



Email: manseltonurc@gmail.com.

Tel no. 01792 415222

Weekly Letter – 19 April 2026

Luke 24.13-35

To be a disciple means going on the road to Emmaus

Like all disciples, at times, all of us have felt unsure and rather crest fallen. One of the best antidotes to feeling downcast and dispirited is to be in a dialogue with 'God's plan', which is revealed to us in the Scriptures, and in so many wonderful Christian books. 'Seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened, ask and it will be given to you'. Being in a conversation with sacred truths, rekindles the embers of a fire within our hearts. For truth becomes known through dialogue with the 'Word' which God invites you to enter with. Being in a conversation means we do not have to be like a robotic zombie, for we need to question, unafraid of doubting, and probing, for truth needs to be searched for.

You will know that when we do open our hearts by searching we quickly feel an extraordinary attraction to the truth – to Christ, and yes, once in a conversation, he invites us to stay with him and break bread. It is during these conversations that we so often recognise God's truth. And yes, they do partially vanish, but we are left with a feeling of wonder and joy. Why? Well, we are made for truth, just as fish are made for water and birds for air. Without truth, we shrivel. Continuing on the road to Emmaus enlightened, we often have a desire to tell others about 'the encounter' because those embers are now ablaze with hope.

The road to Emmaus is a symbol of all our Christian journeys, and it reveals some clear truths about the life of a disciple.

To begin with, it is vital that we are honest about our lives, for we need to start where we are. At various stages in our lives we know sometimes life wounds us, and so as we walk to "Emmaus" we are unable to see God's plan. In this part of our journey we distance ourselves from God. Nobody escapes this regular part of the journey.

But, God's Word welcomes us and he initiates a conversation with us, often in such a gentle way. Once we enter into a dialogue with the Word our hearts are so readily open to this truth. This gives us the warmth of hope and the courage to walk further. If we do this regularly not only do we look forward to daily dialogues but over time we regain our focus.

Prayer: May I rediscover the grace by being in a regular dialogue with you O Lord.

For I trust that by listening to you, you will transform my outlook and show me the path of truth. **Amen.**

Stephen

Sunday Morning Worship in Christ Well, and on Zoom at 10.30 am will be led by Rev Linda Woollacott.

Bible Readings: Luke 24.13-35: Acts 4.1-13.

Cycle of Prayer in the Region – we will pray for Uniting Church, Sketty

Tuesday, 21st April – Tea and Chat – 2-4pm - Quiz with a difference

(Please bring some ideas for our programmes for the next three months)

Third Sunday of Easter – The Road to Emmaus

(Lectionary Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41: Psalm 116.1-4, 12-19: 1 Peter 1.17-23: **Luke 24.13-35**)

A long, dusty path stretches endlessly, bathed in mellow sunlight.
Birds are singing, there is a quiet stillness, and then voices are heard.
I picture the road to Emmaus, two disciples so deep in conversation
they do not recognise you beside them.

Some days, Jesus, I am dispirited too.
Caught up in my own world, I do not hear your offer of compassion,
nor realise that you long to join me as I walk my road to Emmaus.
And now, in every place, you get me ready to meet you, you teach me how to live in love,
and give yourself to me as living bread.

Come now to renew my spirit and believing. Open my eyes to all that is possible,
so that my heart will be held in your peace, love, and hope, forever!

Amen.

Hazel McCorrisken

(URC Prayer Handbook 2026)

