This Week's Sermon: Don't BE Afraid, Just Believe

Pastor Sam Gyorfi

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Scripture readings during worship

Psalm 27:7-14

7

Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.

8

My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.

9

Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me, God my Savior.

10

Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.

11

Teach me your way, Lord; lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

12

Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations.

13

I remain confident of this:

I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

14

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Sermon Scripture

Mark 5:24-43

24 So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. **25** And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. **26** She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. **27** When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, **28** because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." **29** Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

- **30** At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"
- **31** "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?' "
- **32** But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. **33** Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. **34** He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."
- **35** While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"
- 36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."
 37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39 He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." 40 But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.41 He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). 42 Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. 43 He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Themes: Trusting and believing that God is in control. While that is easier said than done, what can we do to grow in faith and belief? How can we learn and grow in faith?