

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, January 28, 2024*

Greeting

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Trustworthy God, in the stillness of your constant presence, we offer our prayers and our thanks to you.
**People: In humility and sincerity, we gather to worship our God.**
Pastor: You are our Still Centre when all around us is noisy conflict.
**People: Holy God, our hope is in you, as you meet all our needs.**
Pastor: In the quietness and peace of this sacred space, we gather to pray and meditate on God’s Holy Word.
**People: O God, draw near to us, as we draw near to you. Amen.**

**Worship Music Lord, I Need You**

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and Amazing God, we come before You in awe and wonder that You have made another day. You have made the heavens and the earth and the vast universe that surrounds us, and You made each of us in Your image. We can’t begin to imagine everything that You have done for us and all that You do in the universe. Nonetheless, we set aside this time and space to give You praise, to bring our prayers before You, and to share together in thanksgiving and love in this time of worship. Guide our hearts and minds to follow You in all Your ways. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **AMEN.**

\*OPENING HYMN Come, Christians, Join to Sing #158

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESON Psalm 131 NLT

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**

CHOIR ANTHEM Only Believe

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

If every moment in the life of the church is a teaching moment, then the Offering is an important moment to teach about God’s giving to us and our giving back to God a portion of the abundance we’ve received. It’s a perfect moment to teach about God’s goodness and our longing to respond, each in our way and to the best of our ability. It’s a moment that reminds us that our gifts stand for our hope to repair the world, to preach the Good News, to be the Body of Christ together. Our gifts of money, time, and talent bring our personal and corporate commitments to life.

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of power and might, you bring forth life in the midst of death, healing in the midst of disease, and hope in the darkest places of our despair. You reach out for our hand, that we might be made whole, but also that our hands might bring healing and life to others. May the gifts we offer to you this morning bring life and healing to your children, both near and far. We pray in the name of your Son, our life and our healer. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 5: 21-43 NLT

HYMN OF PREPARATION He Touched Me #367

SERMON Only Believe Pastor Lyle

\*CLOSING HYMN My Faith Looks Up to Thee #452

BENEDICTION

Beloved of God, healed and forgiven, blessed and strengthened: go forth to be a blessing to others, proclaiming the love and mercy of God in all that you do and say! AMEN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Prayer List:**

Amber – breast cancer Janet Fisher Moyer - sciatica

Margaret Bollinger -pancreatic cancer Nash – sickle cell anemia

Ron Dentzer – cancer People in Israel and Gaza and Ukraine

Dan Frey family – tree damage to home Keith Pettus – healing from tonsillectomy

Lynne Elwell- surgery February 1st Connie Rupp – hospice care at Fairmont

Donna – cancer treatable Sharon - brain cancer

Justin Grube – improving Linda Slafkovski – metastatic cancer

Cindy Haines – skilled care Dawn Smith – stage 4 cancer

Kellen – reaction to lymphoma treatment Tom Steffy - testing

Faye Miller - immunotherapy for cancer Alex Wenger – treatments for leukemia

**SUNDAY MORNING OFFERING**

**OFFERING AMT NEEDED EACH WEEK       $1,400**

**OFFERING January 21st $5,242**

**AMT OF OFFERING NEEDED TO     $4,200**

**AMT RECEIVED TO DATE         $8,822**

**BUDGET YTD +$4622 Attendance – 24 Folks**

**What’s happening at Wiest:**

Bible Study – Tuesdays 1000-1200.

Choir Practice – Thursdays 1200 PM

Girl Scouts – 2nd Thursday of each month

Game Day – Thursdays February 8th and 22nd 130-330 PM

Blessings of Hope – Saturday February 26th 1030-1100

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

Connie Rupp’s new address and phone number:

Connie Rupp Room phone: 717-354-1603

Fairmont Homes Rehab desk phone: 717-354-1881

Room 128D

333 Wheatridge Dr

Ephrata, PA 17522

Lectionary Readings for next week: Sunday – Mark 5:35-43

Monday – Psalm 46 Thursday – Psalm 126

Tuesday – Psalm 100 Friday – Mark 6: 1-6

Wednesday – Psalm 121 Saturday – Mark 6: 7-16

Sermon Summary

Only Believe

Jesus has crossed back over the Sea of Galilee to the other side. We know it is the Jewish side because a crowd greets him. Among them is the leader of the local synagogue, Jairus. Jairus falls at the feet of Jesus and begs him to come and lay hands on his dying daughter, that she might live.

Jesus goes with him and the crowd follows them Among the crowd is a woman who has suffered with constant bleeding for 12 years. She has suffered at the hands of many doctors, and spent much money, with no results. In fact, she has gotten worse. In desperation, she decides to approach Jesus. She has heard about the wonders he has performed. She came through the crowd, hoping that she would be healed by touching his robe. She felt the bleeding stop and she was healed immediately.

Jesus felt power leave him and asked who had touched his robe. Although frightened, the woman came forward and confessed what she had done. Instead of rebuking her, Jesus said that her faith had made her well. Her suffering was over.

At that moment, messengers arrived from the home of Jairus, telling Jairus that his daughter was dead. There was no reason to trouble Jesus.

Jesus overheard them and told Jairus, “Don’t be afraid. Just have faith.” Jesus stopped the crowd and continued to Jairus’ house with Peter, James and John. When they arrived, they were met with weeping and wailing. Going inside the house, Jesus said that the child was not dead, but asleep. The crowd laughed at this.

Jesus went into the child’s room, took her hand and said, “Little girl, get up.” She immediately got up and walked. Jesus told her parents to give her something to eat, and to tell no one what had happened.

Faith in Jesus changed the lives of the hemorrhaging woman, the dying daughter, and her parents. It can change ours as well. Knowing Jesus changes lives. Jesus promises us new life. He sees a future that we cannot. Only believe!

Let us pray:

Jesus, healer of mind and body, we sometimes suffer at the hands of physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Quiet our minds, still our hearts, and empower our bodies so that we may be whole and healed. Amen.

Sermon Quiz

1. Jesus has crossed back over the Sea of Galilee to the \_\_\_\_\_\_ side.
2. There he was met by a crowd and Jairus, the local \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ leader.
3. His daughter is dying, and he begs Jesus to come and lay \_\_\_\_\_ on her.
4. On the way to Jairus’ home, they are interrupted by a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ woman.
5. She pushes through the crowd and touches Jesus’ \_\_\_\_, hoping to be \_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Jesus feels healing \_\_\_\_\_ leaving him, and asks who touched his robe.
7. She confesses, and Jesus tells her that she is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ healed.
8. Messengers arrive and tell Jairus that his daughter has \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Jesus tells Jairus, “Don’t be \_\_\_\_\_\_. Just have \_\_\_\_\_.”
10. Faith in Jesus can lead to the \_\_\_\_ of many deaths for those who only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Last Week’s Quiz

1. Crossings of bodies of water occur often in Mark.
2. Upon leaving the boat, he meets a man possessed by demons.
3. The demons recognize Jesus as the Son of God.
4. They were afraid of Jesus and pleaded that they not be sent to a distant land.
5. Jesus restored the demoniac to fullness of life.
6. The demons were sent into 2000 pigs which were nearby.
7. The pigs plunged down the hillside into the lake and drowned.
8. When the people saw what had happened, they asked Jesus to leave.
9. The demoniac was sent by Jesus to tell of the goodness of God in his life.
10. Jesus came to confront the evil in the world and in us.