

# Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 6, 2021

"Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it.

Mark 4:3-4 (NLT)

\*Call to Worship

O Lord, save us from hardness of heart, where your word cannot take root.

O Lord, save us from shallowness of mind, where your word withers away.

O Lord, save us from the deceitfulness of riches, where your word is choked by everyday cares.

But Lord, grant that our hearts may be fertile soil, where your word flourishes and yields a harvest, bringing salvation to ourselves and those about us.

#### \*Opening Prayer

O God, we gather together in Your presence with expectation, hungry for an encounter with You, eager to hear Your Word. Open our eyes and ears to the presence of Your Holy Spirit. May the seeds of Your Word scattered among us this morning fall on fertile soil. May they take root in our hearts and lives, and produce an abundant harvest of good words and deeds. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Share How You Can Present Your Offering to God

Make your offering personal...through a donation or an act of service...bring to God an offering of praise and gratitude!

Sing the Doxology Together

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

A Prayer of the People with Mark 4 (See Below)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

God's Word Mark 4:1-9 (NLT) (see below)

The Word of God for the people of God...Thanks be to God!

Message "The Hardened Soul" Pastor Clark

See Message Below

\*Hymn of Faith "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" UMH 382

The Lord's Supper

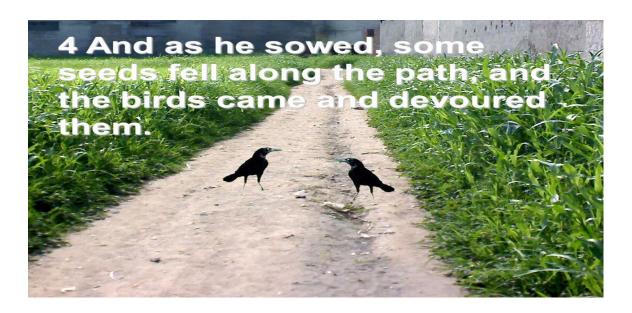
We invite you now to spiritually unite with all the members of Faith and Hope United Methodist Churches, and partake of the Lord's Supper. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread and blessed it and broke it and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. Take some bread and juice and do this:

**Break the Bread** This is the body of Christ, the bread of life—given for you. Amen.

**Share the Cup** This is the blood of Christ, the cup of salvation—shed for you. Amen.

Blessing Jude 1:24

All glory to God,
who is able to keep you from falling away
and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence
without a single fault!
All glory to the only God our Savior,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Mark 4: 1-9 (NLT) Once again Jesus began teaching by the lakeshore. A very large crowd soon gathered around him, so he got into a boat. Then he sat in the boat while all the people remained on the shore. <sup>2</sup> He taught them by telling many stories in the form of parables, such as this one: <sup>3</sup> "Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. <sup>4</sup> As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it. <sup>5</sup> Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. <sup>6</sup> But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn't have deep roots, it died. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain. <sup>8</sup> Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they sprouted, grew, and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted!" <sup>9</sup> Then he said, "Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand."

## **Pray for One Another**

- The family of **Dottie Allen** after graveside service yesterday
- · Norma Jacks, as she recovers from a fall
- · Jan Smith from Faith Church beginning treatments
- · Christina Cuddihy, director of Educare, beginning treatments
- · Jan Yaple, is doing much better! Her numbers are good, no dialysis needed!
- · Joe Wendling, Kari Akin's uncle, who is in a coma
- · Sarah Corey, strength for therapy during ALS
- Summer Chosen TV Episode Ministry
- · Community Focus: CW Food Pantry; Aletha Mullins, Director
- · National Focus: healing the wounds of the pandemic
- · World Focus: Worldwide distribution of the coronavirus vaccines

# Prayers of the People with Mark 4 in Mind

For all the blessings of this life, we give thanks to You, Creator God. For families, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and strangers, who nurture us, that the love of God may grow within. That Your love, your Word, like a seed, may grow to produce in us, good fruit.

#### May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

For the leaders of various nations and cities, that they may lead with strong hearts and gentle hands and generous spirits, with compassion and mercy, with wisdom and grace. May they reflect your will guiding all their actions and decisions.

#### May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

For those who serve in harms way, those who live in dangerous places, those who live in areas of war and strife, those who live in fear, those who worry about employment, bills, food, and struggle just to find dignity in life. May your grace bring peace and safety to all people, one to another.

## May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

For those who suffer from any illness or disease—of mind, body, or spirit. Restore these, and all those we carry in our hearts, to fullness of health—health as only you, O God, can bring. May your mercy shower each of us with healing mercy and love.

#### May your love be like a seed, taking root and growing strong.

For those who are dying, and for those who have died. Send forth your comforting love. Give solace to those who mourn. Console those who grieve. May your grace surround us like a mantle upon our heads, a shawl upon our shoulders, a hand, to hold our hand.

#### May your love, be like a seed, taking root and growing strong. Amen



**The Chosen** is multi-season television drama about Jesus Christ. Series creator Dallas Jenkins wanted to create a series about Christ that could be binge-watched. Jenkins intention was not only to dig deeper into the people who encountered Jesus and to see Jesus through the eyes of those who met him, but also to show him in a way that is more personal, intimate, immediate.

The first season introduces Jesus and the calling of his initial disciples. The second season focuses on the beginning of his public ministry and what happens as word of his ministry began to spread. We will offer this on Sunday evenings at Faith UMC at 6:00 PM during the summer starting June 13 (skipping July 4) for eight weeks. Each episode is about 45 minutes to an hour. After viewing the episode, we will be led by Matt Fields in a discussion based on the episode...including studying the Scriptures that undergird each one.

We are planning on opening this up the Canal Winchester community through a Facebook advertising campaign. We would also like to provide free refreshments to attendees. For those who are unable to attend in person, they will be able to watch at home online and then join in a Zoom discussion after the episode later in the week.

## Flash Mission a Joyful Success!

For those who didn't see the video last Sunday, the Flash Mission was a huge success as our churches distributed \$350 in gas gift cards as expressions of loving support for our community as gas prices remain high. The response was touching!

# Men's Breakfast June 12 at 9:00 AM

Join us at our new time at 9:00 AM Saturday at Hope UMC this month for our second Men's Breakfast since returning to in person gatherings. We are once again cultivating a remarkable comradery...invite a friend to join you.

## **Canal Winchester Food Pantry**

The CW Food Pantry continues to provide a crucial service in our community. Led by director Aletha Mullins and energized by countless people in our community, the Food Pantry becomes our hands and feet into the community of need. See their new brochure which is posted on the table in the welcome center. Currently the greatest need is for all things laundry such as detergent.

Senior Citizens Weekly Luncheon's to Resume in July at noon on Tuesdays

**The Walk to Emmaus** at Reynoldsburg UMC will return this fall with a Men's Walk on October 21-24 and a Women's Walk on November 11-14.

**Some Things We Are Working On:** Another **outdoor worship experience** with a **picnic** to follow. Watch for further details. And don't miss the new series starting Sunday June 13 called **The Chosen**. See the more detailed description in this bulletin.

**The 2021 Virtual Annual Conference** starts this afternoon and goes through Monday afternoon.