

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**May 8, 2022**

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor Gary Wilner

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

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**PRELUDE** A Grieg Medley    Eduard Grieg  
*"Margretes Cradelsong"*    *"A Simple Prayer"*  
*"The Old Mother"*                      Karen Mohr

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*"No Matter Who You are or Where You are on Life's Journey, You are Welcome Here!!"*

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP (Unison)**

**We gather together to worship our loving, nurturing God, who, like a mother, knows us intimately, loves us unconditionally, teaches us the way we should go, and comforts us in times of need. Praise God, the Source and Sustainer of life!**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Gracious God who lives and loves through each one, meet us here today as we worship. Teach us in our time together to accept one another as you have accepted each one already. Let your church be the vessel of healing and wholeness, compassion and encouragement, strength and comfort.**

**Have mercy on your church that we might with one voice give glory and praise to you. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN "When Morning Gilds the Skies"**

#86 NCH                      Trans. Edward Caswall

**When morning gilds the skies,  
my heart awaking cries,  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer,  
one purpose I declare:**

**may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**New strength comes night or day  
when from the heart we say,  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let sin and evil fear,  
when this sweet chant they hear;  
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Discordant humankind,  
in this your concord find,  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound;  
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Be this, while life is mine,  
may canticle divine,  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this the eternal song,  
through all the ages long:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!**

**SPECIAL TIME FOR CHILDREN**

**READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES** Dave Harnisch

New Testament: 1<sup>st</sup> John 4: 7-12, 16-21

Gospel:                      John 20:19-31

**From the 1st Epistle of John the Evangelist,  
Chapter 4 verses 7-12 and 16-21**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No

one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love\* because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters,\* are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Here ends the reading of this Scriptures this Mother's Day morning.

**PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER and  
The LORD'S PRAYER (in Unison)**

**Our God 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**

**SERVICE OF GIVING AND SHARING  
OFFERTORY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

**Holy God, as we give these tithes and offerings to you this morning, help us to be like the sheep that know the voice of their shepherd. Guide us where you would have us go. Steer us to the work you would have us do. Unstop our ears to the pleas for justice, mercy, compassion, and hope that are all around us. Open our eyes to your vision for your kingdom here on earth! In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**HYMN "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"**

NCH # 351 John Ylvisaker  
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c/o Fern M. Kruger Box 321, Waverly, Iowa 50677 –  
(319)353-4396

**I was there to hear your borne cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
To see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child,  
With a faith to suit you well;  
I'll be there in case you wander off  
And find where demons dwell,**

**When you found the wonder of the Word,  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living God,  
To whom you now belong.  
Should you find someone to share your time  
And you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
From dusk till rising sun.**

**In the middle ages of your life,  
Not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
Complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in  
And you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
With just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borne cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
To see your life unfold.**

**SERMON "Like a Mother"**  
Pastor Gary Wilner

**CLOSING HYMN**

**"This is My Song, O God of All Nations"**  
# 591 NCH Lloyd Stone  
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**This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating  
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
But other lands have sunlight, too, and clover,  
And skies are every where as blue as mine.  
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for their land and for mine.**

#### **BENEDICTION**

#### **POSTLUDE**

(You are invited to stay seated for Postlude)

#### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **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 hear God's call,  
Seek to follow Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **RADIO BROADCAST**

**11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN  
98.5FM and 1370AM**

**This week's radio broadcast  
is sponsored by  
Byrl and Sharon Buddenhagen  
In Honor of All Mothers**

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- **Tuesday, May 10th**  
6:00 pm – Christian Education Meeting  
in person &/or Zoom  
7:00 pm – Deacons Meeting
- **Thursday, May 12th**  
1:30 pm – Circle of Friends Meeting
- **Saturday, May 14th**  
Lorraine Shaw Memorial at church  
10:00 – 11:00 am – Visitation  
11:00 am Memorial Service



**HAPPY**  
*Mother's Day*