

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 24, 2022**  
United Church of Christ, Neillsville  
Pastor Gary Wilner

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**PRELUDE**

*"O Perfect Love"* Gordon Young

*"Praise and Thanksgiving"* Dale Wood  
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**

Leader: Come, listen to the One

**People: who speaks and summons the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

Leader: Come, see the One

**People: who shines forth in the perfection of beauty.**

Leader: Come, bring thanksgiving, to the sacrifice that honors the One

**People: who shows the salvation of God.**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (Unison)

**God of salvation, all the earth cries out for the beauty within us that comes from the covenant you made with creation.**

**We, your little flock of young and old, male and female,**

**rich and poor, strong and weak, are not afraid, for it is your good pleasure to give us now your kingdom on earth as in heaven. We have come: we are dressed for action and have our lamps lit, we are ready for a new dawn that brings an everlasting day. Amen.**

**HYMN** *"Morning Has Broken"*

Eleanor Farjeon

**1 Morning has broken Like the first morning,  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing Fresh from the Word!**

**2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sunlit from heaven,  
Like the first dewfall On the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

**3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, Praise every morning,  
God's recreation Of the new day!**

**PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER,  
THE LORDS 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 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**

## READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Reader – Barb Shoemaker

### INTRO

Old Testament: Genesis 21:8-21

#### ***Hagar and Ishmael Sent Away***

The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac." The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. But God said to him, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your maidservant. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. I will make the son of the maidservant into a nation also, because he is your offspring." Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the desert of Beersheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. Then she went off and sat down nearby, about a bowshot away, for she thought, "I cannot watch the boy die." And as she sat there nearby, she began to sob. God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation." Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer. While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt.

Here ends the reading of the Old Testament Lesson for this morning.

**HYMN** "O For a World"

# 575 NCH Miriam Therese Winter

**O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,  
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,  
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice  
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong,  
The foolish onew are wise.  
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong,  
who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
Where time and tars will me no more, and all but love will cease.**

New Testament: Romans 8:35, 37-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,<sup>[a]</sup> neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**MESSAGE** "Access to Heaven"

Pastor Gary

## INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Life-giving God, by faith we obey your call to set before you the promise and inheritance of who we are and what we have, which you have first given to us in love. May our humble offering be pleasing in your sight and multiply, as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore, for the greater good of all creation. Amen

**HYMN**        *"Help Us Accept Each Other"*  
# 388 NCH                                  Fred Kaan

**1** Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, God, among us and bring us to believe We are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

**2** Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

**3** Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

**4** God, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice, and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; Re-new us with your Spirit; God! Free us, make us one!

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

(You are invited to stay seated for Postlude)

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**



[Nothing] will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:39



### 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 Glenna Rhoades in honor of her three daughters and their families.

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No announcements of activities this week.

No Trustees or Leadership Meetings for July.

The **House of Mercy** in Loyal will be hosting a fundraising dinner on **Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>** at the El Norteno Mexican Grill in Curtiss beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and may be purchased or reserved by calling Judy Morrow a 715-743-2885 or email at judydonmorrow@hotmail.com.