



*Nurturing Faith . . .  
Every Day in Every Way*

April 18, 2021

**Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

Good morning friends! It's been a good time to do puzzles lately since we have to stay at home a lot, hasn't it? I enjoy putting puzzles together with my family, especially the really big ones...but one thing I really don't like is when we are missing a piece! Usually, we find that our cat has stolen it and hidden it in her toys. Has this ever happened to you?

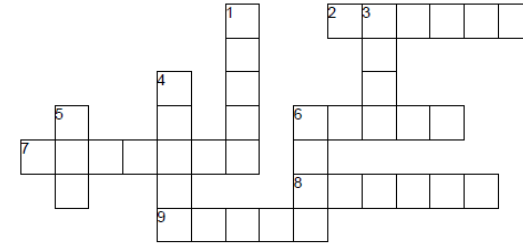
This reminds me of the Gospel story from Luke that we hear today. This story takes place on Easter. Jesus' friends are walking away from Jerusalem when they meet a stranger on the road. They start talking and they find out that the stranger has no idea about what just happened in Jerusalem. He doesn't know about Jesus, he doesn't know about Jesus or that he died and was buried so the two on the road tell the stranger all about it. Here's the fun part of the story, the stranger was Jesus! He was walking with his friends and they didn't even know that it was him. They were so sad and worried that they couldn't see Jesus walking with them.

Just like me with the puzzle piece, I get upset when a piece is missing that I don't even want to look for it, even though I probably know where it is. Jesus' friends didn't know that they were with Jesus until they sat down to eat. Jesus broke bread and poured wine, then they suddenly recognized him.

A missing puzzle piece is not really a big deal, is it? No, not really. But forgetting to look for Jesus? We do know something that those disciples didn't know, we know that Jesus is alive and among us, so we know that we should always be looking for Jesus because he promises he'll always be with us.

**Prayer:** Gracious God, thank you for your Son Jesus who is with us always even though we may forget his promises. Help us to keep our eyes open so that we can show others where Jesus is working in our lives. Amen.

*Crossword Puzzle*



ACROSS

- 2. To deliver a sermon
- 6. The soft outer parts of the body; skin
- 7. Countries; territories where groups of people live
- 8. To feel pain
- 9. to handle or feel something with your fingers

DOWN

- 1. What the skeleton is made of
- 3. To return from death
- 4. A dead person appearing in a bodily form
- 5. To take in food through the mouth
- 6. An animal that lives in the water

RISE	NATIONS	FISH	SUFFER	BONES
TOUCH	EAT	FLESH	PREACH	GHOST

**Activity:** Using two toilet paper rolls, some glue, a clothespin, and a long string, make a pair of binoculars. [feltmagnet.com/crafts/Earth-day-Crafts-Toilet-Paper-RollBinoculars-Craft-for-Kids](http://feltmagnet.com/crafts/Earth-day-Crafts-Toilet-Paper-RollBinoculars-Craft-for-Kids). This week, when you go on your walks, use your binoculars to find clues for where God is! (hints: look for new growth in flower beds, cloud formations, baby birds)

**Discussion Question:** Can you think of a time when you felt alone and sad and then remembered that Jesus was with you all along?

**Table prayer for April:** Brighter days are upon us, sunshine fills our days. God, you gladden our hearts by the light of your Son and bless us in so many ways. Amen.

**Memory verse for April:** Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32



