



REVEILLE'S GPS WEEKLY SCRIPTURE GUIDE

Explore scriptures and daily devotionals that reflect on this Sunday's sermon message. Sign up to receive the daily devotional email at www.bit.ly/devotional-rumc.

April 13-19, 2026

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SUNDAY

Sermon Title: "Recognizing Jesus in the Work and the Welcome"

by Rev. Katie B. Gooch

Use the space below to reflect on the questions in this week's devotionals, make class and sermon notes, and write down prayers and concerns.

Questions for small groups and individual reflection:

1. Where in your life are you more comfortable *talking about faith* than *living it out*—and what might it look like to show up differently this week?
2. In the Emmaus story, the disciples don't recognize Jesus while talking on the road, but do at the table. Why do you think that is?
3. The women at the tomb showed up to do "hard, holy work." What are examples of that kind of work in your life or community today?
4. What keeps us from "showing up" (for others, for community, for acts of love)? What helps us overcome those barriers?

Monday, April 13: Read Luke 24:13-24

As we prepare for the third Sunday of Easter and our special observance and celebration of the United Women of Faith, we begin with this resurrection story from the Gospel of Luke. As we read, we cannot help but notice the sense of community among these early believers, both men and women showing up in quiet faithfulness to discuss, share, and serve. The stories of Jesus's resurrection are told by the women who showed up to do the difficult, sacred work of caring for Jesus's body, only to find an empty tomb. The men are gathered together in welcome and fellowship, engaging in dialogue, not debate. This week, we will celebrate those who recognize Jesus in the "work and the welcome" of Christ's church, and explore how we can more intentionally follow the example of the earliest believers who model a faith that is less about talking *about* Jesus and more about making space to encounter him.

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Discuss times when you have experienced God most clearly. Was it in serving, in hospitality, in solitude, or in relationship with others?*

Tuesday, April 14: Read Luke 24:25-35

Many of our modern practices of faith and worship are rushed, relegated to a single hour on Sunday or a block on our calendar reserved for fellowship or service, squeezed in between other obligations. Are we allowing enough time to fully recognize Jesus in our midst this way? What if the disciples in today's gospel had waved goodbye to Jesus upon reaching Emmaus instead of saying, "stay with us," and inviting him to dinner? It was only when they took time to sit and break bread with Jesus that their eyes were opened and they truly recognized him. How can we slow down, gather, and break bread with one another more? How might that help us better get to know Jesus AND the Jesus in one another?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Find one way to stretch out the time you have scheduled for worship, service, fellowship, and study so that you can "break bread" more.*

Wednesday, April 15: Read 1 Peter 1:17-23

Today's reading calls upon Christ's followers to live as people who are liberated from the "futile" actions and "empty lifestyle" of the predominant culture and instead focus on fostering genuine affection and deep love for one another as characterized by those who are born anew in Christ. If this was a problem 2000 years ago, it is an infinitely bigger problem today. We have trouble even looking up from our phones when we're in public now. Where is the space in our hearts and minds for Christ and one another? Where in our work and in our worship can we make more space for connection?

- **Discipleship and Relationship Opportunity:** *Take a few minutes to do an audit of your time. Where are you engaged in "futile actions" that feel empty? How could you replace them with activities that lead to true connection, love, and mindful presence with God and God's children?*

Thursday, April 16: Read Acts 2:145a, 36-41

Peter does all the talking in today's scripture, but he is not alone. He is out in the community, standing with the other eleven apostles. Our Wesleyan faith places great importance on the power of gathering in small groups to not just gather in fellowship, but go out into the world to do the hard work of building God's kingdom so all can experience the welcoming love and care of Christ. The United Women of Faith have been leaders in this model, helping make Reveille a more welcoming, caring congregation with both a local and global impact. How can each of us, male or female, young or old, become more active in a small group that makes a true impact on our community and world?

- **Study Opportunity:** *Research the history of the United Women of Faith (formerly known as the United Methodist Women). Then go to Reveille's website (www.reveilleumc.org/connect) to see what small groups exist that you can join, rejoin, or visit.*

Friday, April 17: Read Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

Today's psalm is one of both reflection and action. The first verses describe a life deeply devoted to prayer and nurturing a close, personal relationship with God, one in which all thoughts and emotions are expressed, ranging from fear and distress to gratitude and love. Then the psalmist turns to action, asking, "What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?" Relationship and work; prayer and action. This is the holy rhythm to which we are called – a cadence that will bring us closer to recognizing the daily and miraculous presence of Christ in our lives and world, and one that will empower us to bring Christ's love to all.

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Include the phrase, "What shall I return to you for all you've given to me?" in your prayer today. Take time to listen for the answer.*

Saturday, April 18: SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Psalm 116:12

"What can I give back to the Lord for all the good things he has done for me?"

Sunday, April 19: Let us prepare our hearts and minds with our Prayer of Confession:

God of grace, we confess that it is easier to talk about faith than to live it. We have failed to show up, failed to welcome, failed to love as you have loved us. Forgive us, and lead us back to the road, to the table, and to one another. Amen.