

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer"

*Hear our prayer, O Lord. hear our prayer, O Lord.*

*Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us thy peace.*

SERMON

Rev. David A. Jones

OUR OFFERING AND OFFERTORY "There Is a Balm in Gilead" R. Lau

\* THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures  
here below. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son  
and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\* LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)

\* BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

\* HYMN #68 (Green Hymnal) "We Praise Thee, O God, Our Redeemer"

\* SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE "Ask Ye What Great Things I Know"

J. Schwedler/  
H.A. Cesar Malan

\*Please stand as you are able

CCLI Copyright License – 11267785CCLI  
Streaming License – CSPL078521  
One License – A-740327

**St. Mark's United Church of Christ**  
**426 North Eighth Street**  
**Lebanon, PA 17046**  
**(717) 273-0151**

**E-mail: [st.marks426@verizon.net](mailto:st.marks426@verizon.net)**  
**Website: [www.saintmarksucc.com](http://www.saintmarksucc.com)**

Rev. David A. Jones, Pastor

*The fear of the Lord is the  
beginning of wisdom; a  
good understanding have  
all those who do His  
commandments.  
His praise endures forever.  
Psalms 111:10*

Nine O’Clock  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 2024

**Reader:** Todd Ryland

**God is Still Speaking ...**

*"Justice and power must be brought together, so that whatever is just may be powerful, and whatever is powerful may be just."*  
- Blaise Pascal

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** "O Thou, In Whose Presence My Soul Takes Delight" G. Martin

**\* SOLEMN DECLARATION AND SUNG AMEN**

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Pastor:** Great are the works of God, and greatly to be praised.  
**People:** **We come together as a congregation of believers. We give thanks to God with our whole hearts.**  
**Pastor:** God is gracious and merciful and trustworthy.  
**People:** **The works of God’s hands are established among us. We can trust in God’s righteousness and faithfulness.**  
**Pastor:** The righteousness of God will endure forever.  
**People:** **Holy and awesome is God’s name. We call on God to empower our worship.**

**\* HYMN #21** (Green Hymnal) "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

**\* CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God who teaches, we confess that we have not learned our lessons. We have failed to follow your commandments. We have failed to listen to our teachers. We have given weight to teachings that give us an easy way out, that focus on only our well-being, and have failed to listen to the teachings of Christ, that call us to become last of all and servant of all. Forgive us for our failures. Forgive us for not seeking you and your authority. Forgive us for ignoring your wisdom. Call us into the paths of righteousness. Call us into the ways of justice, and away from the foolishness of the world...**

*Silent confession...*

**\* KYRIE ELEISON**

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

**\* WORDS OF GRACE AND MERCY**

Jesus declares that God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. God does not desire retribution, but restoration. So let us live into God’s restorative ways by seeking forgiveness, correcting our ways, and loving our neighbor as ourselves. **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Glory to Our Great Redeemer" Todd Agnew  
Ken Shultz - Saxophone

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**THE SCRIPTURES** (insert)  
Old Testament Psalm 111  
\*Gospel Mark 1: 21 - 28

**\* THE GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

**\* PROCLAIMING OUR FAITH – THE APOSTLE’S CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into Hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Psalm 111**

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

## **Mark 1: 21 – 28**

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their

synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.



"Be Quiet!" said Jesus sternly.  
"Come out of him!"

Mark 1:25

Jesus heals the man  
with an unclean spirit



### **ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST**

Andy Shearer  
Deb Weise  
Ken and Charlotte Wengert  
Lynn Balmer  
David Ansalvish (Cindy Johnson's Brother)  
Rod Nissley (Deb Ellis' son)  
David Minnich (Friend of Deb Ellis)  
Earl Whorley  
Stephanie Wagner (Faye Fox's niece)  
Jeffrey Clouser  
Trudy Berkheimer  
John Blanda (Lynn Balmer's brother-in-law)  
Ed Olden  
Fred Brown  
Shirley Shaak  
Marie DiFava  
Members from our church family who are shut-in or home bound  
The People of Ukraine  
The Victims of War in Israel and Palestine

### **ST. MARK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** **Schedule for January 28, 2024**

Sunday Koffee Klatsch – 8:30-9 AM and 10-10:15 AM  
Worship Service – 9:00 AM  
Annual Congregational Meeting – immediately after worship service  
Wednesday Bible Study – 10 AM and 1:30 PM  
Saturday Work-Day – 9 AM - Fellowship Hall

The flowers on the Communion Table are presented by Dawn and Ken Shultz in memory of their grandparents.

**Flowers and Bulletins** – Dates available for flowers are: April 14, 21 and 28. Dates available for bulletins are: February 18, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. Please contact the office if interested in sponsoring any flowers or bulletins.

**Annual Congregational Meeting** – if anyone would like to zoom for today's meeting, please let the office or Pastor Dave know so we can send you the link. Pick up your packets in the narthex for the meeting.

**Committee Reports for Yearbook** – Please give your committee reports to the office by March 1st, so that the Annual Yearbook can be completed in March.

**2024 Offering Envelopes** – are ready to be picked up in the narthex. If a member lives near you, could you please help deliver their envelopes.

**Women's Study Group** – We will be studying "Messy People" by Jennifer Cowart. Sign up sheet in the narthex. Study will start February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

**Volunteers Needed for Work Day** – We are beginning a project to clean and brighten up Fellowship Hall. The scope of the project will be determined by the interest. The first step will be to wash walls, etc. as well as repair paneling and windows. If you're interested and available, please sign the sheet in the narthex. The first work-day is Saturday, February 3 beginning at 9 AM. Lunch will be provided. Any questions, contact Kathy Follett.

**Souper Bowl Sunday** – there is a grocery cart in the narthex. Please put your cans of soup in this cart. We are collecting until February 11, 2028. Thank you for helping with this project sponsored by the Good Samaritan Committee.

#### **Save the Dates:**

February 11, 2024 – Souper Bowl Sunday  
February 14, 2024 – Ash Wednesday Service – 7:30 PM  
March 10, 2024 – Daylight Saving Time (Spring forward)  
March 31, 2024 – Easter Service and Holy Communion

Conference Call information:  
Dial (215) 383-1625 Enter conference code: 569284  
Press\* when asked for your attendee pin