

PCOM SERMON NOTES

March 22, 2026 • Pastor Courtney Ellis

Sermon Series: Close Encounters: Jesus in the Gospels

Scripture: John 11:17-45

Sermon Notes:

1. We are a people _____.

Death is _____! 1 Corinthians 15:26 - The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Death is not a punishment for unbelief.

John 11:35 - Jesus weeps with them.

Oscar Romero - "There are many things that can only be seen through eyes that have cried."

2. We are a people _____.

Jesus _____.

John 11:25 - I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live *even though they die*.

Fleming Rutledge: Death can have no dominion over him. He pronounces that even in the midst of death he is able to give life. And he promises that he freely gives this life to anyone who trusts in him.

3. We are a people _____.

Pope Benedict: We are not yet standing in the full light but walking toward it full of trust.

John 11:26 - Do you believe this? Jesus's question to Mary and to us.

**** Questions for discussion on the back side. ****

Questions for discussion:

1. Grief is a sad, angry, lonely, or fearful response to difficult change in our lives—everything from the death of a loved one to an illness or injury. Even good changes—like the birth of a baby or a marriage or a graduation—can bring grief. How has grief shaped you? What are you grieving today?

2. Hope is trusting that God has our best interests at heart and that our story goes beyond this world and into eternity. How has hope shaped you? What are you hopeful about today?

3. What do you think it means to be a “people of resurrection”? How can we live in the truth of Jesus’s eternal love for us here and now? How might we share that hope with our neighbors?