

**The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 1, 2021**

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor Jacoba Koppert

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**PRELUDE** Kelly Nielsen

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Based on Psalm 78 and John 6

God commanded the skies above, and opened  
the doors of heaven;

The LORD rained down on them manna to eat  
and gave them the grain of heaven.

Mortals ate of the bread of angels; God sent  
them food in abundance.

**We too, want the bread of angels. May the  
LORD give us what we crave.**

And God sent his Son, Jesus Christ into the  
world, who announced:

**I am the bread of life;**

**anyone who comes to me shall not hunger;**

**anyone who believes in me shall never thirst.**

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus, Come.**

**THE HYMN** *"God is Truly with Us"*

by Gerhard Tersteegen

- 1. God is truly with us; sing we and adore now;  
praise the One we come before now,  
Here within this temple,  
here in sound and silence,  
worship God in deepest reverence.  
You alone, God, we own,  
you, our God and Savior;  
praise to you forever.**
- 2. Source of every blessing,  
bless the ones who name you,  
let our words and deeds proclaim you.  
Like the saints and angels praising you in glory,  
may your servants sing your story.  
And in all, great and small, may we do  
most nearly what you love most dearly.**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Generous God, you bless us! At times we  
worry that we might not have enough. Help us  
to trust that you will indeed provide enough  
to feed our deepest hungers. Forgive us when  
we close our eyes to the needs of others. Help  
us to believe in the power of Jesus to  
transform us and the world. Amen.**

**SILENTLY WE CONFESS OUR PERSONAL SINS**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Jesus feeds all who are hungry. As he feeds us,  
he forgives us and offers a life that will lead to  
wholeness and peace. Trust that there will be  
enough: enough forgiveness and  
enough love; trust that we will have enough for  
the life God calls us to live.

**A READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE**

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites  
complained against Moses and Aaron in the  
wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, 'If only  
we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land  
of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate  
our fill of bread; for you have brought us out  
into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly  
with hunger.'

<sup>4</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to  
rain bread from heaven for you, and each day  
the people shall go out and gather enough for  
that day. In that way I will test them, whether  
they will follow my instruction or not.

<sup>9</sup> Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole  
congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to  
the Lord, for he has heard your  
complaining."<sup>10</sup> And as Aaron spoke to the  
whole congregation of the Israelites, they  
looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of  
the Lord appeared in the  
cloud. <sup>11</sup>The Lord spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>'I  
have heard the complaining of the Israelites;  
say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat,  
and in the morning you shall have your fill of

bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.” ’

13 In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. 14When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. 15When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

#### **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL** John 6:24-35

24So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. 25When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” 26Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.”

28Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” 29Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” 30So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?” 31Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” 32Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” 34They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” 35Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

**MEDITATION** Pastor Jacoba Koppert  
*“The Bread of God”*

#### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

##### **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **THE INVITATION**

Pastor: Come, you weary and restless, come, all who hunger and thirst. Jesus calls us to dine as friends, come. God’s feast of bread and cup awaits us.

#### **THE COMMUNION PRAYER<sup>1</sup>**

Pastor: God be with you!

**People: And also with you.**

*Pastor continues prayer*

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS**

#### **OUR RESPONSE**

***All: In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you.***

#### **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.**

#### **THE BREAKING AND POURING**

#### **THE HYMN** *“Let us Break Bread Together”*

**Let us break bread together on our knees;  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face  
to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face  
to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.**

#### **SHARING THE ELEMENTS**

#### **THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Thanks be to you, O God, for offering to feed our deepest cravings, for your patience with us and your willingness to guide us through the wildernesses of our lives. We thank you for Jesus who is the bread of life, granting us new and eternal life. May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith, increase our generosity,**

and unify our hearts, for we pray in the name  
of Jesus, the Risen One. Amen.

**THE HYMN**    *“Let us Break Bread Together”*

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face  
to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

**THE BENEDICTION**

**THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**POSTLUDE**

<sup>1</sup>Adapted from “*Worshiping into God’s Future*”  
UCC Website.

### 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](http://neillsvilleucc.org) and in this email.

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

#### **RADIO BROADCAST**

**We would like to thank an anonymous sponsor  
for this week’s radio broadcast in praise and thanksgiving of God our Father.**

**WEDNESDAY, August 4th – 10:30am Service at Neillsville Retirement Community with Communion served;  
5:00 pm. Stewardship Committee at the church; 6:30 Board of Christian Ed – Zoom and in person  
SUNDAY, August 15<sup>th</sup> – Joint Church Service with Calvary at Clark County Fair**



