

*Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 10, 2022*

Greeting

Gathering Words:

Come those who seek the consolation of a gracious God; for our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Come those whose souls need peace. Receive the grace of a loving savior. Come to worship and receive the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.

**Worship Music In Christ Alone**

OPENING PRAYER

Gather us in, Lord, and hear our prayers, for we come to this place in need for healing and hope. Gather us in, Lord, and heal our spirits, for we come here seeking guidance and strength. Gather us in, Lord, and open our hearts to receive your word. Open our hearts, our spirits, our souls to comprehend your word so that we might follow you faithfully. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. **AMEN.**

\*OPENING HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name (Verses 1, 4 & 6) #154

THE FIRST LESSON 1 Peter 1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

SPECIAL MUSIC Mark Potts

SHARING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

Our God calls us in love: to love him and to love our neighbor. The gifts that we give allow us to share our blessings with others. Let us offer a portion of what we have been blessed to receive that others may feel God’s love through our offering.

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #95

\*DEDICATION OF OFFERING

Great God in Heaven, you remind us to focus our ability on first loving you. Then, you urge us to reflect that love toward our neighbor. We desire to be the modern day “Good Samaritan.” Create anew in our hearts a burning desire to care for your children. Encourage us to follow the caring ways that Jesus taught. Multiply these tithes and offerings so acts of tolerance and hospitality are extended through our ministry to all of your children. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 5: 11-12 (NIV)

HYMN OF PREPARATION My Hope is Built (Verses 1 & 4) #368

SERMON Choose Hope Pastor Lyle

\*CLOSING HYMN Lead On, O King Eternal #580

BENEDICTION

Place your hand in the hand of God. Go forth into this world in complete assurance of God’s presence and love. Bring hope, healing, and peace to all whom you meet. Go in peace and may God’s peace be with you. AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Prayer List:**

Chris Diehl – cancer Laura & Irene - recovery

Family of Donna Ettinger Libby – eye and bone cancer

Clark Harding – knee surgery 6/20 Gloria Lintner – surgery July 15th

Karl Haver – lung cancer Paul McLaughlin- health issues

Lamar Horst – chemo Mary Jane Ressler- leukemia

Janice-healing Ronnie Sahm – eye surgery

Juniper & Marley- great grand Sandy Sweigart- good results

children of Phyllis and Leroy Miller The White Family

**SUNDAY MORNING OFFERING**

**OFFERING AMT NEEDED EACH WEEK       $1,365**

**OFFERING July 3rd  $1,081**

**AMT OF OFFERING NEEDED TO DATE     $36,855**

**AMT RECEIVED TO DATE            $41,111**

**BUDGET YTD +$4,256 Attendance – 47 Folks**

**What’s happening at Wiest:**

Adult Sunday School – 1015 Sundays

Bible Study – 1000-1200 Tuesdays with fellowship

Girl Scouts – 1st Thursday of each month

Blessings of Hope – July 23rd 1030-1100

There will be a Congregational Meeting July 24th after worship to decide whether Wiest Church will remain or leave the United Methodist Church. The decision will be made by voting by secret ballot. Only those members present will vote.

Audio of the Sunday message is posted on our church website ([www.wiestchurch.org](http://www.wiestchurch.org)). Video on Wiest Church Facebook page

Lectionary Readings for next week: Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28;

Luke 10:38-42.

I Choose Hope

Faith is a belief in something not yet seen. You believe in it, or that it exists , even without physical proof. Peter wrote to Gentiles living in regions; located in the northeast part of Asia Minor -- present-day Turkey. Paul had traveled in this area several times and established a number of churches. Now Peter addresses these Pauline churches. He wrote them a letter of encouragement; a letter of hope. I Choose Hope, and I encourage you to do the same.

Part of Peter’s encouraging words centered on the believers being chosen by God. And they chose to follow Jesus. These Christians are suffering; facing religious discrimination, feeling under threat, mocked and verbally abused. This discrimination was largely based on their refusal to worship the idols of the Roman gods.

Peter wrote from the margins, from outside the way of thinking of the majority. And he wrote to people living on the margins. The recipients of Peter’s letters were not the governing class or property owners. They were people living as the underside class of society. Peter speaks a message of living hope to the churches. Believers are given new life through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. He tells them that even though they may be tested by suffering now, salvation will be the outcome of their faith.

In that kind of culture, Peter is addressing the question, “What is the most dangerous thing for a Christian living in this kind of culture?” His answer is that the most dangerous thing is “identity amnesia.” The most dangerous thing for a Christian living in that kind of culture, the one that we're living in, is that you would forget who you are in Christ.

Penned as a circular letter intended to travel from one community to the next, the letter writer ensures each local, regional community is aware of its kinship to other communities. It is likely that its regional list maps the letter carrier’s travel itinerary! In this way, 1 Peter is a discourse to dispersed communities unified across regional and cultural differences. For the letter, there is something more to the Christian experience and story than just membership in a local body. The letter re-imagines the Christian community as a connected, diaspora people. No local community is independent of others.

The Christian life is about living and worshiping together. As we do, Christ works in and on us, giving us hope for tomorrow and a better life today.

Sermon Quiz

1. Peter wrote to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in present day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. He said that the Gentile \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had been chosen by \_\_\_.
3. Gentile believers lived on the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of society because they refused to worship \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Peter speaks a message of living \_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. The message promised \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of their faith.
6. It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_ the community lives in Christ even while living in a different culture.
7. Peter’s circular letter was intended to \_\_\_\_\_\_ from one community to the next, ensuring that \_\_\_\_ local, regional community is aware of its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to other communities.
8. There is something more to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ experience and story than just membership in a \_\_\_\_\_ body.
9. The Christian life is about \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ together.
10. You were made for something \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than yourself.

Last Week’s Quiz

1. Many of our sins start with our desires.
2. The tenth commandment is the only one which is repeated.
3. To covet means “to feel inordinate [immoderate, excessive] desire for what belongs to another.”
4. King David desired Bathsheba, a married woman. King Ahab and Queen Jezebel got what they wanted: Naboth dead and possession of his vineyard.
5. In Proverbs, Solomon writes, “He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house.”
6. In Matthew 6:21, we read, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”
7. When desire and ambition go astray, we desire what is not ours - we desire what others have.
8. The path of the coveter can only lead to discontent, failure and destruction.
9. The antidotes to covetousness include contentment, generosity, and faith.
10. You will know *Where your Treasure Is* by loving God and loving neighbor.