

# Pastors Network

Church of the  
Lutheran  
Brethren

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter** (Series B)

April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

**Gospel:** Luke 24:36-49

**Epistle:** 1 John 1:1-2:2

**Lesson:** Acts 4:8-12

**Psalms:** Psalm 139:1-11

## **CLB Commentary on the Gospel Text**

*by Dr. Eugene Boe*

Word had made its way to the disciples and others, who were gathered behind locked doors, that Jesus was alive. Cleopas and his traveling companion reported to the group, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon." The resurrection of Jesus was key, no resurrection, no messiah, and all would be in vain. But, how can we be sure that this report is true? Luke devotes the entire chapter to establishing the facticity of the resurrection.

The sudden and unexpected appearance and voice of Jesus evoked in the huddled group terror and fear. Is this the Jesus we know who is standing before us? Is he the real flesh and blood Jesus?

Jesus points to a real flesh and blood body and speaks words that are true of no one else, "It is I myself" (ἐγώ εἰμι αὐτός·). As Jesus had stood before the Jewish council (Luke 22:66ff.) and was asked, "Are you the Son of God, then?" He said to them, "You say that I am (ἐγώ εἰμι)."

The promise is fulfilled. The One who is at the center of all Scripture, the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms, has come in the flesh. The suffering for sin that was needed has been accomplished. The enemy of death is defeated! The messiah lives! The kingdom is here.

The proclamation must go out; repent. The forgiveness of sins is for all the nations. The power that is needed for such witnessing is coming, indeed for us is here.