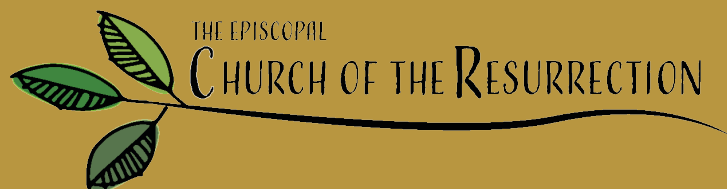




TRINITY SUNDAY  
HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II  
JUNE 15, 2025  
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



917 Pond Road, Loudon, TN 37774  
865-986-2390

[www.episcopalloudon.com](http://www.episcopalloudon.com)  
#episcopalloudon



## GOOD MORNING!

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GLORIFYING GOD BY

REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today.

Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the *first time* (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. And let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from the *Hymnal 1982*, the blue books in the pew rack. A Hymn noted "S-xxx" is part of the service music, found at the front of the hymnal, appearing before the regular congregational hymns begin. For example, S-278 is found before hymn 1.

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To learn more about Resurrection, check out [www.episcopalloudon.com](http://www.episcopalloudon.com), email us at [office@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:office@episcopalloudon.com), or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a pew card or email [office@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:office@episcopalloudon.com) to be placed on on the weekly email, *Parish Tidings*, for the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook: [facebook.com/episcopalloudon](https://facebook.com/episcopalloudon).



# Holy Eucharist, Rite II

## The Word of God

**Prelude** *(only at 10:30)*

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

*Cwm Rhondda*

**Entrance Hymn** *(only at 10:30)*

*I bind unto myself today*

**Hymnal 370**

*All standing*

**BCP 355**

*Celebrant*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People*

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*All*

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Gloria** *(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)*

**Hymnal S-278**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**



*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

*Lector* A reading from the Book of Proverbs

Does not wisdom call,  
and does not understanding raise her voice?

On the heights, beside the way,  
at the crossroads she takes her stand;

beside the gates in front of the town,  
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

“To you, O people, I call,  
and my cry is to all that live.

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work,  
the first of his acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,  
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

When there were no depths I was brought forth,  
when there were no springs abounding with water.

Before the mountains had been shaped,  
before the hills, I was brought forth—

when he had not yet made earth and fields,  
or the world’s first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens, I was there,  
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

when he made firm the skies above,

when he established the fountains of the deep,  
when he assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters might not transgress his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
then I was beside him, like a master worker;  
and I was daily his delight,  
rejoicing before him always,  
rejoicing in his inhabited world  
and delighting in the human race.”

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.  
*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 8**

*Lector*        We will read the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 1 O LORD our Governor, \*  
    **how exalted is your Name in all the world!**
- 2 Out of the mouths of infants and children \*  
    **your majesty is praised above the heavens.**
- 3 You have set up a stronghold against your adversaries, \*  
    **to quell the enemy and the avenger.**
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, \*  
    **the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**
- 5 What is man that you should be mindful of him? \*  
    **the son of man that you should seek him out?**
- 6 You have made him but little lower than the angels; \*  
    **you adorn him with glory and honor;**
- 7 You give him mastery over the works of your hands; \*  
    **you put all things under his feet:**
- 8 All sheep and oxen, \*  
    **even the wild beasts of the field,**
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, \*  
    **and whatsoever walks in the paths of the sea.**
- 10 O LORD our Governor, \*  
    **how exalted is your Name in all the world!**

## The Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-5

*Lector* A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Hymn *(only at 10:30)*

*Come thou almighty king (verses 1-2)*

**Hymnal 365**

*All stand*

## The Gospel Lesson: John 16:12-15

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said to the disciples, "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Sequence Hymn *(only at 10:30)*

*Come, thou almighty king (verses 3-4)*

**Hymnal 365**

**Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP 358**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,**

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People, Form II

BCP 385

*Please assume a posture of prayer, whether standing, sitting, or kneeling as able.  
Please add those intercessions and thanksgivings on your heart, silently or  
aloud, at the appropriate points in the prayers.*

*Lector*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Sean; our Diocesan Bishop, Brian; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations;  
and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially **Ginny; Rosemary O.; the LaPointe family; Shelly; Tenia; David and Pam; Kathleen; Jim; Kelly; Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian; and all your children who suffer the effects of war, oppression, or natural disasters.** Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed. Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.*  
*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

*Celebrant*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

**BCP 359**

*Please note: Continuing in a posture of prayer we will hold a moment of silence for individual, silent confessions before the priest leads us into the words of confession.*

*Celebrant*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant and People*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**



*Celebrant*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

**BCP 360**

*Standing as you are able.*

*Celebrant* May the peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

## **The Holy Communion**

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2a*

### **Offertory Anthem** *(sung by the choir)*

*Creator of Beauty and Light*

*(M. Schweizer and B. Easterling)*

*The Celebrant invites the people's offerings.*

### **Doxology** *(only at 10:30)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Spoken at 8:00 and 10:30*

*1 Chronicles 29:14*

*Celebrant* For all things come from you, O Lord;

*People* **and of your own have we given you.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

*From Enriching Our Worship, The Standing Liturgical Commission of  
the Episcopal Church: New York: Church Publishing, 1997*

*(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you,  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

**Sanctus** *(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)*

**Hymnal S-125**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*Celebrant* Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.** (*Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

And now, as our Savior  
Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread..  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia, Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
Grant us peace.**

*Celebrant*      The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel comfortable. Remain seated, until the usher directs you forward to the communion rail. After receiving communion, return to your seat by the side aisle. so that traffic flows one way.*

*If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so. If you prefer not to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you prefer a blessing.*

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

## **Communion Hymn**

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence*

**Hymnal 324**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All*      **Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## Announcements | Blessings of Birthdays and Anniversaries

### The Blessing

**Post communion Hymn** *(only at 10:30)*

*Holy, holy, holy*

**Hymnal 362**

### The Dismissal

*Celebrant* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Postlude** *(only at 10:30)*

*The Heavens Declare the Glory of God*

*(Benedetto Marcello)*

# Parish Announcements, Prayers, & Thanksgivings

**Flowers today are given to the Glory of God  
and in celebration of our 43rd anniversary  
by Bonnie & Mark Smith**

## **CALLING ALL MUSICIANS & INSTRUMENTALISTS!**

We know you're out there! Music Director Judy Moyer will be **in the Parish Hall following today's 10:30 service**, hoping that all hesitant singers and instrumentalists will come over to say hello. Our choir is a fun, informal bunch. Your participation will expand and enhance our worship, and give you the perfect excuse for not mowing the lawn. Strict attendance is not mandatory, and all levels of ability are encouraged to join. The only requirement is a willingness to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

## **RESURRECTION MEN**

Our last Men's Group meeting before a summer break will be on **Saturday, June 21 at 9 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. As always, a light breakfast will be served, and a lively conversation will be had. We will discuss Lesson 12 (Rewards of Faithfulness) of the book, Life Lessons from Daniel and Esther.

The Men's Group will not meet in July, but mark your calendars and stay tuned for more info on our August 23 meeting. Please reach out to Mark Hennes at mhennes81@icloud.com with any questions.

## **4 PAWS**

Next week is the fourth Sunday of the month so it will be Four Paws Pantry collection Sunday. Cat and dog food — or donations to purchase the same — are most appreciated. Please see Jackie Curtiss if you have questions.

## **PARISH TIDINGS DEADLINE: Wednesdays @ 9**

It is so helpful for church staff and clergy to be able to review items at staff meeting on Wednesday afternoon. For that reason, proposed articles for both the weekly email newsletter and Sunday announcements should be submitted to Bonnie at [office@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:office@episcopalloudon.com) each week no later than Wednesday at 9 a.m. Submissions may be edited for clarity, conciseness, or correctness. Submissions received after that deadline will be held for the next week's editions. Thank you!

**Please note:**

**Regular church office hours are weekdays  
10am-2 pm, EXCEPT for Thursdays (closed).**

## **Our Parish Prayer List**

Ginny; Rosemary O.; the LaPointe family; Shelly; Tenia; David & Pam; Kathleen; Jim; Kelly; Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian

### ***Continuing Prayers for:***

the Hentchel family; Pat; Claire; Sandy; Rob & Sherry; Cheri; Jane; Shannon; Jim; Mel; Wayne; Diana N.; Jack; Ashley; Raynella; Ed & Jean; Kim E.; Joe; Beverly; Grace; Virginia; Betty Anne; Janey; Johnny; and Karen H.

### ***For our Vestry leaders:***

Class of 2025: Lisa A., Donna B., Diane V.K.  
Class of 2026: Drew H., Dawson H., Jenny L.  
Class of 2027: Bev B., Karen B., Mark H.  
Officers: Jenny L., Diane V.K., Dawson H., Sally L.

### ***Also for the Diocesan Prayer List:***

Trinity, Gatlinburg, TN  
St. Peter's, Ft. Pierre, SD

## **June Birthdays & Anniversaries**

June 2	Holly Pate
June 7	Holly & David Pate
June 8	Kim Strong
June 10	Judy Egan
June 10	Peggy Rogers
June 12	Drew Hawley
June 12	Bonnie & Mark Smith
June 13	Beth Stahr
June 15	Beverly & Bob Cantine
June 15	Kathy Pittman
June 16	Kim & Marc Strong
June 19	Judy Moyer
June 21	Keith Binkley
June 24	Tony Adams
June 25	Kathleen Bailey
June 25	Donna & Carl Bye
June 27	Danielle Ledyard

# For Your Calendars

## THIS WEEK

<b>June 15</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	
Acolyte	Judy Hadjian	Mark Smith	Altar Guild: Janey Coombes & Judy Egan
EM	Jack Lefler	Bonnie Smith	
Lectors	Mark Hennes & Andrew Wilkinson	Dawson Hope & Keytha Graves	Flower Guild: Betty Martin
Ushers	Andrew Wilkinson	Monty Ross & Jan Hanna	Organist: Judy Moyer
Chancellor	Carl Bye	David Baumgardner	Celebrant &: Rebecca Bridges
Coffee Hour	Erlys Ploeger	Jackie Buttinelli	Preacher: Monday Volunteer (6/16)
Video	n/a	Ann Murphy	Mark Hennes
Counters	n/a	Jenny Lucas & Carolyn Parker	

## NEXT WEEK

<b>June 22</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	
Acolyte	Jack Lefler	Drew Hawley	Altar Guild: Janey Coombes & Judy Egan
EM	Judy Hadjian	Jane Mocilac	
Lectors	Holly Pate & Jack Lefler	Tony Adams & Bonnie Smith	Flower Guild: Bev Baumgardner
Ushers	Jerry Ploeger	Keytha Graves & Art Stewart	Organist: Judy Moyer
Chancellor	Jerry Ploeger	Art Stewart	Celebrant: Rebecca Bridges
Coffee Hour	Linda Lefler	Virginia Perry	Preacher: Mark Smith
Video	n/a	Bob Cantine	Monday Volunteer (6/23)
Counters	n/a	Monty Ross & Jenny Lucas	Donna Bye

## Next Week at Resurrection

Monday, June 16  
7:00 p.m. - AA (*open meeting*)

Wednesday, June 18  
9:00 a.m. - Deadline for Parish Tidings or bulletin submissions

Thursday, June 19  
9:00 a.m. - Prayers & Squares

Saturday, June 21  
9:00 a.m. - Resurrection Men (Parish Hall)

Sunday, June 22  
8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II  
10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II  
Guest Preacher Mark Smith  
4 Paws Collection Sunday

*Email [office@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:office@episcopalloudon.com) by Wednesday at 9 a.m. to have your ministry or committee's activities added to the parish calendar.*

## COMING UP ...

Saturday, June 28  
Daughters of the King

Sunday, June 29  
Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II  
Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II

Thursday, July 3  
Prayers & Squares

Friday, July 4  
Office Closed - Independence Day

**Check your Parish Tidings  
for upcoming details!**

*Contact our priest, the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges,  
at this email: [rector@episcopalloudon.com](mailto:rector@episcopalloudon.com).*

# TODAY'S ART



Christ Taking Leave of His Disciples  
Duccio di Buoninsegna (mid 13th century - 1319)  
Tempera and gold on Panel,  
Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Siena (1308-1311)

Public domain

Duccio's Maestà altarpiece—completed in 1311 and carried in procession from the artist's workshop to its new home in Siena's cathedral—intertwined civic and religious significance. It reminds us how art can generate community by precipitating shared reflection on vital questions.

Who are we? Why are we here? Where are we going? Such questions can be approached in a variety of ways, consciously and subconsciously: in joy, love, fear, doubt, anger, hope. However they are approached, they are a fundamental dimension of the conversations that constitute human cultures, their evolution and their transformations.

One such conversation is portrayed in this panel—one of the twenty-six panels depicting the Passion and Resurrection of Christ on the back of the Maestà. It is a conversation about homecoming and, according to Christian tradition, an integral part of the founding of the Church. As recounted in John 16:16–24, the conversation is caught in a tension between the presence and absence of Christ, and is meant to prepare Jesus's disciples for suffering and death in recognition of a deeper, eternal entry into joy. The inclusion of an open door behind the seated figure of Christ in Duccio's panel is striking, and its darkness seems deliberately to suggest both uncertainty and future possibility (Rosser 2012: 489–90).

The drama in this panel of the Maestà might not be as apparent as that of the panels surrounding it. All we seem to have is conversation. Yet, as in the Gospel of John, the drama of this conversation offers an interpretative key for reflecting on the events surrounding it. Here the disciples are called, personally and directly, to recognize in the master they have chosen to follow a truth that transcends the distinction between absence and presence—life and death—as we normally conceive of them. And they are called to realize that they too can consciously partake in the same truth. Duccio's panel challenges us to recognize in Christ, in art, and in each other the transforming power of conversation: through darkness and into the possibility of light.

## References

Vittorio Montemaggi, "Presence Beyond Absence," *The Visual Commentary on Scripture*. <https://thevcs.org/presence-beyond-absence#vital-conversations>

Rosser, Gervase. 2012. 'Beyond Naturalism in Art and Poetry: Duccio and Dante on the Road to Emmaus', *Art History*, 35.3: 474–497