

Bouquet Caboodle



Highland Lectionary Series

April 19, 2026

Peculiar Jesus

Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 34:1-10; 1 Peter 1:17-23;
Luke 24:13-35

Today's Big Idea

Jesus' peculiar walk to Emmaus with two ordinary disciples shows 1) His preferential treatment of the underdog; 2) His playing along as a way to lead into truth; 3) His pattern of using the stage of brokenness to reveal Himself and bring redemption.

*Red indicates Lectionary texts

Who Jesus Chooses to Spend His First Day With

Cleopas and unnamed: **Luke 24:13, 18**

Nothing is known about these disciples (perhaps Cleopas = Clopas in **John 19:25**)

Luke's pattern of inclusion of the wider circle of disciples: **see Luke 8:1-3; Luke 10:1**

Jesus preferential treatment of the underdog: **Isaiah 51:2; Psalm 34:2; Luke 6:20-26**

Good news for me! **1 Corinthians 1:26-29**

Jesus Plays Along

Pretending: What things? Acting as if going on: **Luke 24:19, 28**

Under Cover Boss: unrecognizable by His followers (**Luke 24:16**), sheep and the goats (**Matthew 24:31-46**)

The restraint of God leaves room for the genuine development of human character

Entertaining angels unaware: **Hebrews 13:2; Psalm 34:7** (echo of **2 Kings 6:17**)

"Tell all the truth but tell it slant," Emily Dickinson

Stories, parables, poems, songs, plays, paintings, sculpture, dance

Burning bushes, talking donkeys: living in a world of divine surprise: **Psalm 19: 1-4**

Jesus is Revealed in the Moment of Breaking

When Jesus blesses and breaks the bread: **Luke 24:19, 28**

The importance of communion as a regular rhythm to encounter the living Jesus

As air rushes in from high pressure to low pressure: **Isaiah 51:6**

The cross revealed the glory of Jesus: **Mark 15:39**

Resurrection life and power rushes into the broken and dying places: **2 Corinthians 12:9-10**

In every case, but not in every instant: the James/Peter quandary of **Acts 12:2-19**

Loving one another in the broken moments: we become vessels of resurrection wind: **1 Peter 1:22**

The Key Excerpts for This Week's Thematic Thread

<i>Isaiah 51:1-6</i>	<i>Psalms 34:1-10</i>	<i>1 Peter 1:17-23</i>	<i>Luke 24:13-35</i>
<p>Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. 2 Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. 3 For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. 4 Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. 5 I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.</p>	<p>I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. 2 My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. 3 O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. 5 Look to him, and be radiant, so your faces shall never be ashamed. 6 This poor soul cried and was heard by the Lord and was saved from every trouble. 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him and delivers them. 8 O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. 9 O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want. 10 The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.</p>	<p>17 If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. 18 You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. 20 He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. 21 Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. 22 Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. 23 You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.</p>	<p>13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" 18 They stood still, looking sad. 19 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" 20 He asked them, "What things?"</p> <p>28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29 But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." 30 So he went in to stay with them. 31 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 32 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.</p> <p>32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"</p>

Next Week's Readings: What thread do you discern?

April 26, 2026 - 4th Sunday of Eastertide: Ezekiel 34:7-15; Psalm 100; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10