ate it in their presence.**

<sup>44</sup> **He said to them,** “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

<sup>45</sup> **Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.** <sup>46</sup> He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.<sup>48</sup> **You are witnesses of these things.** <sup>49</sup> **I am going to send you what my Father has promised;** but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

### JOHN 20:19-29

**On the evening of that first day of the week,** when the disciples were together, with **the doors locked for fear** of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, **“PEACE BE WITH YOU!”** <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, **“PEACE BE WITH YOU!** As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, **“Receive the Holy Spirit.** <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

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<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> **A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them.** Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup> **Thomas said to him, “MY LORD AND MY GOD! ”**

<sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”