**

*First Sunday in Lent, February 18, 2024*

Greeting

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Jesus we are following you into Lent

**People: Your laws are perfect, so we follow you**

Pastor: Jesus we long to love and serve like you

**People: Here we are, starting the journey into Lent, Journey with us God**

Pastor: Come let us journey with God

**People: Come, let us make space for this holy time together.**

**Worship Music The Glorious Impossible**

OPENING PRAYER

Mighty God, as we gather to worship you we think of the past week’s experiences—some joyful, others painful. Whatever brings us here, together we pray, **May your kingdom come**.

Lord of all creation, we look at the world around us as we come to worship you. Our world is filled with natural disasters, economic problems, terrorism, starvation, and wars. In the midst of this, and with confidence in your redeeming power, we pray, **May your kingdom come.** **AMEN.**

\*OPENING HYMN Jesus Calls Us #398

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 19: 7-10 NIV

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

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

Father. everything we possess is a gift from you. You so freely give us what we need, and you promise even greater treasures that await us in heaven. Help us share generously with others all that you so graciously give to us.

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

With open hands and thankful hearts, we offer to you all that is already yours, O Lord. Take what we offer and use it for the goodness of your kingdom. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:17 –31NIV

HYMN OF PREPARATION Jesus’ Hands Were Kind Hands #273

SERMON What’s Your One Thing? Pastor Lyle

\*CLOSING HYMN When We All Get to Heaven #701

BENEDICTION

With God all things are possible. May you carry that confidence into your daily life and work, as you walk in Christ’s footsteps, guided by God’s hand. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Prayer List:**

Family of Ronald Adams Faye Miller - immunotherapy for cancer

Amber – breast cancer Arlene Oner – hip replacement

Margaret Bollinger – chemo therapy Nash – sickle cell anemia (home)

Family of Glen Bubbenmoyer People in Israel and Gaza and Ukraine

Family of Ron Dentzer Connie Rupp – hospice care at Fairmont

Donna – cancer treatable Dr. Bill Schlorff – stage 3 throat cancer

Mike Fassnacht – cancer surgery Sharon - brain cancer

Daniel Heiser – hospice care Linda Slafkovski – metastatic cancer

Jolene and Mike – snow mobile accident Shooting victims in Kansas City

Cindy Haines – skilled care Dawn Smith – stage 4 cancer

Mary Jenks – Cancer surgery Tom Steffy – doctor appointments

Kellen – reaction to lymphoma treatment Alex Wenger – treatments for leukemia

Employees of Martin’s in Ephrata

**SUNDAY MORNING OFFERING**

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

**OFFERING February 11th $7,029**

**AMT OF OFFERING NEEDED TO     $8,400**

**AMT RECEIVED TO DATE         $19,098**

**BUDGET YTD +$10698 Attendance – 32 Folks**

**What’s happening at Wiest:**

The Chosen – video series – 1030 Sunday after church

Bible Study – Tuesdays 1000-1200.

Choir Practice – Thursdays 1200 PM

Girl Scouts – 2nd Thursday of each month

Game Day – Thursday February 22nd 130-330 PM

Blessings of Hope – Saturday February 26th 1030-1100

Girl Scout Sunday – March 10, 2024

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: Sunday – Mark 10: 17- 31

Monday – Exodus 20: 12-16 Thursday – Mark 10: 28-31

Tuesday – Mark 10: 23-27 Friday – Romans 8: 18-25

Wednesday – 1 Timothy 6: 6-10 Saturday – Mark 10: 32-34

Sermon Summary

What’s Your One Thing?

How often have you told yourself that if you could do, acquire, or even give up one thing, then your life would be better? A man ran up to Jesus, fell at His feet, and asked what he must do to inherit eternal life. Seeking assurance and guidance, he came to Jesus. He called Jesus the good teacher. Jesus corrected him, saying that only God was good. And then he reminded the man of the commandments. The commandments that Jesus voiced dealt with how we are to relate to one another. The man, still searching, said he had done these things since he was a boy. Jesus looked at him with compassion and love. He told the man that there was only one thing that he needed to do. He was to sell his possessions, give to the poor. Then he would have treasure in heaven.

The man left, grieving because he had many possessions. Jesus then told his disciples how hard it was for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. It was harder that trying to put a camel through the eye of a needle. It is our attachment to our possessions, the things that help us feel secure and self-sufficient in this world.

It is hard to give up that security to trust in Jesus. Often we struggle, just as the rich man did.

This text is more of a call into a life of vulnerability and interdependence, and how possessions are a barrier to that. Just like us, the man wanted to enter into the good life of eternity, but struggled with releasing his attachment to possessions and wealth. Jesus called on him to change from the trust in possessions to trust in God.

As we observe the Lenten season, let us pause to consider: What is the one thing we might have to give up to trust more fully in Jesus, and live accordingly, that we might have life eternal?

Sermon Quiz

1. A \_\_\_\_ ran up to Jesus, fell at His feet, and asked what he must do to inherit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ life.
2. He was seeking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus said, “No one is \_\_\_\_\_, except \_\_\_\_ alone.”
4. Jesus referred to the 10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
5. The commandments Jesus listed described how we are to \_\_\_\_\_\_ to one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Jesus said, “Go, \_\_\_\_\_ everything you have and \_\_\_\_ to the poor, and you will have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven.
7. The man leaves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, because he has many \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. It is our attachment to our possessions, the things that help us feel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in this world.
9. This text is more of a \_\_\_\_ into a \_\_\_\_\_ of vulnerability and interdependence, and how possessions are a barrier to that.
10. The gospel is about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from a trust elsewhere to trust in \_\_\_\_.

Last Week’s Quiz

1. Mark is very much focused on telling who Jesus is, and why he has come.
2. When Jesus asks who the disciples think he is, Peter answer, “You are the Christ.”
3. This confession is a turning point in the story of Jesus.
4. Jesus’s message turns toward the cross.
5. Jesus’ way will defy people’s expectations.
6. He will save sinners by becoming a servant.
7. Peter rebuked Jesus because he was fixed on human things and not on the divine.
8. Jesus instructed the crowd on how to be his disciples.
9. Those who want to save their lives will lose them, and those who lose their lives will save them.
10. There is a cost to follow Jesus, but it is worth it.