**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Pastor Chris Neikirk***

**Date: Sunday, April 15, 2018**

**Sermon Title: I Am: I Am the One**

**Scripture: Exodus 3:14-15 (NIV)** 14God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” 15God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ “This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.

**Luke 24:36-48 (NIV)** 36While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 37They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. 38He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? 39Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” 40When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. 41And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” 42They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43and he took it and ate it in their presence. 44He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” 45Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48You are witnesses of these things. 49I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

**Revelation 1:8 (NIV)** 8“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only)**

Leader:On this Lord’s Day, we come together, O God, to proclaim the Living One, the First and the Last, who was dead, but now is forever alive.

**People: Open our hearts to the Spirit Jesus breathes on us. Help us, who have not seen, to believe; send us, as you have sent Jesus, to greet the world with the Easter word of peace and to share with all the Spirit’s new life of forgiveness. We ask through the Lord Jesus, our Passover and our Peace, who lives and reigns now forever. Amen.**

**Basic Theme:** **While Lent as a season ends with Easter, Easter is without end. We are an Easter people because we still live in the afterglow of the resurrection. We worship each week on Sunday, the first day of the week, to celebrate that death has been conquered and to proclaim the “Our Savior Lives!” We do not serve a suffering savior, we serve a risen Lord. This is a story that we must tell!**

**Sermon Snapshot: *On the road to Emmaus, Jesus revealed to the two followers that all of the scriptures were about him, but for some reason they were kept from recognizing him. They didn’t get it! But, when he broke the bread, their eyes were open and they ran to tell the others. Jesus appeared again to them in the upper room and opened their minds to understand as he explained that all the scriptures pointed to him. Essentially he said, I am the one who was sent and you are my witnesses. My Father will pour the power of the Holy Spirit into you and then you must go and tell!***

**So What? That same power is available to us if we would but receive it. Have you received the Holy Spirit? Will you go and tell?**