Luke 24: 36 – 48

36 While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to
them, “Peace be with you.” 37 They were startled and terrified, and thought that they
were seeing a ghost. 38 He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts
arise in your hearts? 39 Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me
and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” 40 And when
he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 While in their joy they were
disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to
eat?” 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with
you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the
psalms must be fulfilled.” 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the
scriptures, 46 and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and
to rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is
to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are
witnesses of these things.

Acts 3:12-19

12 When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at
this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made
him walk? 13 The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of
our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in
the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. 14 But you rejected the
Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, 15 and you killed
the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. 16 And by
faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know;
and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of
all of you.

17 “And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. 18 In
this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his
Messiah would suffer. 19 Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be
wiped out,

Luke Questions:

- What are you hearing in this?
- As we move through the Easter season, in what ways is God calling you to newness of life? Is it through the miraculous? Or is it through the mundane, instead?
- We often ask or have asked, if you could ask any one person any question, what would it be and who would it be to? So, I ask you that same question now.
- Jesus understands the disciples fear and concern. He meets them there and invites them to move through their fear by touching, tasting and seeing. How might we also meet people in their anxiety and invite them through it?
- Jesus ate with the disciples. Why do you suppose this is important?
    - What could the act of eating do for them?
    - What do you think happened around that table?
- Have you ever been a witness in a court proceeding?
    - What was it like and what did you do?
    - If not, what purpose do witnesses serve?
        - What would happen without them?
- What role do witnesses play in our current lives?
    - Is there more or less at stake now compared to other times? Why or why not?
- If you were to serve as a witness to someone from another time what you say?
    - Does this message ever change? Meaning is what you would attest to static, or unchanging?
- If you were to serve as a witness for Jesus to someone from another time what you say?
    - Does this message ever change? Meaning is what you would attest to static, or unchanging?
- How do we serve as witnesses for our God?
- What does this mean for you, for me, for us?

Acts questions:

- What sticks out to you in this?
- As we move through the Easter season, in what ways is God calling you to newness of life? Is it through the miraculous? Or is it through the mundane, instead?

- What role do miracles play in your life?
    - How have they or haven't they impacted your faith?
- How often do you need reminding of the power of Jesus? What scripture, music, liturgies, and stories most bring you back, helping you to repent as Peter invites?
- When is the last time we really talked about Peter in worship?
    - What do you think happened to him between then and where we are in Acts?
    - What does this tell us about Peter, about us, and God?
- What does the Easter church look like? How are we changed to be a community proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ?
    - Are we trying to do it alone or are we working with others in our community? How?
    - Are we celebrating all the things we have done or are we celebrating what God is doing through us?
    - Are all of our actions (both internal and external) a proclamation of the radical invitation to grace as exemplified in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ?