

The Second Sunday after Pentecost June 6, 2021

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor Jacoba Koppert

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PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Lamentations 3; Psalms 30 & 138

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end;

They are new every morning;

Great is your faithfulness.

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to soul that seek him. It is good that one
should wait quietly for the salvation of the
LORD.

**On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength of soul.**

Great is your faithfulness.

Although the LORD causes grief, God will
have compassion according to the
abundance of his steadfast love; for God
does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

**Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.**

Great is your faithfulness.

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for us;
God's steadfast love endures forever.

Great is your faithfulness.

LITANY OF CONFESSION

When we forget that God's ways lead to a
future filled with hope

Lord have mercy.

When we forget Jesus' teachings –no longer
being led by them

Christ have mercy.

When we forget to listen for the guidance of
the Holy Spirit

Lord have mercy.

SILENCE AS WE CONFESS OUR SIN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

THE SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 8:4-12, 16-20, 11:14-15

⁴All the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, ⁵and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." ⁶But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the Lord, ⁷and the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."¹⁰So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; ¹²and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. ¹⁶He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. ¹⁷He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. ¹⁸And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day."¹⁹But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! but we are determined to have a king over us, ²⁰so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles."²¹When Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in

the ears of the Lord. ²²The Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to their voice and set a king over them." Samuel then said to the people of Israel, "Each of you return home."

MEDITATION Rev. Jacoba Koppert
*"Wondering If God Is Doing Something New:
We Want to Be Like Our Neighbors"*

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS:
AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

INVITATION

We invite to come forward those who wish to affirm their baptism by uniting with us in this household of faith.

*Leslie Hemp Buchholz, Steve Buchholz,
Rick Buchsteiner and Jim Mankowski*

SENTENCES

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

Pastor: Do you desire to reaffirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Candidates: I do.

Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Candidates: I do.

Do you profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Candidates: I do.

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Pastor: Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

ADDRESS

QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTICIPATION

Pastor: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of this local church as it serves this community and the world?

Candidates: I promise, with the help of God.

WELCOME AND RECEPTION

Pastor: Let us, the members of the United Church of Christ Neillsville, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

***People: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

Pastor and Church Representative

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the United Church of Christ Neillsville, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church.

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in peace of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from

evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE HYMN "The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away
Stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross,
Where the dearest and best,
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

REFRAIN:

So, I'll cherish the old rugged cross,

Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown

To the old rugged cross
I will ever be true,
It's shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me someday
To my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

REFRAIN:

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Announcements

WELCOME

We welcome you to our service of worship! We are glad that you have joined us in-person, through the internet or on the radio. We pray that you will experience the love of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

9 AM Sunday in person. If you are not yet vaccinated, we encourage you to wear masks.

9 AM Sunday and anytime thereafter, you may worship with us on YouTube, UCC-Neillsville. There are links to our Youtube channel on our Facebook pages and website, neillsvilleucc.org and in this email.

11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN 98.5FM; 1370AM

OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Janice's hours – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-1pm.

CHURCH CAMP

If any youth is interested in attending UCC camp this summer, we have scholarships available. The council is willing to fund any youth wanting to attend a UCC camp. Contact the church office for an application. There are camps for all ages – the young ones can go to camp with an adult. There are camps with a variety of themes – check it out at UCCI.org

RADIO BROADCAST

We would like to thank Glenna Rhoades for sponsoring this week's radio broadcast in loving memory of husband, Herb Rhoades.

YOUR CHOICE - HYMNS

On June 6, we are going to begin singing in the Sanctuary again. The Council in their April Meeting suggested we sing one hymn at the end of the service in order that those who are not ready to sing, can leave. What hymn (s) have you most missed? Pastor Jacoba will choose from among them. Email, or text her or call the church office.