



# still waters

home church studies

## Psalm 4

[Worship]

1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer. 2 How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? Selah 3 But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. 4 When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Selah 5 Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD. 6 There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" 7 You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. 8 I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

### Consider:

[Words]

The recognition of the resurrected Jesus is once again at issue in Luke 24. The whole of the Emmaus road story is invoked in the opening line (verse 35), how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread. Then, as if the wounds on his hands and feet were not enough, he eats a piece of fish.

A friend says if you can read the gospels without getting hungry you're not paying attention. Jesus comes eating and drinking: So many feasts and feedings, table teachings and banquet parables, last suppers and Easter barbecues—one gets the feeling the kingdom was convened as a gigantic floating potluck, the poor being seated first. In the resurrection he can walk and talk with

them, speak in their midst, but they're not quite sure 'til, Look! He has bread or fish in his hand—it's the Lord!

1 John offers the ominous comfort that the world doesn't recognize us because it never recognized Christ (verse 1). It gives pause to imagine the form of resurrection recognizable in our own lives. What wounds? What bread? What freedom?

Peter says, Why do you stare at us? This healing is not by our piety or power (verse 12). Yes. True. But even so I might stare. Resurrection is here. Well, of course, Peter preaches it, a no-holds-barred accusation that this crowd didn't know what they were looking at in Christ Jesus. But more than that, it's in the freedom to preach in a place the authorities will quickly forbid. Temple cops are on the way. This is not the same Peter slinking away in fear at cockcrow. These are not the same disciples huddling in the dark behind closed doors. Well, they are the same and more. The Risen One is here. Has claimed them. Has brought them out from death.

It does not yet appear what we shall be, but you can bet your life it'll look like Christ. — Bill Wylie-Kellermann

[Scripture]

## 1 John 3.1-7

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. *What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.* 3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. 4 Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. 7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.